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## 1879.

CONFORMABLY to our annual custom we now, at the birth of another year, take a brief survey of the more prominent events of the past twelve months.

At the close of the previous year, and in the early part of 1879, the Loochooan question assumed those proportions, and displayed those elements of controversy, which brought the debate between this empire and China to a threatening climax. On the 28th of December, 1878, the representatives of the new Han, who had come to Tokio to petition the central Government to allow the jurisdiction precedent, under which the islands paid equal respect to the two monarchies, to remain in force, were peremptorily ordered to return to their country, a mandate which the necessary measures were taken to enforce. Since that date the various aspects of the subject have been widely discussed in the native and foreign press here and in China. Interest in the matter was not confined to the East. It spread to Europe and America, where public commentators have since been largely exercised in view of the menace, which they thought they foresaw, of an appeal to arms, a state of things which would considerably interfere with foreign trade in the remote Orient. Fortunately the fears expressed have not been borne out by results, but one unforeseen effect has been produced by the discussion. Attention has been attracted to the vast but undeveloped resources of the Middle Kingdom, which now finds itself in the unprecedented position of a factor not only in Asiatic but in European politics. By several of the great western powers China is looked upon as a possible and serviceable ally, or a foe whose enmity has to be avoided. Her successful termination of the Kulja affair, and the retrocession of that province by Russia, have aided her in the unexpected achievement, to which also the suppression of two revolts, one of which was serious, and the final and complete reconquest of Kashgaria, have contributed. The overthrow of the armed rebellion of Hakka peasantry in Hainan, and of Li Yung Choi, ex-Taiping rebel leader, then imperial soldier, and next the chief of a revolted army aiming at the conquest of Tonquin, who was only put down and captured

after a protracted struggle, have vastly consolidated China's power.

Extension was given in January to a scheme for the establishment of Chambers of Commerce in the country, similarly constituted to that of Tokio, by the foundation of such a body in Osaka. The first of a number of distinguished foreign visitors, who have made a pleasant sojourn in Japan during the year, arrived, early in January, in the person of Mr. E. J. Reed, M. P. He was accompanied by his son; and during his stay was the guest of the Government, under whose careful chaperonage he was enabled to visit most of the places of interest within the empire. In the early part of the year intelligence was received that a special treaty had been concluded between Japan and the United States. This document was virtually valueless, except as a sort of mutual testimony of friendliness, owing to its final clause, which determined that no other provisions should be operative until such time as the other treaty powers had entered into similar conventions. The matter of revision will, then, have to be treated as a whole, and subject to the general approval of all the powers in convention with Japan.

In February the Finance Minister published his statement of actual national receipts and expenditures for the financial year ended in June, 1876. His Excellency admitted the necessity of issuing such document, at the same time as he indicated the difficulty which attended the earliest compilations required, and promised to furnish arrears up to most recent dates as soon as was compatible with the work of his department. This month witnessed the initiation of a Government measure to control, in some degree, the improper speculation then rife in paper currency. Exchange dealers were ordered to provide themselves with a license if they should elect to continue their operations: to show that they possessed a certain capital; and to deposit a small percentage thereof with the Finance Department. It was not, however, till towards the close of the year that an effective blow was struck at the most vicious form of stock-exchange gambling, by prohibiting the practice of purchase on time bargains. When this measure was taken speculation in satsu, which were steadily depreciating, had made many victims. A sentence of exceptional severity was passed by the Yokohama Saibansho upon a Japanese, at that time caretaker of the foreign-rented race-course at Negishi, for keeping a room in which opium-smoking was indulged in. He was relegated to imprisonment for a term of ten years. We mention this fact here to show how intense is the determination of the authorities to prevent the introduction of the Chinese vice into the empire. After a hearing, which extended over nearly three months, the case of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. v. Goto Shojiro, the proprietor of the Takashima mine, involving an extensive claim of money lent and interest thereon was advanced a stage, at which it virtually ceased, the dispute having been subsequently arranged between the parties.

By notification dated the 4th of April, the Prime Minister declared the Loochoo Han abolished and the Okinawa Ken established in its stead. This was virtually the formal and final an-



nexation of the insular dependency to this empire, and its enfranchisement from all present and future claims to tribute or homage on the part of China. Several new National Banks, established in various Ken, received their charters during the twelve months. The members of the British Naval Mission received notice, in the spring, that their engagements, shortly to expire, would not be renewed. In the summer all the instructors, with the exception of one or two of inferior rank, returned to Europe. In April, the ex-monarch of the Loochoo islands arrived in the capital, where a residence, with the style of a Japanese noble of the first rank, was allotted to him, and where he has since remained. A handsome income, derived from Government bonds, has since been assigned to him.

At the end of May epidemic cholera manifested its presence in the Southern provinces, first of all in Kiushiu, where, the story goes, it was first let loose by the disinterment of the bodies of certain of the soldiery, who had died of the disease and been hastily buried, in 1877, during the Satsuma revolt. The malady quickly spread over the whole length and breadth of the empire, reaching Yokohama and Tokio by the end of June, through the landing and subsequent seizure of men of the crew of a steamer plying to and from the already infected ports. Quarantine regulations were issued, and put in force; the English and German Ministers, however, making their administration a consular, and not a parochial, matter. The *Hesperia* difficulty quickly ensued. That steamer, being declared healthy by a German physician, was ordered out of detention after three days pratique. Although this measure was in part brought about through the defectiveness of the quarantine rules first issued, yet it has since been rather severely animadverted upon by a portion of the European press, which holds that the administration of quarantine by a state should overrule all questions of extra-territoriality. As the system to be pursued in like contingencies of epidemics in Japan, is now very thoroughly matured, no such hitch should occur in future. As it was, the *Hesperia* brought no actual danger of infection to this locality; and, indeed, shortly after her arrival, the pestilence had taken such hold, that quarantine was suspended, in favor of a simple system of inspection. At the close of the year official returns showed that out of one hundred and sixty-five thousand individuals attacked throughout these islands, nearly one hundred thousand had met their deaths. This is quite sufficient to establish the serious and fatal nature of the visitation.

Mr. Pope Hennessy, Governor of Hongkong, and Mrs. Hennessy, were among the summer visitors to this beautiful land. They were everywhere enthusiastically received by the authorities, whose guests they were, and the people. Increased cordiality on the part of Japanese of all classes, towards the British nation, has been one of the pleasing results of the trip. Soon after midsummer General Grant also arrived in Yokohama. His stay in this vicinity, and his travels in Japan, were one continuous series of ovation. Never was guest more joyously and heartily received. After a sojourn of two months he finally quitted these shores in the *City of Tokio* on the 3rd of December. Here and in China he enjoyed the confidence of statesmen, having been specially consulted by both sides, and having rendered good counsel to either on the Loochooan question. The subsequent offer of mediation by the United States between the two powers, in the event of arbitration being resorted to, no doubt is traceable to the results of his visit. Other distinguished sojourners during the year were Their Royal Highnesses Prince Henry of Germany and the Duke of Genoa, who have both been welcomed and fêted with the full amount of honour due to their rank.

Unquestionably, the most important political event of the

year was that change in the ministry effected in the autumn, to which we must, if only briefly, refer. Terashima, till then Minister of Foreign Affairs, was removed to the Educational Department, where his post is virtually a sinecure, the work of the bureau falling upon an able and hard-working official, Tanaka, the Vice-Minister. Mr. Terashima, while a man of the most estimable character, hardly possesses the force of mind which should distinguish the incumbent of so important a post as that which he lately held. Liable to yield to pressure in small matters, having but insufficient comprehension of principles, he was subject to accesses of obstinacy when trifling questions were involved, which created a friction the effects whereof ultra-compliance in other respects could hardly efface. To his office Inouye was appointed, on transfer from the Public Works Department. To this latter post he had been assigned on the occasion of the murder of Okuma; and it was fully recognized in high circles, and by the observant public, that he was only temporarily there located, his great ability marking him out for a higher sphere of action. Mr. Inouye has extensive experience in domestic and foreign policy. On the occasion of the Shimonoseki affair, he and Ito were the two Choshu students who went to the Governor of the town, and implored him to comply with the demand of the foreign powers, against whose might Japan could not hope to stand. It is well understood that he has thoroughly comprehended the present relation of his country to western nations. In the matter of the approaching revision of the treaties he has been willing to postpone for some time the assertion of the right of this empire to control completely the customs' tariff, and to undertake negotiations on the same basis as before, securing however the advantage of a moderate revenue. He was second to Kuroda in the Korean embassy; and that the matter in dispute was solved amicably, yet with honour to both sides, is greatly due to his tact and discrimination, a fact of which his countrymen appreciate the full value. The nomination of General Yamada, who is very popular with the army, was a very good political arrangement, though the claims of Yamao, the present vice-minister, to promotion were by no means insignificant. No better selection for the control of the War Office than that of General Saigo, the successful director of the Formosan expedition, could have been made. He is thoroughly popular, and his loyalty has been proved by the most critical tests of experience. The promotion of General Yamagata to the position of Chief of the Staff (an office nearly analogous to that of Adjutant-General) was judicious but void of much significance. We know little of the officer who has replaced Kawaji in charge of the Police Service; but we do know that through the death of the late Prefect the Government has lost a devoted and valuable servant. The records of the Satsuma campaign, prove how much of the imperial success was due to him; and the approximate perfection of organization in the police and prison systems of the country, is in great measure his work. His excursion to Europe, from which he only returned to die, was in part prompted by a desire to glean instruction, and copy models, for still further improvements; but it also had, for a secondary object, the endeavour to discover traces of the machinery through which rumoured forgeries in the south were said to have been perpetrated. That much, at least, of the alleged counterfeiting was grossly exaggerated by rumour, arising out of insufficient information, is evident by recent events. The discharge from custody of Messrs. Fujita and Nakano dissipates one bubble, blown of fancy.

On the whole Japan has to be congratulated warmly upon the experience of the year that has passed; although the incoming of the winter season has been accompanied by two disastrous conflagrations, one in Hakodate, and the other in Tokio. These disasters point to the necessity—incumbent upon the Government—of framing and enforcing regulations

for the building of substantial edifices in all the large towns, in the place of these inflammable and perishable structures which are unworthy to be the habitations of a prosperous, progressive and civilized nation.

#### INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP AND GOOD-WILL.

“THERE shall be eternal peace and friendship between Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Her Heirs and Successors, and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, and between their respective dominions and subjects.” Such is the text of the first article of the treaty between the insular power “which rules the waves” and the other island state which has recently entered the sisterhood of nations; and similar language inaugurates every treaty entered into by Japan with other powers. If words mean anything, these signify that, on emerging from a seclusion of nearly three centuries duration, this empire was received with professions of friendship, of good will and of kindly regard. Is it too much to ask in this year of our Lord 1880, just being ushered in, that all these professions of friendliness, of gracious, sympathetic good nature and national fellow feeling should convey something higher and worthier of our common humanity than the empty compliments of diplomatic etiquette and official phraseology? In the good old times, in praise of which dreamers and enthusiasts of various sorts and denominations are often heard to speak even now, international law was little known and less heeded; and international courtesy was scarcely practised. Indeed, it is not so very long ago in the history of nations that either the one or the other has found anything like fair recognition. The usages of ancient Greece and Rome, which lacked every principal of law, justice and good faith in intercourse with other nations, were not in later years professed openly with the same ostentatious cynicism and disregard for the rights of the weak, but in practice they were very slightly modified at as late a date as the beginning of the seventeenth century, the very time when Japan began that policy of exclusion which she maintained to within the last few decades. At that period Grotius had not written his great and famous work *De Jure Belli et Pacis*, which may be said to have initiated among nations the practice of those principles which had been proved to be necessary, and were duly enforced and observed, among individuals. It was only then that the infamous old doctrine of regarding every stranger, as such, as an enemy, received its death blow. Only eighty years divide the publication of this monument of progress from the appearance from the press, of Machiavelli’s “Prince;” and the difference of tone in the two works speaks more for the advance made during that time in humanity and Christian qualities, than any other evidence that could be collected. Machiavelli’s name and reputation, as far as his character as a private individual is concerned, have been triumphantly cleared of the obloquy and execration which now only cling to his written work, but the lesson which the latter inculcates is on that account all the more impressive and fraught with instruction. It shows that at that late day, namely, in the year 1532, perfidy, treachery, perjury and almost every other vice were looked upon in the South of Europe, by men whose lives as citizens were pure and spotless, as justifiable means to be used against a neighbouring country. The world may well be grateful that those good old times are over; and if Japanese statesmen study the history of the period which is limited by their country’s isolation, let them pay due heed to that spirit of broad philanthropy which ennobles and glorifies our time more than all material progress; more than all the innumerable inventions and discoveries which multiply the means of health, comfort

and pleasure; more than all the great ideas, and those successful solutions of important problems with which in every field master minds have enriched the world’s stores of knowledge. The claims of justice and humanity—even those of friendship, kindness and good will—founded though they be simply upon abstract moral principles, have not only found fuller and broader recognition in their application between man and man; but have also been acknowledged as binding upon nations in their conduct toward each other, and are now exerting much, if not the very fullness, of their influence upon international policy. If the character of diplomacy and the means which it employs are founded from what they were, it is because its exponents are brought, by education and training, to walk in the new path. Even if impelled by peculiar idiosyncracies to act in another spirit, no diplomatic agent could for any length of time defy the outside pressure which public opinion would bring to bear upon him. Such high minded diplomatists as Lord Elgin and Lord Lytton are as essentially the type of modern public political opinion, as Machiavelli was of that which was current in his time and country.

But the altered sentiments which, as we all know, thus govern the relations of western nations with each other, and find their best exponents in the press, still to a certain extent seem to become inoperative in the dealings of those states with non-Christian countries. Religion, in so far as it may disqualify the individual socially, or invalidate his claims in justice, is a factor which in nearly all civilized countries has lost its former power; but in the relations between “Christian” and “heathen” countries it still seems to retain much of its former efficacy; and none the less because it is occult and exerted indirectly. There may be people who will not agree to this, although it is too evident a proposition to admit of refutation. In a former article in this review it was said that, as the citizen of old Rome carried everywhere with him the rights and immunities conferred by the title of *Civis Romanus*, so the modern Christian emigrant to non-Christian countries claims similar privileges by virtue of his title *Civis Christianus*. Whatever may be the political need of the continuance of extra-territoriality, and whatever may be the absolute justice of the policy which enforces it, its relative injustice cannot be called into question. Protection to life and property is certainly as great in Japan, for instance, as it is in those South American Republics where, as an English writer happily remarks, the revolutions of the earth around the sun are more regular than, but not so frequent as, revolutions in the state. Paraguay, under Dr. Francia, maintained for years a policy of isolation nearly as strict as that which long governed Japan, and strangers were treated there with extreme rigour, and often had to submit to great hardships and injustice. Yet all these countries, and even unique governments, like that of San Domingo or Hayti, receive from the hands of foreign cabinets an amount of consideration which is in strange contrast to that shown to peoples who do not belong to any section of the Christian faith.

It is not, however, with a review of any of the broad principles of extra-territoriality that we wish to deal in this article. Our present object is only to consider one of its minor outgrowths, one whose applications, we believe, is capable of considerable modification and improvement and deserving of more attention than it has yet received. We refer to that extreme sensibility, that straining at often meaningless points and merely conventional forms that lack of anything like a conciliatory spirit which, on the spot, often seems to characterise the actions and speech of those who in any way are charged with representing western power and western opinion. It may often appear to those who do not look beneath the surface of things, that any incautious act or word of the Japanese authorities, any unintentional remissness or

failure to act up to the foreign diplomatic code of etiquette, any accident, in fact, which may offend the western representative, or clash with his notions of personal dignity is, not unfrequently, visited with all such power as the displeased one can command upon the nation at large. The instance of the *Hesperia*, which has recently attracted so much attention in the European press, offers a good illustration. We certainly do not wish to speak of His German Majesty's Envoy otherwise than with that high regard and esteem, in which he is deservedly held by every one who, either officially or privately, has come in contact with him. And, in the case in point, the then minister for foreign affairs committed the error of sending to him and the other representatives, a draft of regulations, not only imperfect, but utterly different from those which the government had decided to enforce, and which were afterwards promulgated. Under the circumstances, His Excellency was placed in a difficult position, and it is to be regretted that he should have been unable to avoid wounding the feelings of every class of the population, and bringing before them, in all its harshness, in all its irritating possibilities the extent of extra-territorial privilege.

We cannot but hold that it ought to be the business of modern diplomacy to smooth over trivial difficulties and not magnify or cause them to swell into national grievances. In all western countries this conciliatory course is pursued; and the anomalous position into which extra-territoriality places eastern nations should not act as a barrier to the exercise of a like spirit of forbearance. Such, unfortunately, is not the case. Relations seem to have come to such a pass that, without looking for a pretext, most foreigners breathe an air of antagonism, of continual latent objection to, and distrust of, everything that is done or proposed by Japanese. How otherwise can we account for the withholding of consent and co-operation, in what everyone acknowledges to be useful and highly necessary measures: the refusal to recognize a badly-needed harbour master; the difficulties thrown in the way of the acquisition by the government of the control of the postal service; the tardy acquiescence, after more than a year's delay, in the regulations for pilots; and many similar instances. A section of the foreign press here has been, to a great extent, an *ex parte* exponent of this state of feeling; and its open criticism of, and constant indiscriminating opposition to, the government and its measures, have not endeared it to the people of this country, nor helped to bring about a better mutual understanding. Mr. Mounsey, in his book on the Satsuma rebellion, has severely censured this review for its strictures on the ministry of this country and its measures, at a critical time, and the rebuke was well deserved, a former but short lived management of this paper, fell into the inconceivable blunder of believing in the ultimate success of Saigo's revolt and of openly sympathizing with insurrection against the constituted authorities of the empire. Mr. Mounsey is certainly neither the first nor the last among our English diplomatists who has shown friendly regard and considerate sympathy for a foreign and a non-Christian land. The private letters and correspondence of Lord Elgin breathe a similar spirit of humanity in almost every page. The debate in the House of Commons, on the occasion of the burning of Kagoshima, which is being reprinted by the *Tokio Times* shows many of the foremost Englishmen on the same side. The speeches of such men as Buxton are as cogent as they are pathetic. But it is not only there, it is here, on the spot, that such feelings ought, not merely to exist, but to manifest themselves by deed and word. If all the accredited representatives of England, all those charged with power in any degree, had acted in the spirit which animated Lord Elgin, and if the foreign press here had duly seconded their efforts, few can doubt that our relations with Japan would stand upon a better footing than they do, and that English influence

would be more powerful than it is in the councils of the empire. It is no satisfaction to us to find that some other countries have pursued a similar course to that generally followed by England's representatives and attended with similar results. The interest of no other power here is as great, either politically or commercially, as that of Great Britain. As a matter of policy Japan ought to be led to see in the great maritime nation of the west what that nation really is, her firm friend and ally. The recognition of this fact may be as valuable to Englishmen here as it is to the country in which they reside.

The Eastern question is, day by day, assuming more important proportions, and a wider area of countries is concerned in it. We are told openly in the St. Petersburg journals that, in case of difficulties arising between Japan and China, the great northern power would give its moral support to the latter nation. "On account of her conservative policy," so it is said, "China inspires Russia with no fears for the future. On the contrary, there are signs that, if changes are introduced, the unwieldy fabric of the Celestial Empire will tumble to pieces, and then Russia will become the natural heir to such lands as lie nearest to her frontier. The valley of the Ili, the source of the Irtish, the upper Yenesei, Lake Dolon-Nor, Sugari,—all these places may some day complete and rectify our Asiatic frontier. All these are of little importance to China, and she may be induced to cede them to us in order to repay the advantages which a neutrality (with moral support) will possess for her. Our position with Japan is different. . . . Japan has a Europeanized army and an ironclad fleet. These are signs of progress which under certain conditions may be disagreeable for Russia." The very causes which render Japan's position different in the case of Russia, are precisely those which make Japan valuable as an ally to England. The contingency in which this might be proved is not by any means an improbable, or perhaps not even a very remote one. But in such an event, co-operation would have to be hearty and sincere—the grateful outcome of previously friendly relations, and not cemented by the necessities or exigencies of the hour. It was through English arms that Napoleon was repulsed from the Iberian peninsula, but even English bravery, courage and soldierly skill, would have failed in effecting their object without the earnest and unqualified support given by all classes of the Spanish population.

Japan is almost the only Asiatic country which possesses that great and powerful engine for moulding public opinion—a public press. Although born within the last decade it has already assumed extraordinary proportions, and may even challenge comparison with that of some European countries. Everything is now brought to the notice of the people, and it will be hard to convince the latter of England's friendship as long as the native papers teem with the records of instances where, often upon trivial occasions, native self love has been wounded, and native patriotism offended; or as long as the public can cite extracts from foreign journals published here wherein a constant display of antagonism to the government and its measures is paraded. Let us hope that a better spirit, a spirit of conciliation, of good will and of natural concession, will prompt all action in regard to the approaching revision of existing treaties, and that the future will witness the growth and development of a permanent cordiality which shall efface all traces of former misunderstandings.

AN article in the *Fuso Shinshi* alludes to the alleged likelihood of an Envoy being despatched by the Government of Japan to treat with the Peking authorities for the solution of the Loochooan question. The author holds that it would be advisable for this country to adopt



the initiative in the matter, so as to derive all the possible advantages which are held to accrue to that one of the two parties in a dispute which takes the first step towards its adjustment. But in no case, our correspondent argues, should Japan make any concession to China in this particular matter, inasmuch as "the ex-King of the islands, in obeying the order of the Tokio authorities to take up his residence in that capital, has recognized the Japanese claim to dominion, which right is further established by the fact that his former provinces are now administered by Japanese officers. Hence, even if war should be the result of persistence, for China is obstinate and holds to the possession of the isles, small though they be, the ministry cannot and must not yield to her pretensions." The idea of mediation, whether by the United States or any other power, is scouted by this writer, who seems to think that the whole dispute might be arranged by the early presence of a skilled Japanese plenipotentiary, charged with its settlement, at the Court of Peking.

THE *China Mail* having recently, in the opinion of the Chief Judge of the Hongkong Supreme Court, by publishing contrary to the expressed wish of the Bench, a report of a criminal trial while proceedings were still pending, His Lordship, though refraining from taking action against the offenders, took occasion to define at some length the duties and liabilities of the press, under circumstances similar to those under which the prohibitions had been issued. In concluding his address to the representatives of the local newspapers, he stated his interpretation of the law thus:—

First; That whenever any judge of the Court has directed that there shall be no report printed of any pending proceedings in Court pending the trial, it is a contempt of Court punishable by fine or imprisonment or by both to disobey such direction, and that it is the duty of the Court to enforce its orders. But the Court has as little power as it has inclination to prevent by order any publication of proceedings after their termination.

Second; If before or pending any trial any statement be printed and published which tends in the judgment of the Court to the prejudice of any party before the Court, any such statement even where there is no order prohibiting publication of proceedings, is such an injury to the party who is "under the protection of the Court," (13 Ves. p. 238) as to call on the Court to punish such act as for a contempt, as was done by Lord Hardwicke in the case I have referred to in 2 Atkins, and thus to save the party injured from resorting to an action for libel (see. 13 Ves. notes). I have now to state that such being the opinion of both of us it will be our duty to take care that in future the law be carried out with all necessary consequences. At the same time we feel assured that the gentlemen who have hitherto reported the proceedings in this Court with great fairness and discretion, with few exceptions only, will take care that no difficulty shall arise from any breach of either of these rules. After the termination of any proceedings in Court, a newspaper, in the words of Lord Chief Baron Kelly, has a right to comment on all descriptions of proceedings in Courts of Justice. Such comments when made as the two newspapers usually make them, well-founded or erroneous, all Judges must be content to submit to, although they sometimes are deficient in that law-learning which gives authority to criticism. No one rejoices more heartily than I do in that liberty of unlicensed printing for which Milton so nobly pleaded and which, perfected by Lord Campbell's Act, is now the palladium of our liberties.

IF credence is to be given to the statements of the Cabul correspondent of one of our Indian contemporaries, the Afghans, rulers and ruled, are far from forming an amiable community; and almost any Government would be better than that of the native princes. We read that "the

evidence is daily accumulating which wraps the ex-Amir Yakub Khan and his ministers in the disgraceful mantle of treachery and deceit, which will prove, one may hope, their shroud. Treacherous, deceitful, bigoted, proud, and debased beyond all other eastern people, the Afghans begin to feel that the hand of providence will reach them for their many crimes. As yet they are led gently, but should they continue in their course, the grip will tighten. The abominations, encounters, and bestialities of the people of Cabul, of which I possess the written proofs, are something too awful to mention. The mind shrinks from that human nature which is capable of such crimes." Certain specific abominations are then adduced against the population of a country which has caused the authorities of British India considerable trouble, whose latest exploit was the murder of a peaceful and civilizing mission, composed of the invited guests of the monarch of the land.

WE note that the Supreme Court of the United States has declared the Act of Congress, known as the "Trade-marks Act," unconstitutional and invalid. The Court held that a trade-mark does not come within the description of an invention or discovery, or of a literary production, as it does not involve the elements of originality or depend upon novelty, but is simply founded on priority of appropriation. The clause in the Constitution under which Congress claimed the power to enact the law in question reads:—"The Congress shall have power to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing, for limited times, to authors and inventors, the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries." This decision does not, it is understood, in any way limit the right of property in trade-marks, but simply does away with criminal prosecution for infringement, and the constructive notice which registration effected.

EVIDENT advantages offered in the Hawaiian islands to constant labor and frugal living, are attracting considerable numbers of Chinese thither. Indeed, some time ago we read that the Asiatic immigrants were really settling in the kingdom, intermarrying with native women, and rearing families of useful and relatively prosperous colonists. A paper published in Honolulu states that, since the first of January last, two thousand seven hundred and thirty male Chinese had arrived in that port alone, exclusive of those that had landed at Hilo and Kailua, of whom no record has been available. "As mates, or help-meets for this army, there arrived here during the same period, fifty Chinese females. By the last census of the Islands, the proportion of (Chinese) males to females was three to one." Most of the land is exceedingly fertile. In one farming area called the "Commons," there were lately thirty teams at work ploughing, the intention being to put in about two thousand acres in sugar-cane. With the rich soil of that locality—from two to five feet of the alluvial wash of ages from the mountains—a yield may be expected of from four to five tons to the acre, say nine thousand tons, worth on the spot something over \$1,000,000. Great attention is being given on all sides to the cultivation of rice and sugar, the exports in those articles having largely increased during the last twelve months. In fact, other branches of agriculture, and pastoral pursuits, appear to be comparatively neglected in favour of the more recent industries, though an augmentation in the exports of coffee and wool was anticipated. The export of peanuts (by Chinese) has increased by 25,213 pounds; and the total value of domestic exports for the first nine months of the present year was \$2,749,838.27, being an advance over the corresponding period in 1878 of \$91,808.67.

CHINESE immigration into the United States is still, to use an expression there current, a plank in the platform of politicians. Dr. S. Wells Williams, the well known sinologue, in an address delivered at Saratoga, and subsequently published in the *New York Independent*, shows to demonstration that the alleged fear of an Asiatic unarmed invasion of American territory is utterly groundless. He proves, further, the advantages which Chinese labor has conferred upon the States of the Pacific slope, and alleges, on indisputable authority, that several extensive enterprises, now brought to a successful termination, could never have been achieved without it. He demolishes the sophisms of those who argue that Chinese occupy a place in the community that, in their absence, would be filled by a more desirable class of settlers, and reviews the oppression and cruel disabilities under which the yellow race has had to suffer. He proposes—and an increasing class of just-thinking Americans go with him—that the rights of citizenship should be placed within reach of the Chinese who desire to possess them. On the whole, it appears that a reaction in favor of the much abused and maligned immigrants has already commenced in the Great Republic, and that a healthier and more righteous leaning towards them is gradually making its way against that which had its origin with hoodlums and lazy and dissipated white workmen, but which, none the less, made its false and wicked impression in better classes of American society.

AS we predicted, the chapter of “the Times of the Taira,” printed in this number of the *Weekly Mail* is replete with dramatic effect. The story is now evidently approaching its period of historic interest.

#### THE BACHELOR'S SERVANT.

THAT the “house-boy” in the Far East is essentially a grand institution, none, we are persuaded, will ever attempt to deny. In fact, without his kind assistance, it is questionable whether foreigners could even exist in these distant climes. But of all the race, there is perhaps none more deserving of eulogium than the “boy” whose mission it is to supply the wants and relieve the necessities of the young bachelor resident.

By the term “Bachelor's Servant,” be it here understood, we do not by any means allude to one of the numerous domestics on duty in a large house wherein there exists a junior mess. In such establishments there are usually found numerous coolies, upon whose shoulders the “boy,” or upper servant, can generally shift the greater portion of the burden that should rightly be borne by himself. No; the subject of our present remarks is the bachelor's servant, pure and simple, the sole domestic of some gay young spark who messes by himself, and whose household consists of but one tried and trusty retainer, at once *major domo* and *factotum*. And when you light upon a really good specimen of the class, such a servant is indeed invaluable.

To assert that the “Bachelor's Servant” is a veritable jack-of-all-trades would convey but a faint idea of the multifarious duties he is expected to perform. Indeed, the greater puzzle would be to ascertain what he does *not* perform. Nothing, absolutely nothing, is deemed too much or too little for this unfortunate and long-suffering being. He is, as a matter of course, expected to be equally *au fait* at filling cartridges or sewing buttons, to have the same ingenuity for cooking a beef-steak or adjusting a patch on his *danna's* nether garments. He is likewise required to be handy at cleaning guns or spurs, careful and diligent in the rearing of pointer pups, and able to scent a dun from afar, and forthwith take the most effective measures to get him off the premises. Being also in charge of his employer's wardrobe, he must be so far learned in the mysteries of the foreign toilette as to be capable of distinguishing a dress coat from a suit of jockey “togs,” and a fire-brigade uniform from the costume donned in the foot-ball field or on the running path. Of

all these, the fire uniform is perhaps the one that most takes his fancy, and his master is certain to find it neatly laid out alongside his pillow every night, so as to be handy in case of need. Upon the very first clang of the fire-bell, in rushes the “boy,” and urges you to don the said uniform with speed. If you be mild in mood and of quiet temperament, the probability is that he drags you from beneath the sheets by sheer force, shrieking the while “Fire! Fire!” in stentorian tones. Should you, on the contrary, be prone to sudden wrath, he finds it the more effective plan to bustle about your room, dropping on the floor at measured intervals the brass-bound fire-helmet. The man who can sleep in spite of all this, must be possessed of a conscience truly void of offence. Compared with this duty of caring for your uniform, the safeguard of your other clothing is of merely secondary importance: you need only say you are going out to dinner in order to ensure the production of the proper habiliments. As for races, &c., the “boy” knows quite as well as you do the date on which you are to perform, and as a rule the very first object on which your wakening eyes alight on the eventful morn is the colors you are to carry. We may here mention that the bachelor's servant invariably backs his master's mount or crew, nor is it difficult to perceive how he stands at the finish of the day. Should he win, you won't see him again for at least forty-eight hours; should he lose, he'll forthwith apply to you for an advance of wages to enable him to meet his liabilities.

But it is when you are about to go up country, that the truly marvellous powers of the “boy” come forth in their strongest and fullest value. You need only state for how long your trip will last, and all is said. Out comes the valise or portmanteau, and in goes your baggage. It is amusing to sit by, pipe in mouth, and watch him at his work. A couple of flannel suits are crammed in first: then follow as many flasks of whiskey, next a pair of heavy shooting boots; and a tin of tobacco and cigars *ad lib.* complete the whole. By furious blows on the summit of this pile he at length induces the lid to close. That done he dances on the top till he can induce the lock to catch, and there you are ready equipped and provided for the journey. He loves, too, to accompany you on your shooting excursions, looks despondent whenever you miss a shot, and howls with delight over every bird that you bring down. But on your arrival at your tea-house, he at once returns to his old habits, looks after you with care, provides the best of “chow-chow” within reach for your refectation, and only retires to rest after seeing that his master is carefully tucked up for the night.

His good temper and his forbearance are unfailing. Liable though he be to be called up at any hour of the night or morning, he nevertheless will respond with alacrity to your summons. He has been known to provide supper for a convivial crowd at 4 a.m., or breakfast for a hungry set after a fire parade, with equal efficiency and celerity. He takes his rest when and where he can, and generally has a quiet nap after the departure of his employer to office work. He also extends his patronage and kind care to the latter's friends;—for he can distinguish almost by intuition between a casual visitor and an acknowledged friend of the house. To the former he is ever polite but undemonstrative; the latter he will receive with a hearty welcome even in his master's absence, entreating him to sit down and rest himself awhile. On such occasions he invariably produces the cigar-box, and will, if permitted, demonstrate his skill in the manufacture of a cocktail or other appetising refreshment. He has never been known to drive away your bosom chum fasting, nor, again, to offer a drink to the bill-collector.

That our hero has his faults it is useless to deny; for, indeed, he is but mortal after all. He is occasionally overcome by grief and *saké* after parting with a company of friends, and he sometimes goes in for a small game with a crowd of other “boys,” coolies and *bettoes* who make night hideous by their yells of delight or howls of despair beneath your bed-room windows. He has even been known to take a half-holiday without previously obtaining permission. But, after all, one must not be too severe on him for these little peccadilloes; you cannot discharge a servant of half a dozen years' tried fidelity for a single fault, neither can you give him his *congé* for having once overstepped the boundary line between sobriety and excess. He is

useful to you, and he knows it. You cannot get on well without him, and he is perfectly aware of that fact. You may, in a moment of passion, dismiss him, but you are heartily sorry for it the moment after; and it is a matter of secret rejoicing to you when he turns up again the following morning and goes about his work as usual, without making the slightest allusion to the unfortunate misunderstanding of yesternight.

What the bachelor would be without such a "boy" we dare not say. The bare thought of a young and inexperienced man being exposed, without the assistance of a trusty servant, to the evils and hardships that beset us in an Eastern community, is too terrible even for contemplation. And ill would it become us to say aught but what is favorable to the character of our well-known, true and trusty adherent—the "Bachelor's Servant."

## OSAKA.

December 30th, 1879.

There is very little to report from here, although it might naturally be expected that something would be stirring at this festive season. Such, however, is not the case, matters in fact are "flat, stale and" (at least the merchants say) "unprofitable." The Japanese are making their usual preparations for the new year's celebration, and to judge from appearances, great festivities will be the rule next week.

The examinations in the Semmon Gakko (Special Science School) went off very successfully the other day, and reflected great credit both upon the students and the teachers. The natives evidently appreciate the benefits to be derived from the course of study pursued in this institution, and the number of pupils is rapidly increasing as they are drafted from the Tokio and other schools throughout the empire to the Semmon Gakko, and instructed there in special branches, such as chemistry and medical science. The system has been found to work admirably; a new class—anatomy and physiology—has lately been established and placed under the care of Dr. Cunningham of the University of Edinburgh. The principal (or president as he is called) of the school is Mr. Hattori, who held a similar position in the Daizaku Yobimon in Tokio. Mr. Hattori is a sensible and energetic man, devoted to his work, and thoroughly acquainted with the foreign methods of instruction.

The soldiers forming the garrison here are being drilled vigorously; earth works of different kinds, with trenches, &c., have been thrown up in the neighbourhood of the castle to exercise the engineers, and the infantry are continually being put through field evolutions. As far as I am able to judge the men do extremely well on parade, but it is to be hoped that the time is far distant when all this preparation will be found useful in actual warfare.

A "Bankers" club has been established on the model of similar institutions in foreign countries. Above one hundred members have already joined, and meet regularly to read the papers, &c.

The news of the fires at Hakodate and Tokio has caused considerable uneasiness here, and I have reason to believe that the authorities have adopted precautionary measures which will enable them to promptly grapple with any similar catastrophe should the necessity unhappily arise.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, January 2nd, 1880.

Reports from Cabul are of a more quieting nature.

A passenger train has fallen over the bridge across the river Tay, and ninety people were drowned.

Paris.—A new ministry has been formed under the presidency of Freycinet.

LONDON, December 30th, 1879.

Secocoeni's stronghold has been taken.

PARIS.—The Ministry have resigned.

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but, as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 3RD, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2510, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 1ST MONTH, 3RD DAY, DO-YO-NI.

### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On Thursday last the O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* arrived from San Francisco, with American dates to December 6th. The P. M. S. S. *City of Peking* came into port from Hongkong on the 30th ultimo, and left for San Francisco this afternoon, at four o'clock. The M. M. steamer *Volga* left for Hongkong with a European mail on the morning of December 29th.

The P. & O. steamer *Malacca*, with the English Mail, left Hongkong for Yokohama on the 31st ultimo. The *China Mail* of the 18th instant says that a telegram has been received in Hongkong announcing that, after the 1st of February next, all mails to and from the East will be sent *via* Paris and Modena.

The steamer *Breconshire*, from London, left Singapore for Hongkong on the 19th of December last.

The Ocean Steam-ship Co.'s steamer *Menelaus* left Singapore for Hongkong on the 23rd ultimo.

The N. C. *Daily News* has received a communication from Captain R. H. Napier, commander of H. M.'s surveying vessel *Maggie*, dated 1st December, from the Tungsha Banks, Yang-tzekiang, in which he asks publicity for the following information:—From the recent examination by the boats of H. M.'s surveying vessel *Maggie*, of the small cluster of rocks, marked Ariadne Rock, on the British Admiralty Chart, No. 1602 (Sheet 1 Yang-tze-kiang; the entrance), the highest pinnacle was found to be awash at low water (ordinary) spring tides.

As in Hongkong, so in the Straits settlements, the new Japanese Minister to London was received with distinction. He left the former port in the *Djemnah* on the 7th ultimo for Europe. During the stay of the mail steamer in Singapore His Excellency was the guest of the Honorable Ho Ah Kay Whampoa, an opulent Chinese merchant, who holds the office of Japanese Consul.

The transfer of the work of the late British to the Japanese Post Office, was made on the last day of the year. We presume that Mr. Machado will shortly proceed to Shanghai, to assume control of the English Postal service in that port.

Local Japanese rumour has it that a number of the leading native merchants of this port, with a view to reduce the discount of the paper yen, are about to place on the market all the specie which they at present hold.

We observe in translations from the southern Japanese journals that anxiety is manifested by Chinese residents of Hiogo and Osaka, on the subject of the diplomatic difference between this empire and the authorities of their flowery land. It is even added that they meditate a general exodus. We can hardly credit the existence of any such feeling. Certainly nothing like it has had any expression among the numerous celestial population of this locality.

Allusion was made in our last issue to the resignation of Sir Arthur Kenedy from his Queensland government, and the possible appointment of Mr. J. Pope Hennessy to the post. The latter gentleman's name is also vaguely mentioned in connection with a change in the administration of our Malayan Indian dependencies. The Straits Times writes:—

Guesses are rife of course as to who our new Governor will be. Many suppose that Sir Henry Bulwer, who was at one



time Governor of Labuan and has recently administered, in the capacity of Lieutenant Governor, the colony to which Sir William Robinson has been appointed Governor, and which will be raised doubtless to the rank of a first class colony, will be offered the post. Sir Henry, it must be remembered, has a mind of his own, and has sometimes given the Colonial Office trouble. Other rumours hint that, probably, General Anson, who has often been passed over, will now get the appointment, especially since the revenue of the settlement has so materially increased since he assumed the reins of administration, owing of course to fortuitous circumstances mostly. A wild few mention Mr. Pope Hennessy as our future Governor, while a unit or two hint that Mr. Douglas, now Colonial Secretary of Ceylon, will be raised to the gubernatorial chair. All these are the vaguest surmises, and it is just probable, now that the general election is approaching, when it is a mere uncertainty whether the present government will again be returned to office, that the Ministry, keeping religiously in view the claims of firm supporters in Parliament in the past will give the post to some zealous underling in Parliament, whose chances of re-election are vague. Colonies, it must be remembered, are some of the prizes in a Government's lottery and form an enticing bait for party support.

The long talked of naval manœuvres will, it is said, now be executed on the 10th instant, in the waters of the bay. Their Majesties the Empress and Empress Dowager propose to be spectators of the evolutions.

His Majesty the Emperor was present at the closing, last week, of the Daijo Kuwan, for the winter vacation.

One of those foreign residents who suffered by the fire in Tsukiji was not only, as our first report of the disaster stated, one of the earliest to provide relief for destitute Japanese: he had previously organized a system for its distribution. Between ten o'clock on Friday night and daylight on Saturday morning four thousand simple meals were distributed at the cost, and through the foresight, of an individual who is himself far from being the smallest pecuniary loser by the recent conflagration.

Chambers of Commerce are in course of being established in provincial centres of industry or trade. Such a body has recently been organized in Kumamoto, and the first subject discussed at the meetings was treaty revision.

We read in the *Straits Times* telegraphic news that an attempt has been made to repeat the Mayo tragedy. On the 14th of December a drunken Eurasian tried to shoot Lord Lytton in Calcutta.

The *Echo du Japon* says that, the official revision of the penal portion of the New Code having been completed, that of the civil half will shortly be proceeded with. It is also stated that the whole perfected Code will be issued sometime next March.

Not very much has been heard for some time past of Itagak and his schemes of reform. It is currently rumoured now, in Tokio, that he proposes to devote considerable time and energy during the current year to endeavours to bring about the establishment of a National Assembly. Meetings are also said to have been held in some of the provinces for the furtherance of the same object, and petitions that it may receive the countenance of the Government have been prepared.

A Reuter's telegram, dated London, 26th of December, announced the foundering, in the Atlantic, of the steamer *Borusia* with a loss of two hundred lives. The vessel in question was British, and sailed on the 21st of November from Liverpool for New Orleans, with sixty-five farmers and their families bound to Texas. These passengers were mostly from Lancashire, Yorkshire and Durham, with a few from Scotland and Ireland.

On the 31st ultimo the Duke of Genoa entertained the officers of the French Military Mission at dinner, on board the *Vettor Pisani*.

A holiday row among the native boatmen employed at the British Consulate is said to have resulted in fatal injury to one of the combatants.

A recent well known resident of Yokohama, Mr. Wong Awan, late of the P. & O. Company's service, has passed, on his way to Europe, through Hongkong, where the fact that he is

about to study in London for the bar has procured him the honour of a notice in the local journals.

Mr. Symes, late of the Hiogo branch of the Imperial Japanese postal service, has been transferred to the Yokohama bureau, his former duties being now discharged by a trained Japanese official.

Our readers will be glad to learn, from the Reuter's telegram we publish to-day, that there was apparently little ground for the unpleasant feeling produced by a former telegram relative to the supposed danger threatening the British army acting in Afghanistan. It appears to us more than probable that the true cause of the uneasiness reported to be felt on the subject, may be sought and found in the fact that, after telegraphic communication had been established with Cabul, the wires were cut by some of the predatory hordes who infest that barbarous country.

Referring to the miscarriage last week of a number of "The Times of the Taisho," a correspondent now indicates new irregularities. He states that "a very large number" of Christmas and New Year's cards, which were sent through the Post Office, have not yet reached their respective destinations, a loss or detention which in several instances is specially annoying. Some of the missives contained water-colour sketches by a well-known local artist, and their non-delivery is a source of much regret to his friends.

From the native papers and private sources we have learned the following additional particulars respecting the appalling catastrophe which has happened in Tokio, a calamity, as we now understand, accompanied by great loss of life. The conflagration commenced in a house in Hakuya cho where a wood fire was burning in consequence of the cold weather; and as a strong gale was blowing it spread, as already stated, extremely rapidly. In the crush and hurry to escape from the flames, many women and some children were knocked down and trampled to death, in addition to the loss of a number of men, women, and children, whose charred remains have been discovered among the smouldering ruins. Although the damage done in Tsukiji is very great yet we are glad to report that the majority of the important buildings are safe. The Governor of the Fu, Mr. Matsuda, took immediate steps when the severity of the calamity was disclosed, to provide food for all and shelter for a considerable number of the sufferers. Unfortunately, however, the extent of the misfortune was so great that roofs could not be found for several who most needed them, and who expired from the sheer effects of cold and exposure. On Friday night even, thousands probably were still unhoused. Lieut.-General Oyama, the Chief Superintendent of Police, was rendered conspicuous by his exertions, directing and encouraging the firemen and police in their endeavours to check the spread of the fire. An opportunity is now afforded the authorities of insisting upon wide streets being laid off in a considerable portion of the capital; and we trust that they will see the propriety of carrying so essential an improvement into operation. The same course has had to be adopted eventually in other cities, at vast expense and inconvenience, but with the most salutary result; and there is no reason why Tokio, with wider streets and a better and more substantial class of buildings should, not at once lose its undesirable notoriety for frequent and disastrous fires.

Liberal relief has been provided for the sufferers by the fire, the most distinguished personages in the kingdom contributing promptly and handsomely. The most extensive donations have come from the imperial family and relations. Subscription lists were rapidly filled. The proprietor of the Shintomiza Theatre threw open his building. School-houses were also utilized as refuges. Orders have been issued, from the Ministry of Public Works, that all the timber held in reserve, for government use, in the yards at Saracho, as well as supplies now on the way from Owari, shall be sold at cost price to those whose houses were burned. The work of rebuilding is going on rapidly; but, alas, the structures, as before, are made of wood and paper, as if to invite a repetition of the calamity.

A subscription list, opened at the *Gazette* office, has resulted in a very liberal response on the part of the foreign residents of

Yokohama: and a considerable sum has been forwarded to Tokio for distribution among the destitute.

It is now accurately known that 263 lives have been lost. Numerous bodies are so burned that it is impossible to distinguish the sex to which they belong.

The number of houses destroyed is apparently not positively ascertained. Every native paper gives different figures.

House building in the old flimsy style is going on rapidly, and all trace of the fire will be effaced in an incredibly short time. We are sorry that no attempt has been made to improve the streets, but there can be no doubt that, ere long, another opportunity will be presented for carrying out the course which must ultimately be adopted.

During the past week we were glad to see full houses assemble to hear the ventriloquial feats of Mr. Vose and the very excellent playing of Mr. Brown. But one opinion was, and indeed could be expressed, viz.—that Mr. Vose is really wonderful. The conversation between the different figures is better than anything of the kind we have ever witnessed before, and the decapitation of *Mr. Trotter*, his remonstrances, requests for restoration, and sigh of relief when reunited, must be heard to be properly appreciated. Mr. Vose conclusively dispelled any lurking suspicion that he had a confederate—*Jones on the roof* might have been a friend in the flies, but *Anderson in the cellar* was unmistakably Mr. Vose, as the voice travelled from apparently below the ground to the performer. Mr. Brown's banjo playing is such a marvel on that unpromising instrument, that the audience were positively charmed. *Home Sweet Home* was a wonderful exhibition of what patience, long training and a thorough love of art will accomplish. There was a matinee on Wednesday afternoon when the programme was entirely changed. This afforded parents an opportunity of allowing their children to witness the eccentricities of *Mrs. Brown*, *Mr. Trotter* and the rest of the "merry odd folks" that they largely availed themselves of, much to the delight of their little ones. Last evening, the performance was particularly good, Mr. Brown fairly surpassed himself, and the *terre and esprit* with which he rendered one of those quaint negro camp meeting hymns, procured him a treble encore. We regret that these artists left us so soon. It is very seldom that such a really enjoyable night's entertainment can be obtained in Yokohama; and the constantly increasing attendance showed unmistakably that the community appreciated a good performance, when they had an opportunity of witnessing it.

Favored by the most beautiful of all possible weather, up to last night, when the sky began to lower, and pay instalments of overdue rain, Japanese holiday makers have had exceptional opportunities for enjoyment this season. On the whole they have not been slow to avail themselves of their good fortune. Private parties to scenes of interest in the neighbourhood have been numerous; and temples conspicuously thronged. Honmura is a bower; and the streets between the Town Hall and the Railway Station are also abundantly decorated.

Owing to the general holiday, no Japanese newspapers have been published for the last few days. On Monday the exponents of national opinion will re-appear before the public; and foreign journalists will have, as usual, their happy choice of translations.

The much talked of arrest of Fujita Denzaburo and Nakano Goichi, was brought to a close on Friday, the 26th ultimo, by the release of both parties from custody, after a careful and thorough investigation, which resulted in their complete exoneration from every shadow of suspicion. We are enabled to state, on very good authority, that no specific accusation was preferred against Messrs. Fujita and Nakano, and that the lengthened examination they underwent was due, in great measure, to the various rumours which have been flying about the country, and for the purpose of ascertaining if any valid ground existed for bringing a definite charge against them, on which they might be arraigned before the tribunals of their country. As no such charge could be preferred they have, as already stated, been honourably discharged. We also hear that the chief of police who ordered their arrest was yesterday summarily dismissed from his position in the force. The previous career of both Nakano and Fujita fully warrants the public in coming to the conclusion that the result arrived at is a just one, and the previous action of the police wholly indefensible. Nakano was one of the most

trusted councillors of Tokugawa Keiki (Hitotsu-bashi) at Tauruga, and subsequently governor of Chosiu (Yamaguchi no Kenrei), where he earned golden opinions amongst his countrymen for the able and conscientious manner in which he discharged the duties of his office. Fujita, again, has long been in the front rank among the merchants of Osaka, and has had very extensive dealings with foreigners, every one of whom speaks in the very highest terms of his honourable and upright conduct in all his business transactions.

We are informed that some time ago a calendar was published by the Naimusho under the title of Inyo-taisho-reki. This was compiled merely for calculating back the dates of both the solar and lunar calendars, and was not intended as a comparison between those of Japan and Europe. To facilitate a comparison between the calendars of Europe, China and the Mahometan Countries, Mr. Tsukamoto was instructed by the Naimusho to compile a table under the name of San-Ski-tsuran; this work is in two parts, the first of which is already completed, and about to be published.

His Majesty the Emperor granted an audience to the foreign professors of the naval college, on the occasion of distributing the certificates to the successful students on the 25th instant.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa has returned from Yokosuka, and visited the Italian Minister on the 24th instant.

His Majesty the Emperor has expressed his intention of witnessing the naval review which is to take place shortly.

Mr. Shimadzu has been received by the Emperor, whom he thanked for his attendance at the recent exhibition of *Inu-omono*. His Majesty made Mr. Shimadzu a handsome present.

From a Notification issued by the local authorities, we learn that a competitive exhibition will be held in Sendai next year. The exhibition will open on the 10th of August, and last for about twelve weeks.

As soon as the snow has disappeared, the survey will be resumed of the new road in the Hakone Mountains. When completed this road will prove a great boon to tourists and the public generally.

The fifth annual report of the Tokio Female Normal school, and the eighth annual report of the Imperial Japanese Post Office, have been published.

His Majesty the Emperor's gift of seventy thousand yen to the city of Tokio, was divided amongst the fifteen *Ku* of the capital, on the 26th instant.

A present of three hundred yen has been made by the authorities to Mr. Choyo Senzai, the president of the Board of Health, as an acknowledgment of the zealous and efficient manner in which he discharged the important duties of his office, during the recent epidemic of cholera.

His Majesty the Emperor has given one thousand yen to the Minister for Colonization, to be applied to the relief of the sufferers by the fire at Hakodate.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* mentions a rumour that China has raised an internal loan of eighty million taels to defray the cost of military and naval preparations. The loan was subscribed immediately.

It is stated in the *Chingai Bukka Shimpō*, that the export of rice for the current year has reached nearly nine million kin.

There is a little game that Japanese were playing very much of late. It is an incomprehensible game to foreigners, being bagatelle without a cue, played on a board without a cloth. It has enjoyed a popularity now all but vanished; for Japanese pleasures are

Like poppies spread;  
They snatch the flower, the bloom is dead;  
Or like the snow flake on the river,  
A moment white, then gone forever;  
Or like the Borealis race,

or like any other notion or fancy which comes on an inconstant popular mind and disappears as rapidly as it comes. A Japanese mania is like a Japanese fire: very impressive for the mo-

ment, but producing an impression on a wonderfully elastic surface.

The following were the exports from New York to Yokohama from the 8th to the 21st of November last. Barque *Harrard*, 35,000 cases kerosene; ship *Charles Dennis*, 32 packages h'ware, 42 cs. blacking, 112 pkgs. drugs, 981 cas. s. slates, 9 do. soap, 44 pkgs. glassware, 14 do. lamp goods, 50 bbls. alcohol, 50 bxs. ext. of logwood, 269 kegs. ptg ink, 250 bxs. perfy, 150 kegs. nails, 52,700 cs. kerosene, 6 cs. furniture, 2 iron safes, 1 organ, 1 bbl. crickery, 15 cs. effects, 75 tons coal, 50 bbls. rosin, 5 pkgs. packing, 25 bbls. plaster, 1 pkge. pumps, 31 cs. tobacco, 393 bxs. clocks, 500 gals. spts. turp, 45 cs. brassware; ship *Manuel Llagudo*, 62,629 cases kerosene.

#### YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

PATIENTS DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1879.

Class of Patients.	Remained.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained Jan. 1st.	Total Treated.
1st.....	1	0	1	0	0	1
2nd.....	0	1	1	0	0	1
3rd.....	11	6	12	0	5	17
4th.....	0	1	1	0	0	1
Charity.....	1	0	0	0	1	1
Total.....	13	8	15	0	6	21

STUART ELDRIDGE, M.D.,  
Surgeon-in-Charge.

#### PARIS LETTER.

The anticipated *Krack* has arrived and nearly gone. The little South Sea Bubbles, that have been rippling over the French Financial World have come to a head with Philippart's inability to meet settling day owing to a balance against him of six million of francs. Is Philippart a Law! He would seem to be so, and a "prophet" into the bargain. As the gains he promised to re-confiding admirers after bankruptcy number one, have not been realized, he has proved a bad prophet of course, but a book is a book although there be nothing in it. He founded a European Bank in this city a few months ago; the crowd brought him more millions than he demanded; he bought up the Grand Hotel, plunged into stock speculations, and finished by ruining thousands. There is nothing but wailing and gnashing of teeth in the four corners of Paris. The Bank he founded attempts to set up the plea that it is not responsible for Philippart's private liabilities, but the law, like public opinion, will not accept that convenient defence. Aware of the romance and fascination that the crowd surrounded Philippart's name with, some speculators farmed the popular credulity; bought in the bank shares, sold them at a high premium, and have thus left the present holders of scrip in the position of the clients with the oyster-shells. A score of leading brokers, yesterday princes, are beggars to day. One of them came before the liquidation committee, confessed he was ruined, placed two hundred thousand francs on the table—all he had—removed the ribbon of the Legion of Honor from his buttonhole, placed it in his pocket and retired weeping. He next bid his family good bye, and has disappeared.

The truth about the Labor Congress just closed at Marseilles, is leaking out; the speakers who indulged in all the wild freshness of communism, and exploded socialism generally, have been repudiated by the working men of France, and protests from the latter fill the columns of the journals. The monarchists have thus gained nothing by that form of crusade against the republic. The *ouvrier* is not socialist now although he was so in 1848. The congress voted the emancipation of woman, and the holding of property collectively instead of individually. M. Reyband once stated, that fifty years ago he devoted a whole winter in endeavouring to discover a "free woman," to draw up a code of equal rights for the sexes, but failed. Mlle. Dohm, a German lady, puts her French sisters into the shade. She goes in for the superiority of her sex, the "masculinisation of woman." Per contra this means, the sons of Adam must be *feminised*; indeed she does not despair to see the day when man's chief duties shall be confined to "the needle and the frying pan." She will then defend the "widower and the orphan." This lady's pamphlet would make a fine operetta.

Prince Metchersky lately traced the Nihilism of his country, not to moral, but to physical causes—the absence of iron in the blood—which, producing anemia, developed irritability in the brain and deranged the liver. The first part of the diagnosis applies to the out-and-out orators of Marseilles, and the usual remedy for it in asylums is not phosphorous or political economy, but iced douches.

Opinion is agreed that Parliament will be convoked in three weeks, and thus allay the uneasiness about the plenary amnesty and the Ferry educational scheme. As to Ministers, their departure or remaining in office is but a secondary matter; the chief point is that the present constitution shall exist, leaving the game of ins and outs to be played by the moderates and the advanced. M. Grévy has disposed of the claim of the amnestied communists, to be re-registered in that Livre d'Or of France, the Legion of Honor. It may be said, he rejects the claim, and the feeling of the army is with him. But he has been less happily inspired in the exercise of his prerogative of mercy. He has pardoned, it seems, two notorious young murderers, that would have been more in their place, "anywhere, anywhere, out of the world."

The real racing season is over, save the leather flapping business, which never ends. Neither the breed of horses, nor the morality of their admirers, is on the road to improvement. Racing is next to uncontrolled in this country, and the noble animal is rapidly becoming a sort of ambulatory roulette table, where owners, jocks and the fraternity form, with a few exceptions, a questionable ring. There is too much professional gambling connected therewith, and too little rest for the animal. For backers, 1879 will be as well remembered as it will be by vinegrowers. Stag hunting is on the increase, thanks chiefly to the duo d'Aumale and his family. They duly opened the fête of St. Hubert, which ought to continue for a week, by dinner parties and big drinks. The hounds were brought into the parish Church porch at Chantilly: a mass was celebrated, at which the guests and general public assisted; then followed the distribution of cakes. The leader of the pack is named *Ragabab*, a compliment to Emile Olivier of "light heart" fame. All the dogs are English; and the public is allowed to join in the hunt to witness the ceremony of the *chute*, and relish the horn concerts. The guests are invited by receiving a "button;" a mandarin fashion; if they accept, they are expected to wear the Orleanist colors, blue and silver. Among other notabilities present were Dumas and Sardou generally ranked politically as Bonapartists, but here in the capacity of co-academicians. Ladies who take part in the hunt must also display the party colors in their costumes.

M. Jules Claretie has won a success in his historical drama of *Mirabeau*. The Mirabeau family were a bad lot; the father was a philanthropist with loose morals; the mother was something between a lunatic and a virago; one son was called *tonneau*, (hoghead) on account of his Falstaff stomach; not produced by "care or holloeing of anthems," but by drink. The other son, the pook-marked Comte, the famous orator, full of genius and venality, forms the subject of the drama. We have his life as a literary hack and a scapegrace, then his appearance as the demolisher of the monarchy. There are his two mistresses; one, Julie, discarded, and the other, Henriette a Dutch girl, who falls in love with Mirabeau, and secretly pays his debts. Marshal Saxe took money from the actress Adrienne Lecouvreur as he would from Mephistophiles. Mirabeau rewards Henriette by making her his mistress, but she is drowned by her rival. The struggle between the two women, the reconciliation of Mirabeau with his father, the famous Procope café, and the oath of the *Jeu de l'homme* made up from David's picture, are the great scenes. Of Mirabeau's brilliant oratory, perhaps all that is retained as current coin is the, "Go tell your master, &c." reply to the King's messenger, the Marquis de Dreux-Brézé; just as all we have of Guizot's repartees, "You can never mount to the height of my contempt," when deputies climbed up to pull him out of the tribune. Probably the day will come when Gambetta will be only remembered by his recommending MacMahon to *soumettre ou démettre*.

Mlle. Heilbron has not succeeded in her début as Marguerite at the Grand Opera: her voice wants tenderness and greater compass: it is thin, wiry even, and incapable of soaring. She must work a good deal yet before making her mark as a *prima donna*; she has, however, in her favor, good looks and the determination to succeed.

The author of the play of *Mirabeau*, M. Claretie, is 37 years of age and no *littérateur* works more diligently. Like Dumas père, he keeps clerks, and has documents and elegant extracts as carefully pigeon-holed, as Emile de Girardin; he is also a family man and rarely goes into society, save the *salon* of Mme. Richtemberger. He writes his newspaper articles on white paper, and his novels on blue; he is becoming a rich man, and will in time have his own house and estate like modern Bohemians. I have alluded to Mme. Richtemberger; she is one of those republican ladies, who, like Mesdames Adams, Arnaud, and Rouvier, have "at homes" to keep



the republican party together: she is not great friends with Mme. Arnaud, whom she accuses of spiriting away Gambetta. Both ladies are widows and very rich. Gambetta might well say, "How happy could I be with either," &c. Perhaps the most intellectual of all these leading ladies is Mme. Rouvier, better known as Claude Vignon, who is an accomplished sculptress, an industrious journalist, and an exemplary house-keeper.

A new play is for Parisians more important than a change in the cabinet, the election of deputies or communist town councillors, or even a Russian ministry at Constantinople, and the world that likes to be amused participates in this feeling. Well, Sardou's piece *Straphane* is being rehearsed; it is Anglo-American, and represents a love struggle between a philosophical atheist and a protestant young lady, who succeeds in snatching the brand from the burning. There is a tabby that embodies a forty-pawson power in the distribution of tracts, a veritable major-domo in the salvation army. The scene is laid in Geneva, and it is whispered that the chateau of Crètes, Gambetta's Swiss wigwag, will figure in the tableaux. The protestant clergy may safely adopt the drama, after *H. M. N. l'Anglais* has arrived at positively its last night.

The volunteers of a year—as those young men are called who must remain at least twelve months under the flag, have left for the depots. By paying down one thousand five hundred francs, and passing an easy examination, they are exonerated from four years service—the full period being five. Every Frenchman on arriving at legal age, must serve this one year's apprenticeship in common with the lowliest, sharing too their life. Advanced republicans demand that the period under the flag be three years—the experiment is being tried, and every young man is compelled to serve alike. For a bread-winner, families and friends pinch themselves to scrape together the one thousand five hundred francs to have him back at the end of one year instead of four, and parents of social standing accompany their boys to the barrack gates, as if they were connected with a funeral cortège. After a few days the lads are cured of their squeamishness and become true "sons of a gun." One general swears that he receives letters from fathers and friends, "to take care of Donk," which were he to attend to, would entail half the regiment mounting guard in his drawing room.

The Princess Clotilde is returning to Paris to live with her husband Prince Jerome Napoleon. It is rumored that the Princess, vowing she would never consent, has consented. There was a Hagar in the way who has now been sent into the wilderness, but with more than bread and a bottle of water. Evidently Napoleon V. is taking his succession seriously; he does not want for cash, and the party is chopping round him. Even Paul de Cassagnac is listening to reason, remembering that with heaven even there are arrangements. This Bonapartist editor is chiefly devoting his talents to abusing Sari for exhibiting live Zulus in Paris and cracking up the electors of Charente for electing Marshal Canrobert a senator.

The season of Advent lecturing has opened. Père Loyson attacks the Vatican, and Father Didon, of the order of the Jesuits, treats of matrimony, which can only be happy where love exists; interest divides it and passion kills it. Père Naquet, as he is familiarly called, deals with matrimony where there is no love; he objects to its being indissoluble and demands, instead of granting judicial separations, to allow ex-lovers to divorce and try wedlock again. Pope says, "No pious Christian ought to marry twice."

The Dutch cook a turbot thus:—put it in a flat wooden dish; place a morsel of wood under the head and tail to keep it from touching the bottom; pour over it boiling water well salted; cover the whole with a cloth; in an hour the fish will be done to a turn.

Mirabeau—"Tonneau," was a notorious drunkard; his valet had the same infirmity and was dismissed for being intoxicated on the days when his master indulged. "But, Monsieur le Vicomte," replied the valet, "you are drunk every day, and so your action is unfair." The valet was retained.

A lecturer a few days ago in Paris, begged the mixed audience to "excuse him for five minutes while he smoked a pipe."

The Minister of Justice complains, his subordinates are decorated with the Legion of Honor without his being consulted; one official returned the decoration, stating he had already received it.

"R. F." The French say these initials do not mean "Republique Française," but "Republic Forever."

By placing a plaster Phrygian cap on the bust of the ex-empress, it makes a capital figure of the Republic, and gets off old stocks.

Littre complains, the papers do not allude to him when alive, but devote a column once a week to his death.

There is a palm tree in South America, *papaya carica*, which possesses very remarkable properties. Its sap is a very powerful digestive agent. Digestion is a complex act. Meat is digested in the stomach, feculae, already modified by the saliva; while fatty matters are only digested in the intestine. Hence the explanation,

why some persons can digest meat and eggs without difficulty, while their stomachs rebel against seculent and fatty substances. Individuals, on the other hand, who cannot eat veal, can partake of fatty preparations and pastry without inconvenience. Thus each organ has its rôle, and on their state of health depends the integrity of digestion. Inhabitants of cities suffer most from dyspepsia, that is, from an alteration of the digestive ferment. It is for this latter class of sufferers, that Messrs. Wurtz and Bouchut have investigated the action of the *papaya*. The latter gentleman has experimented with the preparation for two years with success, in the hospital for sick children. The papaya is more generally known in America as the "melon tree;" the fruit is rose-colored, sweet, and is eaten like an ordinary melon. The trunk and the veins of the leaves, contain a bitter, milky sap or juice, which, after a short exposure to the air, emits an odor resembling decomposed cabbage. The sap exudes when incision is made in the trunk, it immediately coagulates, and separates into two parts a more or less soluble pulp, and a limpid, colorless serum. Now if this juice, in its natural state, be placed in contact with raw meat, fibrine, the white of eggs, or gluten, it will soften these substances in a few minutes, and in some hours dissolve them if at a temperature of 40° Centigrade. Milk is rapidly coagulated by the juice, and its caseine precipitated and dissolved. False membranes from croup and intestinal parasites, as the tape-worm, &c., are similarly disposed of in a few hours. If a beefsteak be cut up in morsels and placed in a saucer containing some papaya juice, it will be seen to gradually disappear, the pieces melt away as if they were lumps of sugar. Clearly the papaya contains a ferment resembling that peculiar to carnivorous plants, as the drosera, nepenthes, &c. Vegetable pepsine is not exactly a novelty, but that in the sap of the papaya is stronger than what is secreted by the stomach, and possesses this superiority, that it can dissolve nitrogenous matters not only in the presence of a small quantity of acid, but even in a neutral medium, or one slightly alkaline. While weak digestions have reason to rejoice, it is not less important to bear in mind the efficacy of the preparation, in the treatment of croup and tape worm.

M. Gaston Bonnier has written a most interesting essay on the nectaries of plants. His aim is to invalidate the conclusions of the Darwin school. If he has failed in this, he has not the less produced many remarkable facts. The Darwinists may have erred in being too absolute, but it does not follow that the laws of the school are false, because exceptions to these laws can be adduced. The general ideas respecting nectaries and the matters they secrete are that their object is to furnish to insects a saccharine matter which attracts them, and thus compel them, unconsciously, to directly fecundate or cross the flowers. The latter would be destined to gather and protect the nectar, to attract by their colors and their perfume, the insects, and afford them a passage in such a manner, that in penetrating into the corolla, they will deposit on the stigma the pollen with which they are charged. This view has numerous exceptions, as some plants—the *cicis*—are visited by insects for their nectar before even being in flower. A flower deficient in color can still entice insects by its odor. Nageli, for example, attracted bees to artificial flowers coated with odoriferous honey; when the latter had been consumed the bees disappeared. M. Bonnier took four square pieces of different colored stuffs, covered them with honey and spread them on the grass; the bees came and sucked all the same, regardless of the colors, and flew away when the honey had been consumed. But insects not the less know that such and such a flower has colors indicative of a nectariferous corolla. M. Sachs says; an insect visits always a certain flower in the same manner. Bees, if a flower be closed, will tear or perforate it in order to arrive—ever in the same direction—at the nectary. Some flowers, the geranium, digitalis, &c., are visited for their nectar after the fall of the corolla. Insects too large to penetrate into certain flowers, perforate them to reach the nectar. Such insects are not agents of fecundation, but all insects are not adapted for this latter function to all plants. The secretion of nectar varies with the weather, and following the hours of the day. If the weather be fine, the volume secreted diminishes from the morning, is least at noon, augmenting towards the night. Certain species of plants may have nectar in one country, as in Norway, and none in another, as in France. The humidity of the air and soil increase the emission of saccharine juice, and the latter is most productive at the moment of pollinisation, and in proportion as the sugar diminishes the glucose augments. The latter feeds the ovary, which changes and swells into fruit. This alteration in the saccharine matters is due to a ferment, which acts in the same manner as the leaven of beer. M. Bonnier agrees with Bravais that plants can re-absorb their secreted nectar.

Professor Saccardo of Padua, continues his interesting experiments of artificially coloring the corolla of flowers. There is no

thing new in the idea, but the methods employed are original. He simply causes the plants to drink certain colored solutions—aniline chiefly, which penetrating the tissues, modify color—in fact dye the nervelets and veins of the corolla. Gardeners are aware that by mixing iron filings with the soil around hortensius, the latter receive a blue tint. The roots of pansies and stocks dipped in a solution of green aniline become colored in their flowers in fifteen minutes, but the plant dies in the course of a week. Watering the soil with a colored solution does no good—as the earth absorbs the coloring material.

Messrs. Rambert and Robert are bringing out a magnificent serial publication of what I might call, the "Natural History of Familiar Birds;" of those birds that we love, which interest all ages, even infancy. About sixty species are noticed, and what is certainly new, the drawings are all from nature. The authors are very severe on the inhabitants of Southern Spain, of Corsica and Italy, for their massacres of feathered friends. They slaughter with the coldest cruelty, some of the most charming species, seeing in them nothing but game. The havoc is more terrible as it is over these regions the migrations pass. The Italian markets are encumbered with robin redbreasts, larks, red wings, finches and thrushes; the nightingale is a good take also, and even young swallows. The chapter on the tom-tit is peculiarly interesting. This bird is a veritable acrobat, and executes gymnastic feats on the extremity of a leaf with a marvellous dexterity—a combination of a monkey and the squirrel. But its play is hunting all the while the eggs of caterpillars, bugs and spiders, and it is terribly cruel if caged with a weaker bird—will kill it in order to suck its brains. As a parent, it cracks hard seed and grains affectionately for its young. The hawk is the only bird of which the tom-tits have a mortal dread.

Messrs. Cerbel and Dumont publish a volume of six hundred pages of a work treating on the industries of France, and deploring, that there is no intelligence on the part of the French artisan and manufacturer, that they are being cut out of their own market by the foreigner. The French are not sufficiently speculative—and are afraid to change the old plans for new. In the matter of coal, France ranks only fourth in the production of that combustible—on a par with Belgium, though she is not deficient in coal mines. England produces as much coal as all the nations of the world together. Excepting in iron, France has to depend on the foreigner for her supply of the other metals although she is comparatively rich in them herself. In fact, an English Company works the chief iron mine at Bone, in Algeria.

The preservation of the sight is engaging much serious attention. Professor Javal is not far from considering that defective eyesight is due to the bad lighting of school-rooms, hence the importance of the subject, for France intends erecting thousands of new primary schools. As general rules, the light should never strike the pupil's eyes directly; it ought to enter the class-room bi-laterally, and by windows built on a north-west and north-east axis, inclining if possible rather to the latter. The healthy eye requires no protecting glasses, save when travelling across glaciers or in countries full of too brilliant sunshine. The eye has a wonderful power of adaptation; thus the light of the sun is about one million times more intense than that of the full moon, and yet the eye can distinguish objects by the light of either orb. The variations in the diameter of the pupil contribute something to this power of adaptability, it is in the retina that the sensibility of the eye resides and which produces the faculty of contraction and expansion, following light and obscurity. Reading a book under the direct influence of the sun's rays, will invariably end by producing blindness, and for a time prevent seeing in demi-obscurity. The houses in Madrid are so protected from sunlight by shutters half closed and blinds entirely drawn down, that persons entering such apartments directly from the street, can perceive nothing for eight or ten minutes, while the occupants can see quite well. Insufficient lighting is more injurious to children than adults; the pupils of the latter are less dilatable, thus compelling immediate abstention from work when darkness sets in. Grown up persons also generally patronize glasses, and if not short-sighted in youth, they rarely contract the infirmity in advancing years. It is an error to suppose that the number of windows in a school ought to be proportionate to the number of scholars. Artificial light is a cause of fatigue to many persons, as it entails a greater dilation of the pupil. The difference in intensity between natural and artificial light can be seen in the burning of a lamp during full day. A lustre with one million of candles, would still be very inferior in illuminating a room to the direct light of the sun. A well-known *littérateur* cannot work by day, unless the shutters be closed and the lamps lighted; this is owing to the action of the chemical rays, which yellow glasses ought to remedy. After every eclipse of the sun, oculists have an increased number of patients, who have injured their eyes by looking through im-

perfectly smoked glass. In one of the railway termini of Paris, when the electric light was first employed, there was a general outcry against its effulgency; when it was replaced by gas, the complaints were equally loud by the employés that they were plunged in Egyptian darkness. The fatigue resulting from working by artificial light, is not due to the dazzle of the flame, but to the inadequacy of the light it emits.

Surgery can justly boast of a new conquest; when an eye is severely wounded, the healthy one is in danger of being impaired by "sympathy." To preserve a good eye, it was hitherto the practice to remove the injured one. Dr. Boucheron has discovered, that by cutting the ciliary nerves, the "sympathy" is stopped, and he thus dispenses with the necessity of removing the injured organ. Forty surgeons have thus operated successfully.

Jupiter at present shines with astonishing brilliancy; yet its light is not peculiar to itself, it is reflected. That colossal planet is 309 times heavier than our earth, and 1,230 times its superior in volume. Were it surrounded by a vast ocean, a steam-ship sailing at the rate of fourteen knots an hour night and day, while able to make the tour of our globe in three months, would take nearly three years to circumnavigate Jupiter. And yet the leaf of a tree can obscure him from our vision; a fly alighting on the glass of a telescope, seems to swallow him. After Venus, Jupiter is the most brilliant of all the planets; his diameter is eleven times greater than the earth's, and his surface equal to one hundred and fourteen of our globe's. And yet the diameter of Jupiter is ten times less than that of the sun. The materials of which Jupiter is composed are lighter than those of our earth, but attraction being greater there, they weigh more heavily. It takes Jupiter nearly eleven years and eleven months to revolve round the sun, yet its diurnal rotation is effected in ten hours—five hours day and five night. There are no seasons in Jupiter, all is an eternal spring, and four moons marry their light to illuminate him. If inhabited, it must be by extra-terrestrial beings.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

New York, December 6th.—A cable dispatch to the *Herald* dated Dublin, the 5th, says: Great excitement was caused among the members of and sympathizers with the National Land League by the arrest of Thomas Brennan, which took place quietly, soon after 7 o'clock in the morning, at his lodgings, No. 7 Russell street. The arrest was for a speech made at Balla on the 22d ult. It was effected by Superintendent Mallon, a detective of police, a sub-inspector of the constabulary of Mayo, and two or three detectives. They allowed the prisoner to make every necessary preparation for the journey, and then conveyed him to the Midland and Great Western Railway, where another body of police was waiting. Davitt, who heard of the arrest soon after the starting of the train, immediately telegraphed to the agents of the Land League at all towns along the line to give the prisoner a reception; consequently large crowds assembled about the stations of Mullingar, Athlone and Ballinacree, who rent the air with cheers. The prisoner will be confined in the jail at Castlebar. He is about 26 years of age. For a long time he was clerk of the City Mills. He is Secretary of the Land League and has always taken a prominent part in the Fenian and other demonstrations. He walked behind the hearse at MacCarthy's funeral. It has been his ambition for some time to get arrested. He was much elated when the arrest occurred. His Balla speech bears a wonderful resemblance to one delivered by Meagher in 1848. On Thursday night Davitt and Brennan attended the Theatre Royal, where Geneviève Ward is playing. When they parted after the performance, Davitt said, prophetically, "Good by; when I see you again, you will be in jail." Brennan arrived at Castlebar at 3½ o'clock this afternoon in custody of superintendent Mallon and his assistants. The prisoner was at once conveyed to the Court-house. The general public was excluded, but Brennan's friends and the representatives of the press were admitted. Mayor Wyer presided over the magisterial investigation. Myles Jordan, the Crown Solicitor, prosecuted; Charles O'Malley, instructed by Malachai Kelley, defended. After consultation the Clerk read the information of sub-Inspector Carter of Claremorris, as follows:

"I was at Toonamore, near Balla, on Saturday, the 22d ult., and then and there saw a large assemblage of persons, numbering some thousands. I saw then and there a person named Thomas Brennan of Dublin. The said Bren-

nan made a speech to the aforesaid assemblage, at the same time and place aforesaid; and I say that in the course of said speech said Brennan, willfully, maliciously and seditiously contriving and intending to disturb the peace of the Queen, to raise discontent and disaffection among the Queen's subjects, to promote a feeling of illwill and hostility between the different classes of such subjects, to excite such subjects to break the law, and attempt to procure otherwise than by lawful means an alteration of the laws of the realm, to resist by force and violence the enforcement by legal process of the rights by law established, and excite disaffection among, and seduce from their duty and allegiance certain members of the Royal Irish Constabulary, did speak and publish to said assembly wicked, seditious and inflammatory words."

The witnesses examined were Superintendent Mallon, Detective Pepper and Sub-Inspector Barter. Ultimately Brennan was remanded till Monday. Bail was refused. The Government intends to exert all its strength for the suppression of the seditious utterances of members of the National League and showed by its action to-day that it does not believe that it has made a mistake in effecting the original arrests. Every honest means of obtaining the conviction of the arrested men will be used. The first step was taken in the Queen's Bench to-day toward removing the trials to Dublin, this new move of the Government will cause a postponement of the trials till January. Arrangements have been making all the week for a monster meeting at Castlereagh. The market-place is capable of holding 60,000 persons. All the great leaders will be there. Messrs. Parnell, Dillon, Daly, Davitt, Ferguson of Glasgow and Brennan are expected to attend, and have openly declared that they intend to make seditious speeches. It is believed by the Land League that Brennan's arrest was intended by the Government to dampen the ardor of the participants in the Castlereagh demonstration. Do not be deceived by reports of intense excitement in Dublin and elsewhere. Save in the west, excitement prevails only in the limited circles of agitators. The general public has merely taken an ordinary interest in events. It is generally agreed by those who are most friendly to the Government that the agitation would have died a natural death before now but for the arrests.

Dublin, December 5th.—The Court of Queen's Bench to-day granted the application of the Crown, that if the Grand Jury of Sligo found true bills against Davitt, Daly and Killen, accused of sedition, the indictments should be removed for trial to Dublin.

Thomas Brennan was arrested to-day and conveyed to Castlebar. He will be charged with using seditious language at Balla, and with endeavoring to seduce the police from their allegiance. Brennan is an employé of the Dublin City Bakery Company, Secretary of the National Land League and prominent in the Amnesty Association and other political organizations. He was received enthusiastically by a large crowd on his arrival at Castlebar under the escort of police. Brennan was taken to the Court-house and examined. The indictment was read over to him, after which he was remanded to Monday, to allow time to secure the attendance of the shorthand writer who took down his remarks, as a witness. Bail was refused. The prisoner was defended by Charles O'Malley. The expressions which caused the arrest of Brennan were to the effect that he adopted the words of Davitt, and that the time for resolve and action had arrived. Brennan had been informed of the issue of a warrant, but made no effort to avoid arrest.

New York, December 5th.—A meeting was held to-night under the auspices of the Socialist party, to express sympathy for the Irish people in their present struggle against the landlords. The audience was mainly composed of Germans, but few Irishmen being present. Charles Southeran presided. John Swiston made a long and eloquent address, in which he eulogized Parnell and the movement with which he is identified in Ireland.

London, December 5th.—The number of Her Majesty's ships on the west coast of Africa will shortly be increased in consequence of war prevailing there.

Manchester, December 5th.—The decline in the price of silver causes fresh uneasiness among Eastern shippers of cotton.

London, December 5th.—The Anchor Line steamer *Anglia*, from New York November 22nd, for Glasgow, is stranded

near Plodda, a low rocky island off Scotland, in the Frith of Clyde. It is expected that she will be got off. The crew and passengers have been taken off the vessel.

London, December 5th.—Thomas Bayley Potter, M. P., who recently returned from America speaks enthusiastically of the progress of the United States and of the solidity of the republican institutions of the country.

London, December 5th.—The *Times*, in its financial article, says: The Industry Cotton Spinning Company, the owners of large mills at Oldham, have gone into liquidation in consequence of the depression of trade.

The report of the Cleveland Iron Masters' Association for November shows that the revival in the iron trade in that district is well maintained.

The *Post* announces that Rev. Arthur Wagener of St. Paul's Church, Brighton, has joined the Catholic Church on account of the acceptance by a majority of the English clergy of the Erastian rulings of Lord Penzance's Court, and it is rumored that several members of his congregation and one of the Sisterhood at Brighton will follow his example.

George J. Joseph & Co., export merchants, have failed. They are reported to have business connections in Canada.

Madrid, December 5th.—The Government has decided to dispatch several small war vessels to Cuba.

The Cabinet Council has approved the report of the Senate Committee on the bill for the abolition of slavery in Cuba.

Premier Campos has promised the Cuban Deputies that he will soon present to the Cortes a bill relative to economical reforms, and reforms in the laws relative to the coasting trade of Cuba.

The report on the bill for the abolition of slavery in Cuba was read in the Senate to-day.

Vienna, December 5th.—The Lower House of the Reichstag has rejected the motion for a reduction of the standing army, and adopted the first clause of the Government's bill fixing the strength of the army on a war footing at 800,000.

The clause prolonging the operations of the bill for ten years failed to obtain the necessary two-thirds majority 174 members voting for and 155 against it. An amendment prolonging it for three years was also rejected.

St. Petersburg, December 5th.—The Czar visited the theatre last night and was most enthusiastically received. The performance was suspended while the Russian national anthem was sung.

It is reported that two persons have been arrested on suspicion of complicity in the recent attempted assassination of the Czar.

An excited crowd on Tuesday broke in the windows of the house near Moscow whence they supposed the mine had been fired. They had commenced to wreck the house, but were stopped by the police.

New York, December 5th.—A dispatch to the *World* from Alexandria, the 4th, says: The machinery, constructed upon my designs by Roshling, for lowering and moving the obelisk, has now been thoroughly tested, and I am glad to say that it works admirably. The obelisk has been successfully cradled, as you will see by the photograph mailed you. An attempt was made to-day to lower it before all the gearing was ready, in my temporary absence. One heel of the monolith caught on one of the supporting crabs. The darkness stopped work for the day but the obelisk is solidly and safely moored and suspended, against the renewal of operations. All other preparations are going on favorably.

H. H. GORRISO.

London, December 5th.—The *Daily News* understands that about six months ago the Russian Embassy here received information that an attempt would be made on the Czar's life by blowing up the imperial train. The Russian Government was immediately informed of this, and it is believed that the projected attempt had been more than once frustrated.

Paris, December 4th.—After the debate on the Floquet-Brisson interpellation, and explanations by Waddington and Ferry, the Chamber of Deputies this evening passed, by a vote of 243 to 107, an order of the day favorable to the Government to the effect that the Chamber having heard the explanations and trusting to the vigor with which the Government will remove all reactionary officials, pass the order of the day. Almost all the members of the extreme Left



abstained from voting. The minority consisted of Deputies belonging to nearly all the groups of the Right.

In the debate in the Chamber of Deputies, Wednesday night, Paul de Cassagnac was formally censured by the House for refusing to retract an insult he had offered to Jules Ferry, Minister of Public Instruction.

London, December 5th.—A Paris correspondent says: It is understood that Leroyer, Minister of Justice, has announced his intention to resign from the Cabinet, as he does not consider that the recent vote has consolidated the Ministry.

London, December 5th.—Accounts from Egypt state that the Government is actively completing preparations for a war with Abyssinia. The War Office at Cairo and the harbor of Suez, where the troops are to embark, are very animated. If hostilities are resumed the Egyptian forces will be divided into two armies. The former is to be composed of 8,000 men and the latter of 12,000. The offensive army will be projected on the harbor of Arkiko, near Adua, the capital of Abyssinia, and the defensive army will take up two intrenched positions—one at Gasun, near the Babal River, and the other at Bahin, on Render River, thus commanding the two main roads of Abyssinia leading from the north to the Soudan. Gordon Pasha will command the defensive army.

A dispatch from Alexandria contradicts the report that the British and French Consuls at Massowah have summoned King John of Abyssinia to allow Gordon Pasha to return to Egypt without hindrance. The dispatch says that there is no British Consul at Massowah. No news has been received of Gordon Pasha since his return to Debratabor at King John's request, and it is not yet time for letters to arrive from him. The report of strained relations between Egypt and Abyssinia is greatly exaggerated. No troops have left Cairo and none are preparing to leave, except one battalion which Gordon Pasha requested in his last communication.

A Cairo dispatch says: A special meeting of the Council of Ministers was held yesterday, the Khedive presiding, in consequence of a dispatch having been received stating that two chiefs, acting under the Khedive's orders, had traced Gordon Pasha to Soiani, where they found him in good health, but were prevented from bringing back any letters from him.

King John, with a powerful army; has gone to Gondar. The Egyptian officer commanding at Soulat reports that the Abyssinian General, Ras Allout means to attack that post.

Berlin, December 5th.—During the visit of the King and Queen of Denmark to this city not a word was mentioned about the Duke of Cumberland or the Hanoverian sequestered moneys.

Edinburgh, December 5th.—A correspondent of the *Scotman*, at London, states that he has seen private letters from an influential person in Bulgaria, giving warning that not much credit should be attached to the alarmist report telegraphed thence about the political situation there, and saying the country was never quieter than now.

Vienna, December 5th.—It is untrue that there will be a conference of Russian Ambassadors at St. Petersburg. Neither Count Schouvaloff nor Prince Lobanoff will proceed to Russia for the present. General Ignatieff is again pressed to accept the Ambassadorship at Rome. Norvikoff, Russian Ambassador at this Court, who has been to Moscow, will return here this week.

Vienna, December 5th.—The subject of submitting the Greek question to an International tribunal is under consideration.

Peath, December 5th.—There has been a heavy snow-fall throughout Hungary.

Brussels, December 5th.—The Archbishop of Malines will publish a declaration stating that no difference exists between the Holy See and the Belgian Episcopacy, relative to the education law.

Rome, December 5th.—It is announced that Count Corti, the present Italian Ambassador at Constantinople, will go to London, and Count Menabrea, at present Ambassador at London, will replace General Cialdini as Ambassador at Paris.

Madrid, December 5th.—The water of the Guadiana river has risen considerably, and fresh inundations are apprehended.

London, December 5th.—A land meeting was held yesterday at Menah, county Tipperary, at which 3000 persons were present. Edward Dwyer Gray and Patrick James Smith, Home Rule Members of Parliament, were among the speakers. Resolutions were passed calling for abatement of rents and for a peasant proprietary.

London, December 4th.—A letter is issued by Charles S. Parnell, stating that the Sligo prisoners would be tried at Carrick-on-Shannon on the 11th instant. He also appeals to the public for subscriptions to defray the expenses of the defence.

Parnell and Finigan expect to start for New York on the 17th instant. Parnell will be present at the trial of the prisoners at Carrick-on-Shannon, which it is expected will terminate by December 15th.

Montreal, December 4th.—St. Patrick's Society has asked the clergy for permission to collect funds for the relief of the distressed in Ireland. A mass meeting will be held on Monday night.

London, December 4th.—A Buenos Ayres dispatch of December 3rd says: Intelligence has been received that the allied Peruvians and Bolivians have been completely defeated at Tarapaca, Peru, by the Chileans, who have taken possession of the town. A Chilean squadron is blockading the port of Arica. A dispatch from Valparaiso says Tarapaca has been captured by the Chileans. Losses heavy on both sides.

A Valparaiso telegram reports a disaster to the Chilean forces near Loa, at the mouth of the river of the same name, on the boundary between Peru and Bolivia. After a stubborn fight, 1,500 Chileans surrendered to the allies, with all their cannon and ammunition. The Chilean commander was killed. The Bolivian commander afterwards occupied Concha Blancas.

St. Louis, December 4th.—Carlotta Patti entered suit this afternoon against the *Post Dispatch*, asking \$25,000 damages, for publishing an alleged libellous article from the Leavenworth *Times* of last Sunday, in which she is stated to have been drunk on the occasion of her concert there on the night previous.

Berlin, December 4th.—The famine in upper Silesia has become so serious that in many villages over one-third of the population are starving. Famine distress is appearing in Saxony among the peasants and the weavers.

Philippopolis, December 4th.—Twenty villages in the Kirdschuli district of the Rhodope Mountains have risen in arms, and 500 insurgents have seized the local fund and made prisoners of the gendarmes.

Paris, December 4th.—The French Government has directed the Governor of Senegal, Western Africa, to send an expedition to explore the region lying between the Upper Senegal and the Niger Rivers, and report on the feasibility of constructing a railway between the two rivers.

London, December 4th.—The *Times*, in its financial article says: United States Government bonds are hardly to be got here now, and their prices are a mere reflex of those of New York.

London, December 4th.—The conflict which has broken out in New Calabar, West Africa, is between King Amachree of New Calabar and his followers on the one hand, and a powerful chief called Wildbraid and his adherents on the other. Some time since the king of New Calabar died and the accession to the throne of Amachree has not given general satisfaction. During the conflict mentioned in a previous dispatch, no quarter was shown to the wounded or the prisoners, who were immediately killed in many cases and eaten by the lowest classes of natives. It was thought the British naval commander would not interfere unless the English factories were threatened or destroyed, or British subjects molested.

Bonney is suffering almost equally with New Calabar, and the trade of the district is almost at a standstill. King Juja is also reported to be collecting forces and war material to join in the struggle. In such an event the inhabitants of Three Rivers would be drawn into the conflict. Her Majesty's ship *Dido* was outside the bar at Bonney, ready to enter or send in a boat in case of necessity.

Berlin, December 3rd.—The Government bill for the purchase of the Berlin and Stettin, the Magdeburg and Halberstadt, the Hanover and Altenbreken and the Cologne and Minden railways, having been submitted to the Railway Committee of the Prussian Landtag for examination, that

body has appointed a sub-committee to prepare and settle the conditions of furnishing guarantees against any abuse of the powers which the Government would decree under the new measure. The sub-committee now recommend the concurrence of the railway committee in the measure, dependent upon the Government's introduction of a bill during the present session, or at latest during the next, guaranteeing separate financial administration for railways, so that the revenues therefrom shall be applied solely to meeting the charges on railway debts, management and extensions. The sub-committee also recommend that the railway administration shall be assisted by a general railway council, to co-operate with the central railway administration, vested in the ministry of public works, and by district railway councils to operate with the managers of the various railways. These recommendations have been accepted, with slight modifications, by the railway committee, and will doubtless be adopted by the Landtag.

## LAW REPORTS.

## IN THE IMPERIAL GERMAN CONSULAR COURT.

Before E. ZAPPE, Esquire, *Consul*.Messrs. F. GROSSER, & A. SCHULTZE, *Assessors*.

Tuesday, December 30th, 1879.

FRANTZ BARON STILLFRIED

versus

STILLFRIED and ANDERSEN.

Plaintiff asked that defendants be ordered to pay him \$143 for services rendered and expenses had on their behalf in exhibiting their photographs at the Philadelphia Exhibition, 1876. He also asked costs.

Defendants demanded that the claim be dismissed and plaintiff be ordered to pay costs.

Plaintiff appeared personally; Mr. Kirkwood appeared together with Mr. H. Andersen, the present holder of the defendant firm.

Plaintiff urged his claims. Mr. Kirkwood said that the defendant firm had never authorized plaintiff to represent them at the Philadelphia Exhibition; if he had been so authorized by Baron Raymond Stillfried, it had been solely in the private interest of the latter. He produced 4 bills to prove that the photographs of the firm, exhibited in Philadelphia, were exhibited by the Photographic Company in Vienna which had been paid in full by the defendant firm. The exhibition took place 3 years ago, but it was only 6 weeks ago, that the defendant firm for the first time heard of this claim. Then it was only \$40, a fortnight latter it grew to \$100, and now it had swollen to \$143.

Plaintiff stated that he in Philadelphia in 1876 received a letter from his brother, engaging his services at the exhibition on behalf of the firm of Stillfried & Andersen. He is not now in possession of that letter, but he invokes the testimony of his brother. At the same time as he received that letter, the firm of Wilson & Co., photographers in Philadelphia, received a letter from Stillfried & Andersen, requesting them to deliver the photographs of the latter firm to plaintiff, who would refund their outlay. Witness saw that letter in the hands of Wilson and Co. and he assumes that the copy of it must be in the press-copy-book of the firm of Stillfried and Andersen, and he demands that defendants be ordered to produce their press-copy-book, or called upon on oath to deny, that such a letter was ever written. He is not aware of what the firm exhibited in Philadelphia through the Vienna company. He denies that he has ever demanded from defendants first \$40 and then \$100. He is not a merchant and keeps no books, and is therefore unable to prove his outlay on behalf of Stillfried and Andersen but he has written to Wilson & Co to send him a copy of their bill. As to the photographs, they are at defendants' disposal: they are now partly at the permanent photographic exhibition at Philadelphia, partly in witnesses' possession.

To Mr. Kirkwood:—"The photographs were exhibited in the name of Stillfried and Andersen.

To Mr. H. Andersen:—"The letter to me from my brother, authorizing me to act on behalf of the firm of Stillfried and Andersen, was signed "Raymond."

The Court decided that proof must be procured by the plaintiff, that Baron Raymond Stillfried in 1876 authorized him to represent the firm Stillfried and Andersen at the Philadelphia Exhibition, and:

That plaintiff in the course of 1876 had rendered account to Baron Raymond Stillfried of the manner in which he had discharged his trust, and that account of expenses had been admitted as correct by the firm of Stillfried and Andersen, further:

That the defendant firm be ordered to produce the press-copy-book, in which the alleged letter to Wilson & Co. is entered, or that the present holder of the firm, Mr. H. Andersen, deny on oath that such a letter was ever written.

Baron Raymond Stillfried was sworn to speak the truth, and said: I have so far no interest in the present lawsuit that, if the plaintiff loses it, I must pay his claim. My former partner, Mr. H. Andersen, and I agreed to send photographs to the Philadelphia Exhibition in 1876. The photographs were sent by us to the firm of Löwe in Vienna, thence to be forwarded by the Photographic Company at Vienna to Philadelphia, at that company's expense. Fearing, however, that these photographs might arrive too late in Philadelphia, I and Mr. Andersen agreed to send another lot direct to Philadelphia, addressed to Wilson & Co. The correspondence with Wilson & Co. was written by Andersen. Afterwards it struck me that my brother, who was in Philadelphia would probably be more zealous in the interest of our firm than a mere stranger, and with the consent of Mr. Andersen, I wrote private letter to my brother, explaining the matter to him and asking him to take delivery of our photographs from Wilson & Co., and to refund them their expenses, and to represent our firm at the exhibition. Mr. Andersen wrote in the name of our firm to Wilson & Co. Later on my brother wrote to me that the affair had not turned out well and mentioned the amount of expenses he had had on behalf of Stillfried and Andersen. I do not now remember the exact figure, but it was very nearly the same as plaintiff now claims, only my brother did not then charge for his personal trouble. Andersen was in our office when that letter arrived, and he had it in his hands and read it. When I in the year 1877, was in Philadelphia, my brother mentioned the affair and presented me his account against Stillfried and Andersen, but I asked him to wait until my return to Yokohama, and then it slipped from my memory. The account my brother presented to me in Philadelphia was at that time admitted by me on behalf of Stillfried and Andersen as correct.

Mr. H. Andersen produced his press-copy-book, which on page 415 was found to contain the following letter:

"Yokohama, 11th February, 1876.

"Wilson, Esq.,

Philadelphia.

"Dear Sir.—I have read in the *Photographische Mittheilungen*, that you will be kind enough to secure place for pictures, intended for the Exhibition, if they are addressed to your care.

"Being so far away from home we were informed to send in our photographs to a date which could not be kept by us, which was in fact impossible to keep, the time being too short, but notwithstanding we sent off two collections to Vienna, one via America and the other via Brindisi, in case one should be delayed.

"We have protested against the short notice given to us, and do not know if our pictures will be sent off to Philadelphia or not, and we therefore take the liberty to address to you as per receipt enclosed.

"Should our pictures not have arrived from Vienna, kindly exhibit those we send you now. Any expenses will be paid by Baron F. Stillfried, North, 7th street, Philadelphia, upon application.

"We should like to become members of the National Photographic Association and wish to subscribe to the Philadelphia Photographer, and trust you will do the needful in this respect.

"Should the Photos have arrived from Vienna we leave it to your judgment to add some which are not duplicates from those sent to-day. The remainder please deliver to the above address. We shall afterwards be happy to present your association with the pictures exhibited.

"We beg to hand you list of photographs sent and ask you to accept our best thanks for your kind intervention in our behalf.

"We remain, dear Sir,

"Yours obedient servants,

"(Signed) STILLFRIED & ANDERSEN.

"P.S.—We beg to add that our pictures will be exhibited by *Photographische Gesellschaft* in Vienna, if they arrive in time, as our Mr. R. Stillfried is a member of the association."

He denied ever to have seen the letter from plaintiff,

which the last witness had mentioned as containing the account of outlay on behalf of Stillfried and Anderson. He was ready to swear that no other letter had been written to Wilson and Co. in the name of Stillfried and Anderson than the one of which he had just produced copy in copy-book.

Plaintiff asserted that the letter now produced in copy is the very letter to which he had made allusion as ordering Wilson and Co. to deliver the photographs to him.

Mr. Anderson contended that the exhibition of photographs at Philadelphia was not at all in the name of the firm of Stillfried and Anderson, but in the sole name of Baron Stillfried, to whom personally also the diploma has been issued.

Judgment to be delivered on Tuesday, the 6th January next.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XXX.

#### THE INMATES OF THE RUINED COTTAGE.

If Saburo's orders to the landlord had seemed to savour somewhat of temerity, the same accusation could not certainly have been preferred against the Taira soldiers' manner of receiving their enemies' summons. In fact had there been any possibility of such a proceeding, it might have been supposed that the inmates of the hostel, either forgetting their superior numbers or perhaps purposely misinformed by their host, had preferred a quiet retreat to the chances of an unequal combat. But the one path leading from the back of the inn across a wide valley of green rice fields and sweet scented bean plants, was entirely visible from the main road, so that the watchers without gave another interpretation to the long silence succeeding the delivery of their challenge by the landlord. They knew that men, let them be ever so brave or ever so hardy, are prone to hesitate before making a rush in which their leaders cannot fail to be struck down, and they did not therefore find it wonderful that those they awaited should be in no hurry to cross a threshold guarded by four such swords as theirs. They therefore watched patiently enough, Benkei and Yoshitsune standing on either side of the porch, while Saburo and Shomon took post between them, a disposition which had been effected by a sort of tacit understanding, but which was not apparently designed so as to derive the fullest benefit from the position, for none of the men had placed himself within certain striking distance of the point where their foes might be expected to issue. Benkei had found, lying under the verandah, a sort of huge lever, shod with iron and girdled with heavy metal rings. Of this he had taken possession, and anyone who had seen him swinging the ponderous bar as easily as though it had been a priest's crozier, could have guessed what a murderous weapon it was likely to prove in his hands.

Presently a murmur of subdued voices and a clatter of armour within the hostel warned the watchers that the moment of onset was at hand. Benkei raising his lever, rested it on his shoulder, while his three companions unsheathed their swords and drew a step nearer the porch. For the rest, they betrayed no symptom of agitation, and what was still stranger, by neither glance nor gesture did they seek to encourage each other or to adjust the parts they were about to act in this deadly drama. In truth, to minds occupied by reflections such as the past suggested in their case, peril becomes a pleasant solace, and its issue so inconsiderable that one may not pause to consider the means of assuring or averting it.

The sounds, which seemed to preclude the Taira men's exit, were not however succeeded by that event. Some new cause of delay must have suggested itself to those within, for their voices were presently hushed again, and the same silence as before replaced this momentary promise of action.

The watchers on this side now began to draw disquieting conclusions from so much caution. If what the landlord had said were reliable, the Heike soldiers ought to have desired nothing less than to avoid an encounter, yet even though they did not seek to escape themselves, they were

strangely careless about preventing their enemies from doing so. Half these wasted moments would have sufficed to carry Yoshitsune's party beyond the reach of immediate pursuit; and that the Taira men knowing this, gave themselves so little concern about it, seemed to indicate either an assurance of its impossibility or the development of some crafty stratagem.

Benkei was the first to yield to his impatience. Moving to the porch, he shouted to the landlord in a voice that made the rafters ring, bidding him bring forth his skulking tenants or prepare to have his inn burned about his ears.

The din of this hasty summons had scarcely ceased to echo within, when the landlord crept from beneath the verandah almost at Benkei's feet, his scared face begrimed with dust and bedewed with perspiration.

"They are coming out by the same road," he whispered, grasping his throat with both hands as if the very sight of Benkei made breathing difficult. "I left them working their way through the old lumber that blocks the other exit, and if you make good speed you shall find them with their feet entangled among the timbers."

Benkei had, as we have seen, contemptuously rejected the landlord's previous offer of guidance, and though its acceptance had promised to place the Heike men at a greater disadvantage, but he was no longer equally forbearing. Should their enemies succeed in this present attempt, the complexion of affairs would undergo a change which even these bold men might not contemplate with indifference, for not only would their superiority of position be wrested from them, but also, before the combat could be brought to an issue, communication might be opened with the reinforcements Hiromori had no doubt posted in the neighbourhood. At once therefore they adopted the landlord's counsel, scarcely waiting to hear his suggestions of secrecy and somewhat prolix directions as to how it might best be attained, for the worthy man, having enjoyed an opportunity of observing either party's demeanour, had formed his own conclusion about the probable issue of the struggle.

When the four men, running round the corner of the hostel, reached the point to which they had been directed, they found that two of their enemies had already emerged, while a third had crept from beneath the verandah just sufficiently far to expose his head and shoulders. Upon the two former, almost before they had time to draw their swords, Benkei sprang without a word of challenge, wielding his enormous club with such terrible force that two blows sufficed to break down a frail barrier of uplifted arms and hurl his opponents crashing to the ground. The third man was of course from his position completely at his assailant's mercy, but Yoshitsune who reached him first, shewed no inclination to strike, so that Saburo, springing forward, dragged him from beneath the verandah and bound him securely hand and foot.

Warned by these sounds of combat the rest of the Heike soldiers understood that their ruse was defeated. Turning as best they might, they made their way back to the guest chamber, from whence, rising the mats, they had endeavoured to effect an exit. But their retreat was anticipated, so that, emerging one by one, they were utterly incapable of successful resistance. Never indeed were men taken at a more grievous disadvantage; and to do them justice it must be recorded that they fought with unflinching courage, neither seeking quarter nor accepting it when offered.

Even under less favourable circumstances, however, the issue could never have been doubtful, for both Benkei's prowess and Yoshitsune's address seemed to be combined in Saburo's arm that day. Indeed, of the five opponents remaining after the first encounter, four fell to his sword, and though his comrades, deeming this rough play the best possible solace for his disquiet, did sometimes withhold their hands in his favour, one who could win so large a share of success in such company must needs have wielded a wondrously keen weapon.

Standing among the bodies of their fallen enemies, it might have been expected that some sentiment of exultation would have animated the victors, but the reverse was the fact. If the heat of the fray had brought them momentary oblivion of the events preceding it, the inaction of success did but leave them leisure to recall their trouble, so that it seemed a much easier thing to risk their lives a thousand times than to approve the possible confirmation of the dread they had conceived.



Saburo and Benkei carried in their prisoner, and, loosing his bonds, waited till Yoshitsune should question him. He was a stout-looking soldier, from whom neither the sight of his dead comrades nor the persuasion that his own fate was only deferred for the nonce, elicited the smallest evidence of trepidation. Yoshitsune, understanding that with such an one intimidation would be worse than useless, adopted a somewhat strange method of attaining his end.

"Now that the swords of the Gen and Hei are once more crossed," he said, "it were idle to speak to each other of quarter or compromise. We are in a position to enforce our commands, nevertheless we would first ask on what condition you are prepared to obey them."

The man looked steadfastly into his interrogator's face, but reading there neither hesitation nor mockery, replied, stoutly enough indeed but yet with a show of deference that proved his appreciation of Yoshitsune's rank:—

"As for your commands, master, I may not obey them under any conditions that violate my allegiance. Saving that, there is however one thing I would do much to obtain. It has been your fortune to overcome me before I could strike a blow, and I doubt not that my comrades here were no better entreated."

"That conjecture is false," Yoshitsune interrupted haughtily. "Your chief indeed had small scruple to set a gin for us into which had we fallen, our swords could have served us little, but those dead men met with no such treachery. They were neither foully struck nor overwhelmed by numbers; and could any of them now repeat the story of their discomfiture, you would know that they were suffered to come forth unmolested, and that from first to last each had do to with but one and the same blade."

Yoshitsune spoke truly. However little patience the memory of their wrongs suggested, it had not been once necessary for him to restrain his followers from taking advantage of their enemies' mischance. Thus beyond its moral effect, their evil plight had cost the Heike soldiers nothing but the humiliation of observing their adversaries magnanimity.

The captured man was plainly not incapable of appreciating such chivalry. When he spoke again his tone showed more respect and less defiance.

"If that be so, master," he said, "I have good hope that you will not find my entreaty extravagant. It is that you will cause my sword to be restored, making your own conditions as to whether I shall turn it against you or myself."

"Your request is granted," replied Yoshitsune without a moment's reflection. "Not only shall your sword be restored, but you shall also be at liberty to turn it against any one of us you may select, with the assurance of safety if victorious."

"And what must I do to escape too large a debt of gratitude?" asked the man, doubtful whether his good fortune were yet assured.

"Nothing unworthy of a loyal soldier," was the answer. "We seek our comrades with whom we parted yesterday morning. They have either fallen into Hiromori's hands or been done to death by his devices. You need but to tell us where we may find them dead or alive, and your obligation is completely acquitted."

Whether restrained by the sore anxiety he read in the faces around him, or deterred by a dread that the information he had to impart might imperil the concession just obtained, the man betrayed the greatest reluctance to reply. If Yoshitsune's judgment suggested the true cause of this hesitation, his hope had still strength to misinterpret it.

"We can command no force beyond what you see," he explained frankly "so that your information is little likely to give us any dangerous advantage. At the worst it will only bring us somewhat sooner within striking distance of Hiromori, and you will scarcely deem him desirous of postponing that event."

"Nay, master," returned the man, "if I faltered it was rather on your own account than on my chief's. I am ready to guide you to where I last saw anything of those you seek, but I pray you to believe that if I cannot answer you more explicitly it is because I had no share whatever in the events to which your question refers."

An interval of painful silence succeeded this statement. Not one of the four men dared pursue the inquiry any further. Saburo at last spoke in the hollow monotonous tones of one who retains his self-command by a very frail

tenure:—"Of those we seek, my wife was one. Ere we place ourselves under your guidance, may we not know whether our hope of saving her must be exchanged for a determination to avenge her?"

The prisoner fixed his eyes for a moment on the face of his new questioner, but averted them almost instantaneously, for stranger and enemy though he was, he could not but sympathize with the pain he saw depicted there. "I might almost forget my own mischance," he said, "did it enable me to serve you in this matter, but my knowledge is too scanty to be useful. My comrades and I followed our master an hour after he had left the city in your pursuit. When we overtook him, we saw that the number of his retainers was reduced by five soldiers, whose bodies lay on the road yonder beside two of those they had sought to capture. For this much only can I vouch, but how it fared with her you speak of, I know not. Nevertheless, since those your friends' swords had spared were still some two score men, it were against reason to hope that she has escaped."

"Comrades," cried Benkei, starting up and throwing his huge club over his shoulder, "we gain nothing but new doubt by all these questions and surmises. This man offers to guide us to the place where the cursed varlets did their craven chiefs' bidding. It will go hard if we find not there some better evidence than the stories of our foes."

No counsel could have been more acceptable, and the whole party prepared to follow it forthwith. Before they set out, however, Yoshitsune desired his followers to range themselves before their prisoner, that the terms of their compact might be fulfilled. "For," said he "we may not again have leisure to bestow on this matter, and it were scarcely fair to abridge it overmuch." Then turning to the Heike soldier, he added:—"Make your choice with what speed you may. The adversary you select shall not fail you, so soon as we can afford to dispense with your services."

However bravely the captured man had hitherto borne himself, he quailed perceptibly at these words. That they were spoken in simple faith and with no desire to intimidate, the fashion of their utterance left little doubt, yet they told him that wherever his choice fell, there could be but one issue for himself. Nevertheless his confidence, though somewhat rudely shaken, was probably restored by an examination of Yoshitsune's slight figure and youthful aspect. "If you can consent to cross swords with one so far beneath you, master," he said, "I pray you grant me that grace. If so be that my arm prove stouter, I shall win double praise, and if otherwise, less blame."

"Ho! ho!" laughed Benkei, "you are not the first that has fallen into that trap; nor shall you be by any means the last. Trust my experience, you owe your judgment scant gratitude for this guidance."

"So be it," returned the man doggedly. "I have made my choice, and I will abide by it. At the worst I shall not lack company on my way to the River of the Shades."

The mists of the early summer morning still lingered by the margins of the bamboo groves and among the green rice-fields, as the five men set out from the inn. Benkei had persuaded his comrades to avail themselves of the landlord's hospitable offers, for though neither fasting nor travel had as yet produced any conscious effect on their iron muscles, it was necessary to make provision lest the limits of endurance should be reached at some moment least opportune. For this delay they now sought to atone by increased speed so that a very few minutes sufficed to reach the place their guide had indicated. Many hours had, as they knew, elapsed since the encounter whose deadly results the Heike soldier had witnessed, and they therefore scarcely looked to discover any immediate clue to Iné's fate, but their hope was that Hiromori, delayed by the desire of effecting their own capture might still be within reach of the assault no disparity of force could now dissuade them from delivering.

The road, though dignified by the title of highway, was at best a sorry route, only distinguished from the very rice plains on either side by a narrow ridge of ill laid stones, sometimes so uneven that a man might scarcely traverse them without tottering. Here and there, attaining a little firmness at the cost of large deviation, it followed the windings of a tiny stream, until at one spot an old pine tree, bending down so that its branches almost mingled with those of the stunted alders on the river's margin, served at

once to turn the main road westward and to mark its junction with a barely discernible footpath that led towards a humble farmstead in the heart of the valley.

Reddening the knarled roots of the old pine tree and splashed on the stones they held embedded, were certain stains too conspicuous to have escaped observation even had they not been pointed out by the Heike man-at-arms. Here he had seen, he said, seven dead bodies lying as they had fallen in the fray, that is to say, five on the main road and two in the narrow path that joined it. He had moreover met on their way back to the city, three of his comrades wounded, but of the causes and consequences of all this he knew nothing, having been immediately sent on to take post at the hostel where his own capture had been effected.

While the man spoke, Benkei, passing the pine, proceeded to scrutinize the path beyond. Returning almost immediately, he laid his hand on Saburo's shoulder and said:—"Comrade, you have already guessed whose were the bodies yonder spearman saw in the cross-track. Shall I tell you their history before you look on their faces for the last time?"

Saburo with set teeth and features rigid save for a convulsive throo that now and then distorted them, stood like one who had lost the power of speech or motion, and Benkei himself was so disturbed by his companion's aspect that his words were husky and indistinct when he resumed.

"They had a choice to make and they chose wisely. Narrow as this road is, three men might scarcely hold it long against two score, but on yonder path a pair of swords starkly wielded could bar the passage of half a hundred. This then was how they acted. Matsuda and Koukichi stood in the shadow of the pine there and did such stout battle with the Taira men that a barrier of five corpses soon helped them to keep back their enemies. Behind this barrier Iné and Arake fled along the cross-track towards the hovel at the head of the valley."

"In the name of the Gods, Benkei," cried Yoshitsune, "by whatever tokens you read this history, pause not in your recital. Does your sight reach the sequel or is all this mere conjecture?"

"Nay, in truth, of the end I cannot speak," Benkei resumed, for at this point either uncertainty or reluctance had interrupted his narrative, "but I have learned by what means the Heike rabble made themselves a passage which their swords had failed to open. If I have stayed you to tell what you had already perhaps guessed, it was that Saburo might know how little cause there is to lament those whose death was preceded by such deeds and so much devotion."

"I thank you, Benkei," said Saburo simply. "I know the men and did not look to find them otherwise."

"No, by my faith," Benkei muttered as he led his comrade towards the pine tree, "they were worthy of their master, for stouter soldiers never met a fouller death."

In a little recess, half encircled by the protruding roots of the old tree, lay something which, though completely covered with coarse straw matting, and presenting no outward marks to distinguish it from the bundles of piled up sheaves so frequent on paths among rice fields, did not fail at first sight to awaken that instinct of horror invariably experienced in the presence of death. Certainly on this occasion one might have felt disposed to doubt the justice of such a sentiment, for the rugged outlines of the bundle were scarcely reconcilable with any form of humanity however mangled. But Benkei had no sooner raised a corner of the straw shroud, than the mystery of its shape was immediately apparent, for the matting rested, not on the two corpses beneath, but on the shafts of the innumerable arrows by which they were pierced.

It was even as Benkei's quick perception had divined. After their first onset the Heike soldiers had evidently drawn back from the two solitary defenders of the path and shot them down ruthlessly where they stood. Yet even in the terrible interval between the tending and the twanging of their murderers' bows, these stout swordsmen had not quailed at the certain coming of death. Of all the shafts with which their bodies bristled, not one had reached them from behind, and their fingers still grasped the weapons, no odds, however overwhelming, had sufficed to make them lower.

"The Gods grant them an easy journey to the shades,"

said Yoshitsune sadly, as he helped Benkei to replace the straw covering. "We may none of us hope to die a braver death. But what think you, comrades? I fear no this arrow-flight must have previously shortened the time they strove to gain for their mistress' escape. Shall we not be more likely to avoid a bootless quest by turning our faces at once to Kiyoto than by following this little-trodden by-path?"

"Master," answered Saburo, "whether they had more or less leisure to fly, I know of a surety that neither Iné nor Arake has fallen alive into our enemies' power. If they have escaped, it is by this path we must seek to rejoin them; if they were overtaken, as I may not doubt, there is still an office they claim at my hands."

A moment of silence succeeded to this speech. Not one of the four men, and least of all Saburo, had hitherto permitted himself to express any serious apprehension as to Iné's fate. If this one or that had conceived the idea, it had still proved too painful to endure, but these words, though spoken with almost unnatural calm, were at once so steadfastly hopeless in tone and so little looked for, that they forced a terrible conviction on the minds of their hearers.

Yoshitsune, turning to the Taira soldier who had hitherto acted as their guide, said:—"It is time that you should claim your guerdon, for your services end here. We may not permit you either to follow us or to leave us, else in truth your life were not of much value in our eyes."

"I have had more favour than I sought at your hands, master," replied the man, unsheathing the sword Benkei gave him. "Though my life end here, I shall at any rate have been less unfortunate than my comrades."

So saying he placed himself beyond the shadow of the pine tree in such a position that his back was turned to the rising sun as well as to Yoshitsune's three followers, thus shewing that he doubted neither the possibility of victory nor the good faith of the promise he had received.

Yoshitsune, to whom all feats of arms were so pleasing that he was apt to dally with an adversary before putting forth any portion of his own irresistible skill, exhibited on this occasion a spirit very different from his wont. Impatient himself and sympathizing with his companions' impatience to continue their search, his sword had only flashed twice in the sunbeams before it was red with the blood of the Heike soldier. Severed from shoulder to rib, the man staggered backwards two or three paces, and must have fallen over the corpses at the foot of the pine, had not Benkei, seizing him by the girdle, cast his almost lifeless body over the bank of the rivulet by the roadside.

"Thanks, Benkei," said Saburo, as he readjusted the dead man's straw shroud. "They did not deserve to be disturbed by such fellowship."

Following the path they no longer doubted that Iné had taken, the four companions now hastened forward towards a cottage whose gable was just visible behind the shoulder of a reed-covered knoll. Short as the distance seemed it was interminably prolonged by the endless windings of the stream along whose bank the track ran, neither was it possible to choose a speedier route, for the narrow and often interrupted ridges of the marshy rice fields might not easily be essayed by feet untrained to their treacherous passage. When at last Yoshitsune, who was in advance of his fellows, emerged from the reeds at the base of the knoll, he saw something that caused him to pause in sudden consternation and astonishment.

Half the cottage was destroyed by fire, and, though the flames had been arrested in their progress by some inexplicable cause, an ominous smoke still crept upward from the charred timbers, and clung to the smouldering thatch of the roof. Before the door lay a broken sword; that portion of the blade which remained being covered with blood, while round the hilt were clasped the fingers of a man's hand severed from the arm just above the wrist.

Over this terrible token Saburo bent his head for a moment, and then rising painfully, staggered towards the cottage porch. Benkei would fain have stretched out an arm to support him, but the unhappy man, mistaking the purpose of this action, thrust his comrade aside and passed alone into the house.

When the others followed they found him kneeling on the ground with Iné's body in his arms. She was quite dead, but neither her fair face nor comely form had suffered

any mutilation, and her hands were clasped over the hilt of a dagger buried in her left side as though the faithful steel had lent her some welcome aid in her moment of agony. A ray of sunshine stealing through the open door, gave back the glow of life for a moment to her cheek, and wrung from Yoshitsune's lips a groan of uncontrollable anguish, as he recalled the never-to-be-forgotten evening when her kind eyes had first met his own in the moonlight among the mountains of Shimotsuke.

She was not the only inmate of the cottage. Araki lay just within the threshold, still breathing but so covered with wounds that it was a marvel he yet survived. After Benkei and Shomon had bathed his face and poured some water into his mouth, he opened his eyes and, recognizing his master, struggled hard to speak, but for a time without success. Yoshitsune indeed sought to make him remain silent, for it was evident that the few moments he had still to live were gravely shortened by this effort, but he, fighting stoutly with his faintness, at last summoned strength to make himself intelligible.

"She told me," he whispered, "as we fled along the path my comrades had remained to guard, that if she fell into Hiromori's hands, her husband would be dishonored, and I swore to give her warning when I saw that all hope of escape was gone. We reached the cottage but a few seconds before our pursuers came round the knoll. I knew, by the shortness of this respite, that Matsuda and Kenkichi must have found themselves confronted by terrible odds. Yet thinking to do no less than they, I set myself to guard the door, while she stood inside, holding the dagger you see now buried in her bosom. I had scant space to strike, and these Taira men love not close quarters, but still I think my steel had bitten twice or thrice before I heard them crashing in through yonder window. Then I knew, master, that I might never stand beside you again in the battle. I turned to tell her that the time was come. She was waiting with sad eyes but with such a smile upon her lips as you shall see there when you meet her beyond the Happy Mountains, and such, methinks, as must needs brighten her face still, for it never faded or changed as the keen point pierced its way to her faithful heart. I know not whether it was well done, but I think the gods have kept me alive that I may carry her some message of farewell from you."

Until this moment Saburo had remained like one in a trance, clasping Iné convulsively in his arms, but for the rest, suffering no expression of emotion to escape him, for there is a grief so far beyond the possibility of alleviation, that it may not in anything adapt itself to those outward symbols by which weaker woes are at once measured and allayed. Drawing the dagger from his dead wife's bosom, he now knelt at Araki's side and held the bloodstained weapon before his old comrade's fast darkening eyes.

"I have no farewell to send her," he said, "since I may not live without her, but tell her I pray you, that I must needs wait to see her face until this dagger shall have reached the heart of him the gods will surely give into my hands."

"Your message is delivered, Saburo," said Yoshitsune a moment afterwards, as he laid down the dead man's head, "and if by any chance your own arm should fail in this undertaking, I promise you to count everything imperfect until it is achieved."

(To be continued.)

#### DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

My first's a spring, but I can't tell  
What water from it flows;  
My second's hardly heeded well,  
As o'er our head it goes:  
My whole's a season ladies' prize.  
Though fearful to our sterner eyes!

1.

Husbaby, baby! thou dear little thing;  
Mother bends o'er thee, and softly does sing.

2.

Next, here's a game that you've heard of before;  
"Jack's" a good card, when you've got nothing more.

3.

Space may be nothing—I'll grant you that's right;  
Still, it's a fact that a space is this light.

4.

Many an edifice grand you may see,  
Propped and supported and aided by me.

HOODLUM.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF DEC. 27TH, BY "HOODLUM."

Vacation		Holidays
V	in	got
A	ru	o
C	na	l
A	lib	l
T	iro	D
I	de	A
O	bs	rvator
N	arc	issu

Correctly answered by Le bon temps Viendra, The Union Jack, Bobstay and Zulu.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF DECEMBER 27TH, BY "Q."

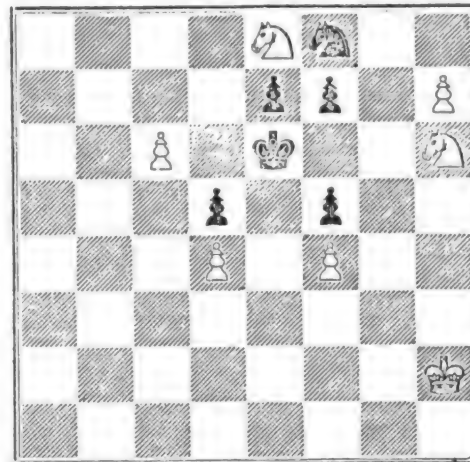
Capital		Company.
C	hi	C
A	dagi	O
P.		M. (Past Master).
I	m	P.
T	iar	A
A	brasio	N
L	ea	ther

No correct answer received.

#### CHESS PROBLEM,

By S. N. CHENEY.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF DEC. 27TH, BY "W. H. TAYLOR."

White.

1—Q. to K. 4, ch.

2—P. to K. B. 5.

3—P. takes P. en passant, mate.

3—Q. to Q. 5, mate.

3—Q. take B, mate.

3—Mate.

No correct answer received.

Black.

1—K. takes Kt.

2—P. to Kt. 4, ch.

2—B. to K. 2.

3—B. to Q. 3, etc.

Any other move.

#### LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

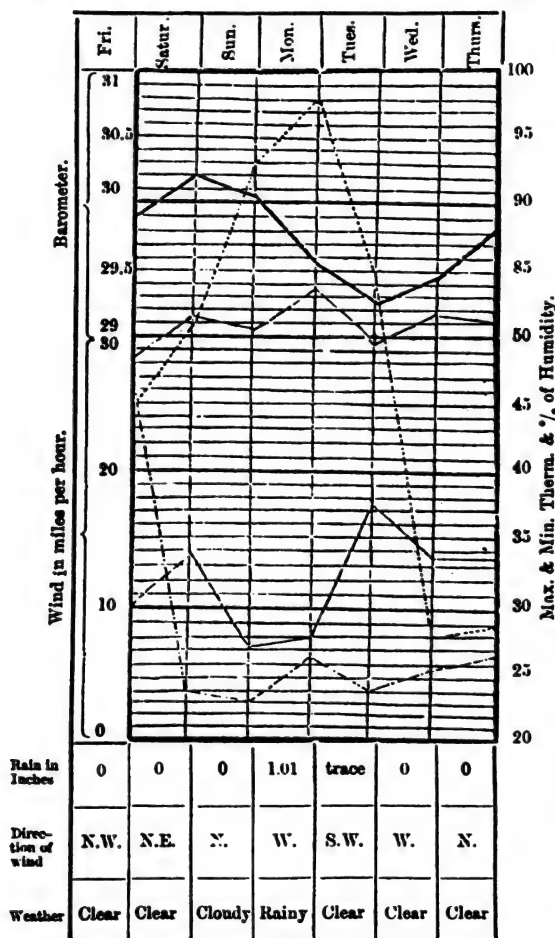
Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.



## METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26TH, 1879.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujimicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. &amp; min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind

.....percentage of humidity

Max. velocity of wind 47 miles per hour on Friday, 4 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.216 inches on Saturday, at 7 a.m., and the lowest was 29.210 inches on Tuesday, at 7 a.m., the range for the week being almost exactly one inch. The lowest temperature thus far recorded during this season, was 23° 3 on Sunday. The extraordinary average velocity of 26 miles per hour for the wind on Friday cannot fail to attract attention. This culminated in a maximum velocity of 47 miles per hour at 4 p.m. of that day, and contributed largely to the devastating effects of the destructive fire which was raging in Tokio at that time.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Dec. 28, Japanese steamer *Akitashima Maru*, Frahm, 1,751, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Dec. 29, American ship *Golden State*, R. Y. Delane, 944, from New York, Kerosene, &c., to Mourilyan, Heimaun & Co.  
 Dec. 30, American steamer *City of Peking*, Berry, 5,079, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. M. Co.  
 Dec. 31, Japanese barque *Sumanoura Maru*, Speigenthal, 925, from Nagasaki, General, to M. B. Co.  
 Dec. 31, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,917, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Dec. 31, British steamer *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,652, from San Francisco, Mail and General, to O. & O. Co.  
 Dec. 31, U. S. sloop of war *Alert*, Commander Huntington, 1,050, 4 guns, from Kobe.  
 Jan. 1, Japanese steamer *Kobonoye Maru*, Dithlofsen, 1,133 from Kobe, General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 1, Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Steadman, 850, from Kobe General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 1, American ship *Richard Robinson*, S. Smith, 1,632, from New York, Oil, &c., to C. & J. Trading Company.

Jan. 2, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Johanes, 896, from Hakodate, General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 3, French steamer *Tanaia*, De la Marcelle, 1,735, from Hongkong, December 26th, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Akitashima Maru* from Kobe:—120 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* from Hongkong:—For Yokohama, Mrs. M. Turner and 3 Japanese. For San Francisco, Dr. D. Kindberger, U.S.N., 5 Europeans and 179 Chinese.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai:—Mrs. G. M. Dare, Dr. Fitzsimmon, U. S. N. Paymaster, J. Addicks, U. S. N. Messrs. J. W. Clark, E. H. Gill, D. Reynolds, Cunningham, Bisset, Shinamoto, Ballagh, G. W. Knowx, A. Reimer, B. Roth and Okunohi, in cabin; 4 European, 115 Japanese and 4 Chinese. For America Mr. and Mrs. Seaman, Mrs. Yates, and Mr. A. G. Baxter in cabin.

Per Japanese barque *Suminoye Maru*, from Nagasaki:—Mr. Whittle in cabin.

Per American ship *Richard Robinson* from New York:—Mr. Ingham.

Per French steamer *Tanaia* from Hongkong:—From Naples, Messrs. Yoshikawa and Nakano. From Marseilles, Messrs. Elgars, Norigachi, Utiyama and Nakamaira.

## OUTWARDS.

Dec. 27, Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, Moore, 896, for Hakodate, General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Dec. 28, Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, Nye, 1,407, for Samusawa, General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Dec. 29, French steamer *Volga*, Guirand, 1,502, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.

Dec. 31, Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, Wynn, 1,260, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Jan. 1, Japanese steamer *Shayio Maru*, Thompson, 800, for Kobe, General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Jan. 3, German brig *Maid Marian*, Brinckmeyer, 260, for Hakodate, General, despatched by Mitsui Bussan Co.

Jan. 3, British steamer *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,652, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.

Jan. 3, American steamer *City of Peking*, Berry, 5,079, for San Francisco Mails and General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong, &c.:—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Messrs. R. M. Farlane, Ch. Braun, Volhardt, Seyve and Saitow.

Per British steamer *Gaelic* from San Francisco:—Miss A. Campbell, Messrs. Arthur Peterson, John Gould, John Jamieson, Herbert Osborn, N. Kanda, and K. Suzuki. 1 European and 737 Chinese for Hongkong.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Messrs. Fujita Katono, Fujita Denzaburo, H. C. Litchfield, Nakano, E. C. Kirby, Nakashima, Kojima, Kuna, Nakata, Nakashima, and J. W. McCarthy.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* for San Francisco:—Mrs. C. E. Wheeler, Miss McNeil, Mrs. Yates, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Simpson and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Seaman, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wheeler, Lieutenants H. A. Warren, F. E. Walker, and A. C. Woods, R.N., Dr. D. S. Kindberger, U.S.N., Captain A. B. Cook, Lieutenant S. E. Butler, Messrs. J. W. Clark, J. S. Clerk, K. Schmitz, J. K. Cunningham, A. G. Baxter, G. A. Morganroth, Ira Brown and Val Vose; 10 Europeans and 180 Chinese in steerage.

## CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* for San Francisco.

## TEA:

From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai.....	—	37	—	37
Nagasaki.....	—	—	386	386
Higo.....	—	228	2,882	3,110
Yokohama.....	1,714	81	852	2,647
Hongkong.....	50	100	36	186
Total.....	1,764	446	4,156	6,366

## SILK:

From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai.....	14	460	—	474
Hongkong.....	—	210	—	210
Yokohama.....	—	305	—	305
Total.....	14	975	—	989

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—

Silk for London... .. 215 Bales.  
 „ France... .. 548 „

Total ... .. 763 Bales.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* from Hongkong:—

Cargo for Yokohama... .. 1,107 tons.  
 „ „ San Francisco... .. 2,242 „

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—  
 Treasure... .. \$ 5,100.00

Per French steamer *Tanis* from Hongkong:—From Europe, 2,030 packages; from Hongkong, 924, packages; and for Hiogo, 341 packages.

## REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Akitsuishima Maru* reports: Left Kobe at 9.15 26th inst. Experienced moderate N.E. winds with fine weather throughout. Arrived at 1 p.m. 28th inst. Passage 39 hours. On the 27th inst. at 1 p.m. passed Company's steamer *Kokonoye Maru* off Cape Sima bound south.

The American ship *Globen State* reports: Left New York 29th July, crossed the equator September 1st, passed the Meridian Cape of Good Hope. Sept. 26th. Had fine weather generally throughout the Indian Ocean; arrived at Anger, November 3rd. Sept. 6th passed through the Java sea and straits Macassar into the Pacific Ocean. In Lat. 32.37 N. 187.24 Long. took the crew off a sinking and disabled junk; next day Lat. 33.45 N. Long. 137.47 took the crew off another disabled junk. Arrived at Yokohama, midnight of 29th December.

The American steamer *City of Peking* reports: Left Hongkong on the 24th December at 3 p.m. To Turnabout had fresh monsoon, thence to Lincholen Islands light easterly winds, thence to port resh westerly gales. Arrived at Yokohama on the 30th December at 2.30 p.m. Passage, 5 days 22 hours.

The Japanese barque *Suminoye Maru*: Left Nagasaki 9 a.m., 25th, arrived at Yokohama 7 a.m., 31st instant, 2 days 22 hours. This is the fastest passage that has been made from port to port. During first six hours experienced strong S. E. winds; remainder of passage strong gales from W. and N. W. heavy sea. Passed a three-masted steamer hove-to off Ku Channel.

The British steamer *Gaelic* reports: Left San Francisco on the 6th of December, and experienced moderate variable winds and fine weather to the Meridian; thence strong N.W. gales, during which heavy seas broke on board, stove in some of the boats, and washed one from the skids, also doing sundry damage to deck gear. Arrived in port on the 31st of December, at 3.30 p.m.

The French steamer *Tanis* reports: Left Hongkong at 5 p.m. on the 26th ultimo. Experienced strong monsoon with high sea to Lincholen Islands: thence to arrival moderate variable winds with fine weather. Arrived at 8 a.m.

## NEXT MAIL DUE FROM

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Jan. 18th*
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Jan. 19th
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 10th
HONGKONG .....	M. B. Co.	Jan. 5th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Jan. 7th

\* Left San Francisco, 27th December, *City of Tokio*.

## NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	
HAOKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG, .....	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 5th
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG, .....	M. M. Co.	Jan. 12th
HONGKONG, VIA KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Jan. 10th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Jan. 7th

## NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 3rd January, 1880.)

		Yen Sat.							
		A. M.	Noon	Clos- ing.	Gold Yen.	Nilms.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)	
1879.									
Monday.....	Dec. 29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Tuesday.....	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Wednesday.....	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Thursday.....	Jan. 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Friday.....	2	536	532	532	—	—	—	—	
Saturday.....	3	532	527	527	—	—	—	—	

## YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.15, 1.30, and 4 P.M.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—7.0 and 9.45 A.M. and 12 noon; 1.30 and 4 P.M.

## VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charlwood	London	Japan
Nov. 22	Gordon Castle (s.s.)	"	"
Nov. 5	Crossfield	"	"
Nov. 5	Escambia (s.s.)	"	"
Oct. 19	Anchises (s.s.)	Liverpool	"
Nov. 29	Teucer (s.s.)	"	"
Nov. 5	Menelaus (s.s.)	"	"
Aug. 9	Urania	Falmouth	Yokohama
Apr. 18	Charger	Cardiff	"
Mar. 8	Lota	"	"
" 25	Alma	"	"
" 29	Craig Aird	"	"
Aug. 2	Titau	"	"
June 22	Nippon	New York	Japan
July 2	Fleetwing	"	"
Aug. 2	Kate Davenport	"	"
" 9	Oakland	"	"
" 30	Hagarstown	"	"
Sept. 3	Mervia	"	"
" 3	Clydesdale	"	"
" 3	Larnaca	"	"
" 25	Merom	"	"
" 26	Clydesdale	"	"
Oct. 8	St. Charles	"	Hiogo
" 10	Columbia	"	Yokohama
" 25	L. J. Morse	"	"
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 7	Centennial	"	"
" 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
" 21	Manuel Lagudo	"	"
July 20	Cardiganshire	Shields	"
Aug. 17	Coldstream	Hamburg	"
Nov. 5	Hesperia	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	Antwerp	"
Oct. 17	Glenhuntingley	Sunderland	"
" 26	Sea King	Philadelphia	Hiogo

## LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Nov. 7	Breconshire (s.s.)	London	Japan
" 7	Flintshire (s.s.)	"	"
" 7	Glengyle (s.s.)	"	"
" 7	Killarney (s.s.)	"	"
" 7	Benarty (s.s.)	"	"
Nov. 27	Susan Gilman	New York	"
" 27	Paul Revere	"	"
Oct. 28	Singapore	Hamburg	"
Nov. 7	Claverhouse (s.s.)	Glasgow	"

## YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0 10.0

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0 10.0

## The Staffordshire FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE UNDERSIGNED having been appointed agent for Japan for the above Company under full power of attorney, is prepared to issue POLICIES AT CURRENT RATES, in Yokohama and Tokio.

W. J. S. SHAND,  
Agent,

No. 32, Water Street

Yokohama, November 14th, 1879.

## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**IMPORTS.**—During the holidays, business has been more or less suspended but *Yarns* are in good demand at firm rates. We leave quotations for all goods unchanged. The dullness and depression in *Woolens* continues in spite of the colder weather.

**COTTON YARNS:—**

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$26.50 to 32.75
" " Good to Best ... ..	\$33.25 to 34.25
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... ..	\$29.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... ..	\$35.00 to 36.00
" " Good to Best ... ..	\$37.00 to 38.00
" 38 to 42 ... ..	\$39.00 to 40.00

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—**

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.60 to 1.67½
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.85 to 2.25
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.15 to 2.55
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.65
Drills, English: 14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12 " 44 in.	\$1.80 to 1.90
Prints:—Assorted... " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.11 to .14
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.35 to 1.55
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.50 to 1.65
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.**

Velvets:—Black ... ..	35 " 22 in. per piece	\$9.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns:— " ..	12 " 42½ in. " "	\$0.75 to 0.80
Taffetas:— " ..	12 " 43 in. " "	\$1.75 to 2.00

**WOOLLENS:—**

Plain Orleans ... ..	40-42 yds. 32 in.	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... ..	29-30 yds. 31 in.	3.75 to 5.00
Lastings ... ..	29-30 yds. 31 in.	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... ..	30 yds. 32 in.	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Cords ... ..	29-30 yds. 22 in.	4.00 to 5.00
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.		0.17½ to 0.17¾
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in.		0.23 to 0.26½
do. Yuzen 24 yds. 30 in.		0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy.. 48 in. to 52 in.		0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... ..	54 in. to 56 in.	0.40 to 0.45
Presidents ... ..	54 in. to 56 in.	0.55 to 0.67½
Union ... ..	54 in. to 56 in.	0.82½ to 0.62½
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs		per lb. 0.35 to 0.41

**SUGAR.**—Business has been on a very limited scale.

Sugar:—Taka in bag ... .. per picul	\$5.60 to \$5.70	China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fah... per picul	\$6.25 to \$8.00
" " in basket ... ..	\$5.20 to \$5.35	Daitong ... ..	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Taiwanfoo in bag ... ..	\$5.70	Japan Rice ... ..	\$2.60 to \$3.00
do. in basket ... ..	\$5.50	Kerosene Oil ... ..	\$1.70 to \$1.75
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ... ..	\$8.00 to \$9.00	Newchwang Peas ... ..	\$2.20 to \$2.25

**KEROSENE.**—We hear of but few sales. Stocks held are about 351,000 cases.

**EXPORTS.**

**SILK.**—Soon after the issue of last report a very good demand suddenly sprung up and considerable transactions took place at the prices quoted below; during the past few days, however, there has been less business reported, but quotations remain firm and holders generally ask still higher rates.

	In London at 3/10 per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85 per kilo.		In London at 3/10 per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85 per kilo.
Hanks, —Superior, nom...			Kakada, —Extra .....	\$720 to 730 24/5 to 24/9	frs. 67 80 to 68 70
" Best .....	\$650 to 660 22/2 to 22/6	frs. 61 50 to 62 50	" Best .....	\$700 to 710 23/9 to 24/1	frs. 66 00 to 66 90
" Good .....	\$630 to 640 21/6 to 21/10	frs. 59 75 to 60 65	" Good .....	\$670 to 690 22 10 to 23/5	frs. 63 30 to 65 10
" Good Medium .....	\$610 to 620 20 11 to 21 2	frs. 58 00 to 58 90	" Medium {	\$600 to 650 20 7 to 22/2	frs. 57 10 to 61 55
" Medium .....	\$570 to 590 19 7 to 20 3	frs. 54 40 to 56 20	" Common }		
" Common, In'r... ..	\$520 to 560 18 to 19 3	frs. 49 75 to 53 50	Filatures, —Extra .....	\$750 to 760 25/4 to 25 8	frs. 70 50 to 71 40
Oshius, —Good .....	\$610 to 650 20 11 to 22 2	frs. 58 00 to 61 55	" Best ... }	\$700 to 730 23 9 to 24 9	frs. 66 00 to 68 70
" Medium .....			" Good ... }		
Hamatsuki .....	\$580 to 600 19 11 to 20 7	frs. 55 30 to 57 10	" Med. & C'n	\$610 to 660 20 11 to 22 6	frs. 58 00 to 62 45
Re-reeled Maibash .....	\$700 to 730 23 9 to 24 9	frs. 66 00 to 68 70			

**EXCHANGE AND BULLION.**

Rates close as follows:—

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight .....	3/10½
" " 6 " " " .....	3/10½ nom.
" " Bank Bills on demand .....	3/9¾
" " Private 4 months' sight .....	3/10½
" " 6 " " " .....	3/10½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight .....	4.77
" " Private 6 ms. sight .....	4.93
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight .....	1 ½ prem.

ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight .....	½ prem.
ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight .....	72
" " Private 10 days' sight .....	72½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand .....	91
" " 30 days sight Private .....	92
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand .....	91½
" " 30 days sight Private .....	93
Kinsatz .....	532
Gold Yen .....	369

**SHIPPING.**

**SHIPPING.**—The American ships *R. Robinson* and *Golden State* have arrived from New York with Kerosene; the former is now on the berth for New York, via Hongkong.



## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.\*

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEE.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Genkai Maru	Conner	Japanese steamer	1,917	Shanghai & ports	Dec. 31	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13/78	M. B. Co.
Sunda	Seaton	British steamer	1,914	Hongkong	Dec. 23	P. & O. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	" 20	M. M. Co.
Tanais	De la Marcelle	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Jan. 3	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Anna	Davidson	German barque	532	Takao	Dec. 4	Chinese
Don Enrique	B. Cremor	British ship	1,334	New York	" 8	Frasar & Co.
Golden State	R. Y. Delane	American ship	944	New York	" 29	Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary P. Bohm	—	German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Lenard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	" 24	Walsh Hall & Co.
North Star	Janssen	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Otomi	—	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	" 17	H. J. Snow
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo via Hakodate	" 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Sarah Scott	Estall	British barque	666	London	Dec. 15	L. Kniffier & Co.
Sooloo	Allen	American ship	963	New York	" 21	Smith, Baker & Co.
William Manson	Kindred	British barque	550	Sydney	" 22	Adamson, Bell & Co.

\* Vessels arriving on the day of publication before 9.30 a.m. will be found on page 2.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH.—Hornet ... ..	4	584	506	Gun-vessel	Kobe	Com. J.S. Eaton
FRENCH.—Champlain ... ..	10	1,901	—	Corvette	Chefoo	Com. Michaud
AMERICAN.—Alert ... ..	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
ITALIAN.—Vettor Pisani ... ..	12	1,800	—	Corvette	Yokosuka	H.R.H. Duke of Genoa
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ... ..	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostock	Captain Schance
" Craysser ... ..	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Cruisc	Captain Nazimoff

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
New York via Hongkong ... ..	R. Robinson	Edward Fischer & Co.	Quick despatch
Hongkong ... ..	Sunda	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 5th, daylight.
Hongkong ... ..	Tibre	M. M. Co.	Jan. 12th, at 9 a.m.
Hongkong ... ..	Takasago Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 10th, at 4 p.m.
Shanghai, &c. ... ..	Genkai Maru	M. B. Co.	January 7th, at 4 p.m.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

PAID-UP CAPITAL ... .. \$5,000,000.  
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,200,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. SASSOON, Esq.  
Deputy Chairman—WM. H. FORBES, Esq.

E. R. Bellios, Esq., H. L. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppius, Esq.,  
Hon. W. Keswick, Adam Lind, Esq., Wilhelm Reiners, Esq.,  
W. S. Young.  
Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

## LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillips, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.  
E. F. Duncan, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.  
Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

## SHANGHAI.

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo, Hankow,  
Saigon,  
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

## YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.

On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o

" " " " 6 " " 4 "

" " " " 3 " " 4 "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description  
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,  
India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

A. M. TOWNSEND, Acting Manager.

Yokohama, April 13, 1878.

**MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA,**

(HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

PRIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class,  
let at the rate of from 50 sen to 80 sen per day, and  
from 12 yen to 20 yen per month.

## BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class .....	{ 1.50 yen per day, or
	{ 40.00 " " month.
3rd class .....	{ 1.00 yen per day, or
	{ 28.00 " " month.

All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or  
small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates,  
for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood  
of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged  
from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

  
**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tl.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**W. & A. GILBEY'S  
WINES AND SPIRITS.**

W. & A. GILBEY have special facilities for carrying  
on an extensive Foreign Trade, having held for  
many years in their Excise Bonded Stores, for the purpose  
of their Home Trade, a stock of not less than 12,000  
Casks of Wines and Spirits, which are equally  
available for Export. These stores are by far the largest  
private Duty Free Warehouses in the World, and are under  
the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially at-  
tached to these Warehouses.

THE EXTENT of W. & A. Gilbey's purchases enables them  
to give the best VALUE to the public, as a twentieth part of  
the Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom is  
supplied from their stock. In the year 1876 W. & A.  
Gilbey paid duty on 1,881,049 gallons of Wines and Spirits,  
and the average quantity bottled and sent out by them  
daily was 3,050 dozens or 36,600 bottles.

QUALITY is guaranteed by W. & A. Gilbey, and is the same  
whether the Wines or Spirits are obtained direct from their  
Head Establishments or from any of their Agents. The  
purity and genuineness of every article in this list are  
guaranteed in accordance with Act of Parliament, 38 and  
39 Vict., Cap. 63.

W. & A. Gilbey have always adhered to the standard of  
Bottle Measure recently recognised by the Government,  
namely—

6 bottles contain one gallon; 12 half-bottles contain  
one gallon.

SECURITY is ensured to the purchaser, each bottle bearing  
W. & A. Gilbey's seal and label guaranteeing quality and  
measure, and the strength also in the case of Spirits.

## W. &amp; A. Gilbey's Head Establishments:—

England.—(Offices) Pantheon, Oxford Street, London;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Oval Road, Camden  
Town, London.

Ireland.—(Offices) Upper Sackville Street, Dublin;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Upper Sackville St.,  
Dublin.

Scotland.—(Offices) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Haymarket, West  
End, Edinburgh.

France.—Principal Establishment, Chateau Loudenne,  
near St. Estephe, Medoc.

Excise Bonded Stores.—Warehouses, Nos. 1 to 5, North-  
Western Goods Station, and Bouny Street,  
Camden Town, London.

Distillery.—James Street, Camden Town, London.

Printing Department.—Poland Street, Oxford Street,  
London.

**J. J. GARGAN,**  
**ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,**  
No. 88, Creek Side.

Machinery of all kinds overhauled and  
Repaired.

House Building and Repairs Con-  
tracted for.

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,***New Premises, No. 80, Main Street.***SCROLL SAWS,**

THE NEW LESTER, with LATHE, DRILL and CIRCULAR SAW.

THE NEW ROGERS, with Drill.

THE DEXTER, very convenient and cheap.

HAND VICES, 1½ and 1¾ Inch jaws.

EXTRA SAW BLADES, for any Scroll Saw.

**SEWING MACHINES,**

"NEW AMERICAN," three sizes \$15.00 to \$40.00.

"NEW HOME," from \$12.50 upwards.

"CROWN," suitable for both heavy and light work.

"IMPROVED HOME SHUTTLE," a very fine family Machine.

One very fine GROVER &amp; BAKER'S MACHINE, second-hand, but in good order.

MACHINE OIL and NEEDLES.

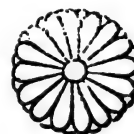
*All the above are offered at very low prices.**Stationery of all kinds.***CIGARS, TOBACCO & SMOKERS' ARTICLES.****SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,***New Premises, No. 80, Main Street.  
Yokohama, November 1st, 1879.***SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,***No. 80, Main Street,***ARE NOW PUBLISHING A NEW****LITHOGRAPHIC MAP****Of the Foreign Settlement and Bluff  
of Yokohama.**

This Map has been compiled with the greatest care, and is correct according to the best authority.

It will be ready for delivery on Monday the 22nd instant. As the Edition is small, those desiring a copy who have not already subscribed can see an advance copy, and subscribe for same upon application to Publishers.

**PRICE:**In Sheets..... \$1.00  
Mounted under glass ready for hanging..... \$1.50  
Yokohama, December 18th, 1879.**C. GIUSSANI,  
PUBLIC SILK INSPECTOR,***No. 168, Swamp.**Yokohama, August 12, 1879.*

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.***No. 4 of the 12th Year of Meiji, (1879.)***SIRIYASAKI LIGHTHOUSE.****STEAM FOG SIREN.**

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice, that a Steam Fog Siren has been erected at Si iyasaki lighthouse.

Siri yasaki, at the entrance to the Tsugaru Straits, is the extreme north-eastern point of the Province of Mutsu, in the Island of Nippon.

The Siren will be sounded during fogs, snow storms or other causes that may render the outline of the land indistinct during the day, or the light by night.

The blast from the Siren will be of six seconds' duration with intervals of one minute. During such time as may be necessary for getting up steam for the Siren, or if from any accident the Siren cannot be sounded, the Fog Bell, hung from the balcony of the Lighthouse and rung by machinery, will be sounded at the rate of fifteen strokes per minute as before notified.

YAMADA AKIYOSHI,  
*Minister of Public Works.**Tokei, 20th December, 1879.*

14d.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.****MOTOYAMA BUOY.****SUWO-NADA, INLAND SEA.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the BUOY which marked the limit of the MOTOYAMA SHOAL, in the SUWO-NADA, has broken from its moorings.

The Buoy will be re-moored in its position on an early date of which due notice will be given.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,  
Benten,  
Yokohama, 11th November, 1879.**BONG & JORDAN,****GENERAL FORWARDING AGENTS,***43, Fish Street Hill, London, E.C.*

REPRESENTED BY

**H. MacArthur & Co.,***LANDING & FORWARDING AGENTS,***179, Yokohama.***Yokohama, September 27, 1879.*

tf.



## MISCELLANEOUS

# J. & E. ATKINSON'S PERFUMERY,

CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained the following

## EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA, 1872. PHILADELPHIA, 1876. VIENNA, 1873.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY,"  
PARIS, 1878.

## Atkinson's Choice Perfumes for the Handkerchief,

White Rose, Frangipanno, Ylang Ylang, Stephanotis, Opopanax,  
Jockey Club, Ess. Bouquet, Trevel, Magnolia, Jasmin,  
Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,

And all other odours, of the finest quality only.

## Atkinson's Florida Water,

A most fragrant Perfume, distilled from the choicest Exotics.

## Atkinson's Quinine Hair Lotion,

A very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

## ATKINSON'S Ethereal Essence of Lavender,

A powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

## ATKINSON'S

Quinine Tooth Powder, Violet Powder, Macassar Oil, Glycerine Cream,

And other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the Manufacturers.

**J. & E. ATKINSON,**  
24, Old Bond Street, London, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

**CAUTION.**—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, "a White Rose on a Golden Lyre;" printed in seven colours.

ESTABLISHED 1799.

July 26, 1879.

12m. 26in.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.

Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,  
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,  
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED CHEESE,  
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,  
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,  
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,  
PLUM PUDDINGS,  
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.

## CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars they should invariably be destroyed when empty.

Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.

All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles, Jars and Tins.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL,**  
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,  
50, 52, SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

53 ins.

## H. MacARTHUR & Co.,

No. 179.

LAND, <sup>AND</sup><sub>OR</sub> SHIP, AND CLEAR  
CARGO,

AT MODERATE RATES.

Yokohama, April 5, 1879.

tf

## THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach." "Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years. Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

### CAUTION.

Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.**

Limited.

**32, Walbrook, London,**

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.

Manufacture all kinds of

**IRON WORK,**  
Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

**A. H. & Co.** make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.***ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.***See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.*

Railings. Balcony Panels.

Gates. Street Posts.

Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.

Balusters. Newels.

Creatings. Terminals.

Columns. Column Capitals.

Brackets. Gratings.

Windows. Casements.

Fountains. Drinking Fountains.

Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

**SMITH'S HEARTHS & PORTABLE FORGES**

12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.***Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,**  
LONDON.

26 ins.

**NOTICE.****T**RANSLATIONS from JAPANESE into ENGLISH or *Vice-Versa* undertaken by the advertiser, a Japanese who is well versed in the English Language, and familiar with Commercial and Legal technicalities.

Enquire at

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## THE "RIGHT" OF THE COAST TRADE.

WHILE making concessions in the way of composing a moderate customs' tariff, Japan, in the approaching revision of the treaties, is likely to take a staunch stand for the control of her own coasting trade. And she will be perfectly right in so doing; for justice demands that every nation shall possess and exercise control over municipal matters within its territory; and a recognized portion of the domestic jurisdiction which belongs to each country is properly extended over a certain area of the water which washes its shores. It is England's past, rather than her present, example that Japan should follow in this matter. Communities, as well as persons, act mainly from self interest, and a Government, whether it adopts free trade or protection, whether it throws its ports open to the ships of all nations for the conveyance of its coastwise as well as its foreign traffic, or rigidly excludes interference by the stranger in what it considers a strictly private enterprise, does so with the first object of benefiting its own people and contributing to the general wealth and aggrandizement, not of other races, but of its own inhabitants. If this were not so, national rivalry would be injured in its best and most beneficent action, the impulse which it gives to competition and trade, promoting that energy which makes nations great, and so advances the interest, comfort, and happiness of the whole human race. Looking back on English commercial history we find that, as far back as the reign of Richard the second, or in the last quarter of the fourteenth century, the policy of enforcing laws for the encouragement of British navigation, and, further, of rigidly excluding the natives of other lands from participation, in any form, in the insular coastal trade, was adopted. In the time of Elizabeth, when English commerce, and that system of marine adventure and exploration which have so vastly helped to

make it what it now is, were being consolidated, such regulations were in stringent operation. In the reign of Henry the seventh, McCulloch says, two of the leading principles of protectionist navigation were distinctly recognized in the prohibition of the import of certain commodities except in ships belonging to English owners and manned by English seamen. In the very early years of the maiden monarch's prosperous reign, foreign ships were excluded from England's fisheries and coast service. The Act of 1650, emanating from the republican parliament, prohibited all bottoms, of all foreign nations whatever, from carrying on any commerce with the American colonies, unless they had obtained a license from the English Government. Still more stringent measures were to come. Hitherto legislation had been directed principally to the regulation of trade between the empire and its dependencies rather than to the conduct of relations with aliens. In 1651 the Long Parliament passed the famous Act of Navigation, which is described as having a two-fold object,—this being not only to promote our own interest on the seas, but to strike a decisive blow at Dutch power, which was then supreme on the ocean, the vessels of that nation engrossing the far greater proportion of the carrying trade of the world. It is not out of place to mention the principal provisions of an enactment which was in force for more than two hundred years. It declared that "no goods or commodities whatever, of the growth, production or manufacture of Asia, Africa, or America, should be imported either into England or Ireland or any of the plantations, except in ships belonging to English subjects, and of which the master and the greater number of the crew were also English." Having gained for its own shipping the remoter trade, the Government went on to secure, as far as possible, the European trade. It provided that no goods from any country in Europe should be imported into Great Britain except in British ships or in such vessels as were the actual property of the people of the country or place in which the goods were produced, or from the usual place of export. This proviso was, of course, levelled at the Hollanders, who, while having little domestic produce to export, employed their numerous mercantile fleets in conveying the produce of other countries, to its foreign market. How successful it was in its result the records and events of more than two centuries, and the present unrivalled supremacy of England on the waters of the world, both navally and commercially, can best testify. A silent witness can also be found in the steady decay of the Dutch shipping interests. If we allude at some length to the famous *Charta Maritima*, which has acted a part in England's annals hardly if at all inferior to that played by the Great Charter itself, we do not desire to be understood to propound that, at present, Japan could wisely or safely follow the example there set her. As a matter of abstract right she would no doubt be entitled to do so if she chose, but she gives no hint of any such immediate intention, limiting her existing demands to the control of her coasting trade, a property

which England, from early days, has stoutly asserted and maintained belongs to any nation as fully as do its coasts themselves. As a mere development of this principle came that other sweeping measure which secured to the country that was already colonizing and conquering in every direction where its sons could reach, the shipping trade of the world, adding to her wealth and prosperity, and helping more than anything else in the extension and permanence of its majestic and benevolent rule.

We will not follow up all the additions which were made to the act, each one more stringent than its precursors, until the perfected policy had placed, so far as Britain and her dependencies were concerned, Holland and the rest of the Netherlands with Germany virtually without the pale of the commercial world. In pursuance of our object, however, we will add that, in the words of McCulloch, "the policy, if not the motives, which suggested these statutes have met with very general eulogy." Among most judicious but unequivocal encomiasts of the Navigation Act, we find the name of Adam Smith, who says that its regulations are "as wise . . . as if they had all been dictated by the most deliberate wisdom. National animosity at that particular time aimed at the very same object which the most deliberate wisdom would have recommended—the diminution of the naval power of Holland, the only naval power which could endanger the security of England. The Act of Navigation is *not* favourable to foreign commerce, or to the growth of that opulence which can arise from it. The interest of a nation in its commercial relations to foreign nations is, like that of a merchant with regard to the different people with whom he deals, to buy as cheap and to sell as dear as possible. But the Act of Navigation, by diminishing the number of sellers, must necessarily diminish that of buyers; and we are thus likely not only to buy foreign goods dearer, but to sell our own cheaper, than if there was a more perfect freedom of trade. As defence, however, is of much more importance than opulence, the Act of Navigation is, perhaps, the wisest of all the commercial regulations of England."

It was not till 1854 that the Navigation laws being no longer needed to protect an industry which they had fostered and developed, were repealed. British shipping then controlled the carrying trade of all parts of the world, and in the hope of greater advantage being secured to the mercantile class all restrictions were withdrawn, and even the coasting trade was thrown open to foreign bottoms. But the fact remains that for two centuries a stringent protective policy was adopted for the home industry: that under it the marine was nourished and increased, and the hardiest and best race of sailors that ever added to the fame, and enlarged the power, of any country were produced and trained. If it had not completed its work that policy would not have been abandoned; and it is well to recollect that it was not actually discarded until several years had elapsed since Great Britain had in other matters of commerce committed herself to a free trade programme. With such precedent before us we fail to see the logic of an argument to the effect that, because England now fancies she sees advantage in admitting foreign competition into the trade of her seaboard, therefore Japan should do likewise. The latter country would probably be wiser in pursuing the course suggested by the earlier examples set in the same quarter. Then, when she has a commerce and fleets like those of the western isles, she can consider the advisability or otherwise of doing as England did when she deemed the time was opportune. But apart from all question of the expediency or reverse of the proposed measure, this empire has probably decided upon adopting it. It is a

mere matter of municipal right; and right after all has to be considered in the revision of the treaties between Japan and friendly European powers.

#### THE NATIONAL EDUCATION.

AT this time last year we had occasion, under this same heading, to review the fourth annual report of the Minister for Education. The period then treated of was 1876, when the national educational system, only a few years old, was effecting its development in all parts of the land. We have now before us the fifth annual report of the department, being for the tenth year of Meiji (1877). Presumably there are good reasons for not issuing these yearly statements within an earlier period of their lapse. We see that this, the latest document, was published in Tokio, in 1879. Mr. Tanaka's reference, at the end of the pamphlet, to the desirability of convening a national educational convention is dated in December, 1878, or more than twelve months ago. As far as we know the congress suggested has not yet assembled. Its utility might be great in accomplishing that conjunction, that unity of spirit less than of form, which should be a powerful engine in moulding, on a stable and truly national model, the men of the future Japan. This country has a grand destiny, which the slow course of the current events that will be history is quietly but surely shaping, and no possible advantage to be gained in improving the instruction of the young should be lost sight of. The Vice Minister, commenting upon the benefits of union, says:—"Convention is not useful only in political affairs but is equally essential to secure unity of action, upon which so much of success depends, among educators. Whatever may be the intelligence and learning possessed by those engaged in the management of educational affairs, it must necessarily fall short of that demanded for the complete solution of the many problems with which they must deal. It cannot be doubted that more can be accomplished by united than by individual effort; and for this reason the organization of an educational convention or association seems to be an important if not an indispensable element of success." He remarks that attention has been directed to the importance of this subject on many previous occasions by his department; but, as the conditions did not appear to be entirely favourable, the matter has been postponed. An examination of local educational affairs throughout the country shows that in many of the *fu* or *ken*, and in some instances in several of the *fu* and *ken* conjointly, educational conventions have been organized, thus indicating a widespread interest in the subject. Hence he argues that the time has arrived for the establishment of a national educational convention, and he therefore strongly recommends that such an assembly be organised and opened at a convenient place; that its regulations and time of meeting be fixed; and that all persons interested in the cause be invited to attend its sessions; in order that discussions may take place, and a general interchange of opinions upon all subjects pertaining to knowledge be made. "In this way," he says, "the cause of public education cannot fail to be promoted and much benefit derived." The idea is an excellent one, and should have direct and happy results. The assembly would probably agree to that difference in the style and scope of instruction which the exigencies of various districts seem to demand, at least as far as elementary education is concerned.

We read that in the primary schools the courses of study, the length of school terms, and other regulations

for elementary schools which were first established by the fu and ken authorities, were almost identical with those of the Government normal schools, and were, as far as possible, uniform throughout. It was soon discovered that in the practical working of these regulations they were sometimes quite suitable for one school district and quite unsuitable for another. To correct these errors, "serious thought and prolonged effort were necessary on the part of the most enlightened and far-sighted men of the time. An inspection of the reports of the educational conditions of the fu and ken during the 10th year of Meiji (1877), will show, however, that most of these difficulties have now been surmounted. A simple schedule of studies has been proposed and adopted for the village schools; and in some instances the length of the school year has been reduced, so as not to interfere with the industrial pursuits of the people in the country districts. In short, the practical operations of the various educational measures have been directed in accordance with experience, and carefully adjusted to the conveniences of different localities, to the end that the benefits of education may, as far as possible, be extended to the general mass of the people; and it is evident that these modifications have already produced beneficial effect on the local conditions." This is highly gratifying, as is also the fact that, notwithstanding the political troubles of 1877, not only has the work of the educational system not been arrested, but has made a steady and uninterrupted advance. The following statistical information on the subject of elementary instruction is taken from the report. The number of elementary schools in all of the seven grand school districts was 25,459, of which 24,281 were public and 1,178 were private schools. Compared with the previous year this shows an increase of 794 public schools and a decrease of 282 private schools, being a total increase of 512. The number of teachers was 59,825. Of these 56,658 were males and 1,275 females, employed in public schools; 1,609 males and 283 females employed in private schools. Compared with the preceding year this shows an increase of 7,364 male teachers and 292 female teachers in the public schools, and a decrease of 111 male teachers with an increase of 18 female teachers in private schools, the total increase being 7,563. The number of scholars was 2,162,962; and of these 1,552,410 were males and 549,768 females in public schools, and 42,832 males and 24,452 females in private schools, which, compared with the corresponding numbers of the previous year, show an increase of 58,827 males and 41,881 females in public schools, the rate of increase in the number of males being 3.93 per cent., and in the number of females 8.34 per cent. The number of males in private schools had decreased by 4,926 and of females by 621, so that the total number in both public and private schools had increased by 95,161.

A small decrease in the attendance in the elementary schools is recorded, the cause of which is not clearly known, but is partly ascribed to the fact that in such ken as Kumamoto, Kagoshima or Oita in the fifth grand school district, the establishments suffered more or less from the evils of military commotion; or in some localities the attendance of scholars was for a time suspended on account of the prevalence of cholera in that part of the country at that time, and in others the scholars failed to attend schools on account of their being obliged to render assistance to their families in their industrial pursuits. We find, further, that the number of the population in the whole seven grand school districts was 34,245,823, while the school population numbered 5,251,807. Of these 2,094,298 received instruction during the year, and

8,158,870 received none, the number receiving and not receiving instruction being respectively 39.9 and 60.1 per cent of the whole. If the number of children of school age who received instruction be compared with the total population of the seven grand school districts, it will be found that there were 6.11 scholars to every hundred of the population. As regards the proportion of the number of scholars to the population, the fu of Osaka and Tokio stand first; and the ken of Nagano, Gamba and Ishikawa follow in the order named. The smallest proportion is shown in the ken of Kagoshima, Wakayama and Aomori. The augmentation in the number of children who were taught as compared with those so instructed in the previous year, is more than one per cent of the population. In these institutions there was, also, a marked advance in the attendance of female scholars in the middle schools. A notable increment in the number of instructors and male students particularly in the private middle schools, is owing to the fact that many students had completed the course in the elementary schools, and, as they desired to continue their studies, the public middle schools were insufficient for their accommodation, and the private ones consequently received large accessions.

His Excellency speaks of the amalgamations in April, 1877, which resulted in the organization of the Tokio University, and the transfer to the control of the new institution of the Botanical Gardens at Koisikawa. In reporting on the condition of the normal schools, he notices in the number of male students a decrease of 1,180 and an increase of 264 female. The great diminution in the number of the former was due to the fact that during February the normal schools of Aichi, Hiroshima and Miyagi were abolished, and the institution in the ken of Kagoshima which had been burned during the rebellion was not rebuilt. The subsequent abolition and incorporation of some of the ken were accompanied by necessary changes in regard to normal schools which could not fail to temporarily check their growth. As the higher education of woman is one of the first needs of Japan, and largely depends upon the qualification of female teachers, we refer at some length to the portion of the document which relates to the numbers in the normal schools, noting first, that, from the reports of local authorities it appears that while the foundation of the educational system may be considered as well established, yet there is a necessity for increasing the school accommodations to meet new requirements; and the scarcity of competent teachers appears to be continually felt. The author remarks: "When the normal schools were first established simple courses of study were adopted for the purpose of training teachers to supply the immediate and urgent demand; but for the future welfare of the schools it is necessary that more complete courses should replace those easier ones, that thorough and competent teachers may be trained, to supply what is now a growing want and one to which the normal schools must now give their attention." The increase, above mentioned, in the number of female students is due to the establishment of two additional normal schools for females, one in the ken of Ishikawa and another in Yehime, and also to the fact that five normal schools previously closed to girls were opened to them. A comparison of the number of male and female students in all the elementary normal schools shows that the females still furnish but a small part of the attendance their number being only 10.06 per cent. of that of the males.

Foreign language schools have been reduced in number; and teachers and scholars of both sexes have largely diminished, for the reason that in "various localities the system of middle schools has gradually been established and com-



plete courses of study adopted, so that those who have hitherto studied in the foreign language schools have advantageously removed to the new institutions. Another cause which has led to the decrease above mentioned is that the people have learned that foreign languages are not very useful or serviceable outside of the large cities or ports opened for commerce, and that they cannot be profitably studied by the mass of the people."

Probably the best evidence of the general favour shown to the dissemination of education consists in the relatively enormous contributions made from private sources. Voluntary donations made by the people of all fu or ken during the year amounted to 809,745 yen in money; land contributions to the extent of 115,506.618 taubo; 810 buildings; 10,576 sets of school apparatus; 26,507 complete sets of books, and miscellaneous contributions of the value of 6,075 yen, 26 sen and 6 rin. The total number of givers was 499,767. We are compelled to observe that, in proportion to the value of the instruction imparted, and the interest evinced by the people, the salary of school teachers is abnormally small, however simple their duties. Even seventy-six yen per annum, the Kioto and highest average, will not allow the favored recipient much pocket money after providing for himself and his family. Living in Kagoshima must be very cheap if thirteen yen and eighty-four sen suffice to maintain a tutor for twelve months.

In notices of the Japanese section at the Paris Exposition of 1878, frequent allusions were made to the educational exhibits. The collection of all kinds of material in this branch was made through the Department of Education, all colleges and schools under the control of the department, the educational museum, the fu and ken authorities, and various societies and private individuals, and carefully selected and classified as follows; 1st. Educational laws and regulations; educational reports; photographs and models of schools, school apparatus. 2nd. Text books; dictionaries; reference books for teachers; educational bulletins and newspapers. 3rd. Educational toys; kindergarten gifts; globes, charts and maps, object lessons; philosophical apparatus; specimens of natural history; medical instruments. 4th. Examination papers and pupils' work in drawing, etc. All of the above articles were exhibited in the educational section of the exhibition, through the Japanese Commission. Mr. Kuki-Rinichi, senior secretary of the Department of Education, was delegated to the exhibition for the purpose of making various investigations upon educational matters of which a report will be presented by him in the future, and referred to in detail in the sixth annual report of the Minister. The fifth report, our review of which we now conclude, contains matter of interest in addition to what we have had space to mention. The brochure will well repay study on the part of all those who are interested in the cause of instruction.

GREATER attention than is accorded to the subject ought to be paid by both Japanese officials and capitalists to the development of the Yesso fisheries. In an article in this review on the 26th of last July we emphatically drew attention to the sources of wealth and national strength which were virtually left unheeded in the northern waters of this empire. It seems that Americans can afford to send fleets of vessels to the neighborhood of the Kurile Islands to catch fish which are subsequently cured in California and thence exported to China. Here is a practical lesson which Japan should not neglect. We read in a San Francisco paper some account of an enterprise which might have more Japanese imitators than exist:—"The codfishing fleet for 1879 on the Pacific coast consisted of thirteen vessels, all of

which were fitted out at San Francisco. This fleet visits the fishing grounds at Choumigan Islands, on the coast of Alaska, and in the Ochotsk Sea, near the Kurile Islands, north of Japan. The Choumigan Islands fleet consists of eight schooners. Most of these vessels make two trips each season. The fish caught earliest in the season average small in size, and are packed in bundles and made into boneless fish, while those taken later in summer are large and are known as case fish, and are sold at higher prices. The Ochotsk Sea fleet consists of 5 vessels, viz., 1 bark, 2 barkentines, 1 brig and 1 schooner. These vessels range from 150 to 400 tons burthen, and make only one trip per season. The codfish on arrival at port are in the condition known as green fish, and have to be dried before being offered for sale. The total catch of 1878 was about 1,600 tons dried fish. The catch of 1879 is estimated at about 2,000 tons. There is as yet a very limited demand for export, but it is expected that if properly introduced considerable sale for fish will be found in Australia and China, to both of which places small lots have been sent and sold at fair prices."

WHAT ravage phylloxera and oidium work in European vineyards, the gamma moth seems able to equal in its attacks upon the beetroot fields of Germany. The *Times* says that the destruction caused in many parts of that country last summer by the caterpillars of the insect has recently been the subject of frequent discussion in the agricultural societies. In the provinces of Saxony and Hanover the crops suffered considerably. The extent of the losses was illustrated at the last meeting of the Society for the Promotion of the Beet Sugar Industry at Halle. Before the appearance of the moth and caterpillar the sugar beet crops in Saxony were in excellent condition, and would, in ordinary circumstances, have yielded a harvest of from nine to ten tons per *morgen*. The actual yield, where the caterpillars had been, was only three tons. Nor was this all the loss; for, owing to the destruction of the leaves, the roots were never properly developed, and the percentage of sugar obtained was considerably below the average. Among the best means for exterminating the pest, the caterpillar machine was greatly approved. It was further recommended that fire should be lighted in the clover fields, of which this moth is very fond, and that, by drawing a rope or string over the clover, the insects should be roused, when they would almost all fly into the fire and perish; but to this recommendation it was objected that in such cases it is almost without exception the males only which are destroyed, the egg-laden female moths refusing to fly up. It was pointed out that the spots which have suffered during one year are pretty safe from the visitation the year following. Among the greatest natural enemies of the insect, the starling and sparrow were especially mentioned. In Japan, at certain seasons and in different localities, a similar plague of moths occasionally manifests its unwelcome presence in great force; and ingenious and laborious methods are adopted to mitigate or eradicate it. Some months ago the agricultural population of an entire district devoted all its time and energy to the capture of its voracious foes, the local government, we believe, offering pecuniary rewards for large takes of the insect.

MR. Flowers, H. M.'s Consul at Hiogo, will shortly return to England on a prolonged leave of absence; and it is probable that he will not again return to his official duties in this country. Mr. Flowers' name has been a conspicuous one for many years to the foreign residents in Japan, as Assistant in the Consulate in this port, as Consul in Nagasaki, and finally as Senior British Consul in Japan. His urbanity and kindness, as well as the assistance which he has at all times cheerfully tendered to his own countrymen,

have procured for him the regard and esteem of those with whom he has been brought in contact. He arrived in this country at a time and under a system which have disappeared. In those early days Dutch was the diplomatic language of Japan, and he was amongst the first chosen for interpretorial duties. Since then his promotion has been tolerably rapid, and now, after nearly twenty years service in the Far East, he is returning to Europe with the consciousness that he and his colleagues in the Consular Service have in no slight degree assisted in making known to Great Britain the advances which this country has achieved. Mr. Enslic's name has been mentioned as the *probable* successor to Mr. Flowers, at Hiogo. We have italicised the word "*probable*," because it is difficult to see what other consular officer could receive the post. Mr. Enslic, although we believe a much younger man than Mr. Flowers, is nevertheless his senior in the service; indeed he seems, from the official list published by the London Foreign office, to be senior to Mr. Martin Dolmen, the present much respected occupant of the British Consular Chair at this port. There should hardly, therefore, be any doubt about Mr. Enslic's appointment, more especially as he has already served several years in Kobe, with much credit to himself and satisfaction to his countrymen, as has been evinced by the addresses and other souvenirs which he has received from the British residents of Hiogo and Osaka. When we add that he not only possesses an excellent knowledge of Japanese, but is also a barrister-at-law, it will be seen that Kobe may properly be congratulated on its new English Consul.

**E**XPERIMENTS are being made in Yesso to cultivate beet-root with a view to the establishment of a sugar growing industry in that island. The result will probably be announced in the next report of the Agricultural College professors. Even if the extreme northern provinces of Japan should prove to be not too well adapted to the new enterprise, the culture might still, we are convinced, be remuneratively followed in other parts of the empire, which could thus be rendered as independent of the cane of China, as France and Germany are at this day of the produce of the West Indies, whence formerly they derived nearly the whole of their supplies of sugar.

**I**T is of course impossible to say whether or not there is any truth in the rumours so persistently reported in the English and Continental press that Great Britain and Russia have come to an amicable understanding for the settlement of their differences in Central Asia, by which Russia would secure Merv, and England, Herat; but the *Bombay Gazette* states positively "that it is the Viceroy's determination to send an expedition to Herat in the spring unless orders to the contrary are issued by the Home Government." This will account for the heavy reinforcements being sent to India, and the large accumulation of stores in Candahar and Cabul.

**R**EPRINTING it from *Blackwood's Magazine* for October, we publish to-day a short tale of life in Paris, from the fluent and graceful pen of Mr. Rudolph Lindau, whose contributions to the highest class of European periodicals keep his memory pleasantly green in the breasts of his friends in the Far East.

**O**LD traditions, derived from slave-holding days, have made the production of sugar from cane, in its West Indian sources so wasteful as to be hardly remunerative. The English consul in the Spanish colony of Puerto Rico quotes, in his annual report, an extract from the letter of a practical cultivator, who says that no one, not familiar with the indus-

try, can conceive, or believe at all possible, the "enormous waste, the frightful loss, in producing cane sugar. The plant itself is almost in its wild state, for little or nothing has been done towards improving its natural condition—in augmenting the saccharine richness of its juice. Attention seems scarcely to have been at all bestowed upon this most important part of the subject. In the manufacture of sugar the incredible waste is beyond all precedent and beyond all parallel in any other kind of business—where the open pans are still used and muscovadoes are produced—when a tenth part of the shipped value of the produce which it has cost so much time, trouble, and expense to obtain is pumped overboard into the sea. The process is opposed to the most elemental principles of science, to the plainest deductions of common sense." It is hardly possible to refer at all to any aspect of the cane-sugar industry without finding an additional proof of the advisability that every country, with the available resources, should endeavour to produce from an easily cultivated root its own supply of the most simply produced and cheapest of all familiar luxuries.

#### THE LATE MR. DELANE.

**T**HE death of so prominent a character as Mr. Delane, the late editor of the *Times*, is an event of more than usual importance in journalism, and has attracted much notice in all parts of the world. The best obituary notice of the deceased which we have seen occurs in the *Bombay Gazette*, and we produce it below.

The death of Mr. Delane brings to a close a career which would have been impossible for anyone but an Englishman, and which is hardly to be paralleled even in England. As editor of the *Times* when that paper was at the zenith of its reputation, and when the Press at home had not yet been subjected even by the most daring critics to that remorseless scrutiny which in these days all institutions seem to be fated to undergo, and which too often shocks us by revealing the feet of clay of the golden idol we had worshipped, Mr. Delane was unquestionably the most powerful of non-official Englishmen during what may be called the middle period of the Victorian era. In the early years of the Queen's reign, while Lord Melbourne, Sir Robert Peel, and Lord John Russell held successively the reins of government, the *Times*, though already the most influential of English journals, had by no means secured that unquestioned ascendancy which it enjoyed from about 1852 till the death of Lord Palmerston in 1865. During this latter term, and, indeed, in a lesser degree up to the outbreak of the Franco-German war in 1870, when the *Times* gave much offence by espousing the German cause too warmly, Mr. Delane wielded an authority far more wide-reaching and absolute than that of an ordinary Prime Minister of England. In France or America a man who had attained this singular eminence would assuredly have grasped at high office and tried to become himself a prominent figure in the political arena, instead of remaining an almost mythical personage whose identity was concealed by the anonymous character which journalism affects in England. But Mr. Delane was content to sink his own personality in that of the *Times*, and to amuse himself with watching from behind the scenes the antics of the political puppets whom he could set up or knock down at his pleasure. The resolute way in which he shunned notoriety often exasperated Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright—men trained to open controversy and fond of hard hitting. They were annoyed beyond measure at being persistently attacked and ridiculed by one whom they could not reach and against whom their favourite weapon of retaliation could have no effect. It was like fighting with an adversary who, himself unseen, could select at his leisure all the weak points in their armour and plant his thrusts where they would sting most keenly. Mr. Cobden once, growing desperate at what he chose to regard as the unfairness of this style of warfare, made a vigorous attempt to unearth Mr. Delane and hold him personally responsible for the articles published in the *Times*; but Mr. Delane foiled him by printing his letters and declining the challenge. We are far from asserting that the anonymous journalism, of which Mr. Delane was the greatest representative, may not have its disadvantages, or that an editor occupying such a position may not often be tempted to abuse his power; but, on the whole, the *Times* was conducted by him with a forbearance and even a magnanimity that did him the highest honour. Studiously moderate in his own views, he was uniformly tolerant of differences of opinion; and, indeed, one secret of his success as a journalist was that he never

refused admission into the *Times* of letters written by political opponents, if only these were worth reading. A thorough man of the world, he cherished no small antipathies; and in only two instances that we can call to mind did he crush men who differed from him—once when he summarily extinguished the late Colonel Richards, who had written the famous letters signed "Englishman" in the *Times* and presumed to think the paper was indebted to him for increasing its popularity, and again when he punished poor Admiral Sir Charles Napier, who had complained that the *Times* did not publish his letters correctly, by printing the Admiral's complaint *verbatim et literatim*, with all its faults of bad spelling and contempt of punctuation. The only offence he seemed never to forgive was a want of respect for the authority of the *Times*. He set the example of sacrificing his personal ambition to the paper, and within the office, as well as upon all outside contributors, he enforced the strictest discipline, seeing to everything down to the revision of a small paragraph himself, and letting neither leading article writers nor special correspondents traverse in any way the lines of policy he had chosen to lay down. Admirably consistent, he no sooner found that he could not be master of the paper than he resigned the editorship to other hands, and retired contentedly into private life—a rare example of a man who had everything that ordinary mortals desire for years within his reach, and yet sought neither place nor titles nor decorations. To the excellence of his work we could have no stronger testimony than the fact that the *Times*, shaken as its influence has been by recent vacillation and mismanagement, still remains unapproached and unapproachable. Other daily papers in London create a sensation from time to time by exceptional feats of enterprise or by the brilliancy of their leading articles or correspondence; but there is no real comparison to be made between the *Times* and any one of them in point of political influence.

What were the qualities that won for Mr. Delane this remarkable success? To ordinary observation he was merely a hale, shrewd Englishman of the country gentleman type; for he despised "your author who's all author, fellows in foolscap livery turn'd up with ink," and was fond of cultivating the good society in which his pleasant manner, scholarship, and ready wit fitted him to shine. He really excelled, not in literary merit, but in knowledge of men, the one gift which secures to its possessor the power of governing mankind. Kinglake, in his somewhat painfully elaborated satire on the printing Company which took into its own hands the task of ascertaining and directing the public opinion of England, altogether misrepresented the state of things that prevailed at the *Times*' office during the editorship of Mr. Delane, when he described the proprietors of the paper as directing its policy and sending out "a shrewd, idle clergyman who made it his duty to loiter about in places of common resort, and find out what people thought upon the principal subjects of the time. He was not to listen very much to extreme foolishness, and still less was he to harken to clever people. His duty was to wait and wait until he observed that some common thought was repeated in many places, and by numbers of men who had probably never seen one another. That one common thought was the prize he sought for, and he carried it home to his employers." Mr. Kinglake must have had in his memory, when he wrote this passage, the account Carlyle gives of the way in which John Sterling's father, Mr. Edward Sterling, the original "Thunderer" of the *Times*, used to go about to clubs and taverns to pick up public opinion. But it is nonsense to suppose that any body of men ever deliberately sent out an agent to manufacture leading articles from materials collected in this fashion. The idea was Sterling's own, and a very sensible idea it is, for, as the French proverb has it, "there is somebody cleverer even than Voltaire"—in Anglicizing the proverb we should say "cleverer even than Mr. Kinglake"—"and that is, *tout le monde*." So far, however, as Mr. Delane was concerned, it is certainly incorrect to suppose that he merely gave effect to the principles of a policy dictated to him by a miscellaneous body of proprietors of the paper. He was himself the dictator. He had, too, with all his moderation of language, a very distinct policy of his own. He formed, after the downfall of Lord John Russell's Ministry in 1852, a close alliance with Lord Palmerston, whose fortunes he followed with unflinching fidelity through the remaining portion of that statesman's career. Lord Palmerston, it will be remembered, was, in Lord Aberdeen's Cabinet, "the Minister who went his own way" and forced on a war with Russia; and in this policy he had the invaluable support of the *Times*. It was the *Times*' correspondent, again, who in 1854-55 exposed the mismanagement of our army in the Crimea and the incapacity of the Aberdeen Ministry; and the celebrated leading article commencing "Head! Head! Head!" which the *Times* founded on Mr. Russell's letters prepared the way for the accession to power of Lord Palmerston's Administration. Mr. Delane, then, represented in the Press, as Lord Palmerston did in Parliament, that powerful political party which was tolerably well contented with the constitution that existed before the passing of Mr. Disraeli's democratic Reform Bill, and which in foreign affairs maintained the traditions of the school of

Canning. We need hardly say that this party is essentially antagonistic to the school of commercial Liberalism led by Cobden, Bright, and Gladstone. For ten years, from 1855 to 1865, with one brief interval, Lord Palmerston, supported by the *Times*, governed the country as he liked, and even the Court—reluctantly enough as the "Memoirs of the Prince Consort" show—was forced to submit to the domination of the all-powerful Minister and the *Times*. Never before in the world's history had a newspaper possessed such power, and the changed condition of English journalism makes it unlikely that any other editor will hereafter be able to do what Mr. Delane did.

In some respects, it must be owned, the example set by Mr. Delane has had a demoralizing effect on English journalists. The envied position he held at Cambridge House, when Lady Palmerston was the queen of English society and Mr. Delane was always treated by her as her most favoured guest, has raised up in London a host of imitators who too often allow themselves and their newspapers to be made use of by persons of high social rank. Editors of London daily papers now compete with one another most eagerly for the honour, not so much of directing public opinion, as of seeing their names published in the *Morning Post* at the tail end of the lists of people present at fashionable parties. The difference between most of them and Mr. Delane is that he was a welcome and honoured guest in the houses of the great, while they are contemptuously tolerated and patronized because the art of "nobbling the Press"—that is to say, of converting independent journalists into social parasites, is now cultivated by English politicians as an essential part of the science of statesmanship. Mr. Delane could hold his own, and meet the rulers of Europe on equal terms, because he was himself a man of strong character and an agreeable and polished companion. But the English journalists who now aspire to become the pets of good society are too frequently men who have no personal qualifications to recommend them, but are simply rich adventurers who make use of a newspaper, as other speculators make use of the Stock Exchange, to advance their own fortunes. It is not surprising that they are often outwitted by their noble patrons, and find when it is too late that they have sacrificed their own independence and the character of their papers to no purpose.

#### REVIEW.\*

THIS little work we can heartily recommend to the perusal of all ladies of our community as being specially worthy the notice of those of us who are free from the imperious demands of fashion and imitation that home society imposes. The authoress by no means urges disregard of the general forms indicated by those whose province it is to study the art of dress, and to guide its ever changing modes. "Fashion," she says, "is no phantasy of idle minds, no random despot, but a tendency worth study, and eminently instructive, rightly understood, being, with all its blunders, as direct an outcome of the love of beauty as schools of sculpture and painting. It is the last expression of the underlying impulse, the dancing changing waves which vibrate alternately between the desire to reveal and the necessity to conceal human beauty; and the fashion of dress was certainly recognised as the legitimate province of the artist in the days when art was most precious and most vigorous."

All art however deteriorates and runs riot when those for whom it is supplied are wanting in taste and discrimination, and this is especially the case when the demand is for quick succession of novelties rather than for the good and lasting. The modern increase of education in all branches of the Fine Arts is a public acknowledgement of the fact that it is essential to their progress that a more widely prevailing good taste should pervade society. This is not necessarily in order that the number of practitioners in the arts should increase, but that the body of patrons who create the demand should possess a more cultivated discrimination rendering impossible the success of bad productions, and thus leading to higher aims among artists. In a similar way the aim of Mrs. Haweis is rather to assist the judgment of society as to what is good and bad in dress. "We must give intelligent attention to the chief points which go to make up our clothing. And who is so fit to consider these points as ourselves? It is no part of a milliner's business to think for us. It is not her province to consider what amount, form or fabric best accords with our tone of mind, habits and appearance; that is the wearer's province. Since we have all got to dress it is meet and right to do our best with that

\* The Art of Dress by Mrs. H. R. Haweis, Chatto and Windus, Piccadilly, 1879.



amount of time we must devote to the matter." Taking it then for granted that there is a responsibility devolving upon whomever enters society at all, that of not becoming a nuisance to the rest, in looks as well as in deed and act, we come to consider the chief points which should govern our clothing.

One of these is that all dress should have a *raison d'être* and a logical outcome from the wants dictated by climate and customs. We all know the discomfort in this climate in the observance of some of the forms which society expects: the misery, for example, of the black dress suit in the hot evenings, to say nothing of the white starched fronts which our ideas of politeness compel us to exhibit. A compromise was at one time effected in the shape of a white suit and mess-jacket which we believe is still in vogue in some of the China settlements; but this has been given up here and we have returned cheerfully to our bondage again. Our lady friends could, no doubt, cite instances of equal or surpassing torment which they endure in the adoption of the stereotyped forms that the mails bring from Europe, and which, even if we give them the credit of fitness to western requirements, are based upon the demands of an entirely different climate. It is a fact that in some Eastern settlements, as for example those in Java, European modes of dress are more or less violated, but in such a way as to put aside all idea of art or decorum and to produce slovenliness. Without wishing to be considered to advise the sacrifice of artistic appearances to individual comfort, we cannot help thinking, that, with some little study, fashions might be instituted which would excel in, rather than fall short of, the charming, inasmuch as they are based upon what is healthy and sufferable in the country. A certain uniformity in general style of dress is essential. A Babel of costumes would be as distressing as a Babel of tongues; but general uniformity is not inconsistent with endless variety of detail. Art works better within circumscribed limits, and is far more apt to err when perfectly free as to subject and motive, than when bound by certain restrictions. The excellence attained by the early Italian painters, abounding in variety of conception and detail, was produced by them whilst working upon limited subjects and according to the orthodox interpretation of subjects selected for special veneration by the Roman Church.

So with the minor matter of dress, we find among those nations, mostly Asiatic, which have evolved a useful and beautiful costume suitable to their habits and climate, the retention of the given forms unaltered has in no way prevented variety and fertility of ideas. A good example of this may be noted in the costume of Japan, one, which, until the recent changes in favour of European imitation, seems to have remained unaltered for centuries. Mrs. Haweis declaims against the introduction of modern European dress into such countries as Japan, despite the unsuitness of many of the new habits for the old climatic conditions. Irrational as many of these imitations are, it is nevertheless inevitable that in some points the costume should change with the customs. Take merely the simple fact of sitting upon raised seats, and we see how this modifies the utility and the comfort of clothing designed to adapt and display itself in a squatting posture. So that, although we may regret for the world the predicted loss of another artistic coloured costume, in that of old Japan, it cannot be denied that it is in many ways unsuitable to modern ways and manners. Many hints and ideas, however, have from time to time been borrowed by the West from the dress of the ladies of Japan, and it will not be uninteresting to note some of its attractions and merits.

A wide difference exists between the court costume and the popular costume. As a matter of art, the popular costume would undoubtedly bear away the palm. It is moreover, the dress of the middle classes, which may be taken to represent more truly the native taste and character and to accord most with the physique. The court costume founded upon ancient traditions borrowed from China, abounds in excessive display and richness of material, shrouding and distorting rather than adorning nature. The parts of the people's dress, simple in themselves, are capable of endless little varieties and combinations of colours. The principal garment, being a plain square robe with large sleeves and ornamental neck-bordering, is secured by a handsome silken belt, tied into an elegant bow, the form of which varies with the age and position of the wearer. The robe thus kept in place falls in pretty natural folds, and is arranged with a number of little devices to ensure effect. We are apt to undervalue the beauty of natural folds, by

which is meant the effects of lines and shadows in changeable combination, made by loose hanging drapery. Modern costumes rely much for their elegance of form upon their tightness and smooth betrayal of the shapes they cover, and the addition for embellishment of unmeaning gathers and flounces. Artists who study drapery have to go back to ancient costume. Perhaps the Greek dress is artistically the best, shewing all the richness of loose natural folds, and revealing in parts the shape of the figure also; but this is hardly a mode of attire in accordance with our present ideas of decorum. The winter dress of Japan, though to our notions insufficient for the severity of the cold, is a mere repetition of well-lined robe over robe according to what Mrs. Haweis calls the "scientific principle that several vestures are warmer than one, though that one be thicker and weigh heavier than the several together." Each robe drawn a little back reveals a dainty *souçon* of the one beneath it. The writer upon the art of dress says:—"Every ceremony of social life claims its appropriate robes; because lines, colours and textures bear a certain affinity to human moods—they have neither speech nor language, yet their voices are heard among them—sombre lines for autumn days, light bright sparkles for smiling spring; rest for the old, for the young a rainbow;" and we find in Japan all these pretty distinctions most clearly defined.

In perusing books upon the subject of ladies' dress in this country, of which several exist of a most amusing and instructive character, we are struck particularly with the naïve and open manner in which the little arts and devices of adornment—not unknown in Europe, but practised there more secretly, are described and explained. Mrs. Haweis in her little book says:—"I hope the day will soon come when it shall be a recognised duty to conceal what is offensive,—when slight deformities of limb and skin shall be artfully disguised by art, and great and startling deformities shall cease to disgrace our public streets, and, alas! to repeat themselves through the nervous sleep to delicate persons." A Japanese author says:—"Japan surpasses other countries in the beauty of women and in their discretion and skill. Especially is this the case in the capital (Kioto) where their speech is soft and gentle, their movements graceful, and where their faces resemble in tint the beautiful hue of the peach-blossom. The lady of the city often requires no facial adornment, but even if powder and rouge be employed, the effect is pleasing and natural. The provincial women are not different in birth from those of the city; but though born with the same capacity for beauty, they are not so clever at their toilet, cannot dress tastily, and though spending much money upon self-beautification are still ugly. The difference is owing to skill and education in the arts of adorning. For, if the countrywoman live many years in the capital, her whole appearance changes, and she obtains a rich and superior husband." In Japan then every lady should aspire to approach the standard of beauty, and in any particular in which nature does not favour her she is expected to seek the assistance of art.

The abhorrence of shame is a wholesome enough feeling, which in late years has taken a firm hold upon society, partly no doubt attributable to the eloquent writings of such men as Ruskin and Carlyle. In the matter of toilet, however, as in many other kindred matters, it is difficult to define where legitimate adornment ends, and falsity and disguise commences. It is well known that the confessed limits, and the actual practical limits, are two entirely different things. False hair, cosmetic and paint, tight waists and secret padding are none the less actualities, because it is rude to mention them, or because they are not openly avowed as necessary resources of art to adorn nature. In this country there is no hesitation in the matter, and the various methods and devices are, in the Japanese volume before us, analysed and put into a practical and useful shape. It may be interesting to note a few of these.

A face naturally too long is to be made to appear attractive by keeping the hair low, and giving breadth to the face, by the judicious use of powder, and by lengthening the appearance of the chin and nose. The English authoress on dress gives similar suggestions when she says:—"If the forehead is narrow while your cheeks are rather wide, roll the hair over pads at the temples or fuff it out; if your forehead is too large for your face any form of fringe may be cultivated. If you lack height, dress the hair high brushed off the brow, and wear a flower or jewel as high as possible. I have no prejudice, none need have, against false hair used in moderation and when necessary; any more than any one need have

against cosmetics and paint used in moderation and when necessary."

Again, our Japanese author explains various methods for improving the look of badly proportioned people. If the body is too short the apparent breadth must be diminished by narrowing the *obi* and curtailing all projections tending to add width to the body; also by adopting patterns for the dress the lines of which run vertically. In a contrary manner when ungainly length is to be rendered less noticeable, a proportional increase in width and lateral extension of the robe and belt is to be given, and all patterns are to run cross wise. Statures good as to height but badly proportioned, may be doctored by raising or lowering the position of the waist and the *obi*. All of these instructions shew a very true appreciation of the laws of decorative art applied to dress, no less than is seen in the other industrial products of the country.

Another point upon which something may be learnt from the dresses around us is that of colour. Happily, although the male sex in Europe have long given up almost entirely the use of colour in their costume, it is still retained as a desideratum in the adornment of the fairer sex. Nothing is more misleading than the rules often quoted as to colours which will and which will not go well together. It is supposed to be a law that blue and green, or blue and a mixture of blue and red are insufferable together; and yet we find these very combinations in some of the best specimens of Eastern art. The mistake is in supposing that when a colour is used it is best to have the crudest brightest tint of that colour. Colours have been used, by those nations skilled highly in the decorative arts, in a more impure state than modern science enables us to manufacture them; and whether this be the result of intention or ignorance, it has had the effect of providing tones which will harmonise well in almost any combination. The deterioration of the painting on Japanese porcelain and hanging pictures is greatly owing to the adoption of crude colours from the West. Mrs. Hawis says:—"The moral is, every colour is bad when it is too bright; but every colour may be made beautiful by selection of tint and by clever combination with other hues. When you see a colour which is moderately dull in tone, and so far indescribable that you question whether it is blue or green or brown, red or yellow, it is an artistic colour and will mix with almost any other artistic colour. No artistic colours are unduly bright; they are all more or less toned down. At the same time though artistic colours are dull, all dull colours are not artistic. And I must not be understood to taboo collectively all primary or pure bright colours always. One morsel of brilliant colour may have a capital effect well placed in a mass of negative tint. No colour harmony, says Ruskin, is of a high order unless it involve indescribable tints."

It is this habit of using colours more or less subdued in tone, for the general masses, with the brighter colours introduced only in very small degrees, that has a great deal to do with the charm of the Japanese and other eastern dresses. We rarely in our walks through the streets see colour combinations that we can call ugly; robe, belt and cloak invariably accord in some pleasing harmony. It is a matter of surprise that our lady friends do not adopt more readily some of these charmingly artistic colours, which are so near at hand for study.

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, January 9th, 1880.

A serious riot has occurred in Ireland.

Russia.—The Minister of War has ordered a large quantity of rifles.

The Presidents of the Republics of Peru and Bolivia have fled.

Pierola is Dictator.

[FROM THE "STRAITS TIMES."]

LONDON, December 19th, 1879.

The Emperor of Austria, in a speech, stated that the understanding with Germany was simply to secure the maintenance of peace.

The report of the liquidators of the Glasgow Bank assures payment in full of all liabilities.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 15th December.—The Chilean army has been defeated.

The London press is unanimous in urging the advisability of reinforcing Cabul.

London, 17th December.—The Houses of Parliament have been summoned to meet for the despatch of business on the 5th of February.

A quarrel has taken place between the Czar and Czarewitch; the latter demanding constitutional government, which the Czar refuses.

London, 24th December.—Heavy reinforcements are being sent to Afghanistan.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has ordered prayers to be offered for the troops.

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to advertisements, job-printing, or accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 1ST MONTH, 10TH DAY, DO-YO-DI.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

##### DEATH.

On the 12th November, at 50, Holland-road, Kensington, FANNY HANNAH, the beloved wife of Sir HARRY S. PARKES, K.C.B., H.B.M. Minister, Japan, aged forty-seven.

The P. & O. steamer *Sunda*, with homeward bound mails, left for Hongkong on Monday morning last, at daylight. The steamer *Malacca*, owned by the same company, came into port on the 7th instant, with European dates to November 24th.

Englishman cannot exist, apparently, without their club. We learn from the Indian papers, that one of these institutions is to be established in the Sherpur Cantonments at Cabul, for the convenience of officers and "visitors." The latter will, however, be pretty few for some considerable time to come unless a very remarkable change comes over the country in which the new club is situated. The name of this, the first club in Afghanistan is, we understand, much debated, "Cabul Club," if alliterative is only local; the "Hindu Kush Wanderers" is suggestive enough, but the *Bombay Gazette* proposes either "The Central Asian Reform" or "Savage" as neat and appropriate titles for the new institution.

However honest and straightforward Mr. Moseby, United States Consul at Hongkong, may be, tact, that quality which is indispensable to a public man who hopes for any measure of success, does not seem to enter largely into his composition. Some time ago, he managed to appear in rather a ridiculous light before the American public on a simple question of the dress he should or should not wear when participating in festivities at Government House. More recently he appears to have quarrelled with Governor Hennessey, because the latter expressed a desire to be informed of the contents of some of his dispatches, the information being asked for with the idea that if given, it would aid His Excellency in the prosecution of some of his schemes of reform. At least this is what New York papers say. The *New York World* remarks:—

"We think that Col. Moseby, the American Consul at Hong Kong, has been acting a very silly part. The British Governor Hennessey, wishing to break up the opium traffic at that port, applied to Col. Moseby for his consular records. This request was refused, on the ground that the records were strictly private. To which Gov. Hennessey replied that his desire was to get at the names of shippers and consignees of opium, and intimated that if Americans were afraid to have their consular records examined it was likely that they had something to conceal. Col. Moseby of course replied with heat, denying the

intimation, and hinting that Gov. Hennessy was a writer of fiction. Here the matter stands at present. To our thinking Col. Moseby should have aided Gov. Hennessy in his efforts to break up the infamous traffic in opium which is the curse of the whole seaboard of China. The representatives of this country abroad should not place themselves in a position where their conduct can have even the appearance of their being a shield for an illegal traffic. The conduct of Col. Moseby may win him cheap applause from unthinking, rowdyish Americans, who regard sauciness, petulance and impudence as an exhibition of independent American spirit, but he will surely receive the censure of all who have a proper regard for the good name of the country. The good name and fame of the country are not advanced by protecting a traffic as infamous as that in opium."

The American journal is adrift somewhere, for the opium trade is not illegal in the colony. However, it appears that there is some disagreement.

Writing to Colonel Moseby on the occasion when the subject of that gentleman's habiliments had been made a public one, Governor Hennessy was very consolatory. He said:—"I have read with astonishment a paragraph from an American newspaper about your costume at Government House &c., and hasten to assure you, that, as far as I know, the paragraph is without the slightest foundation. You have often done me the honour of being a guest at my table; and I need hardly say that there is no one in the colony whose social qualities and high character I more fully appreciate."

A correspondent of the *Times*, writing under date the 18th of November, relates the following pleasing little incident showing what may happen to a gentleman taking a quiet afternoon drive with his wife in the neighbourhood of the "City of the Seven Hills":—"Two brigands in the Romagna intercepted Count Porsi and his wife as they were driving home, made the lady alight and walk home, and detained the Count and his carriage. No trace of the captives has yet been discovered." This speaks volumes for the state of Italy, and is pretty much as if a person driving out on the new road were to be captured by thieves and spirited away. If such thing was to happen here, in a country supposed to be incapable of managing its own affairs without interference, what an outcry would be made! How many morals it would point and tales adorn! But in Italy—well the people there are used to that kind of thing, and would miss it if it were to be made to cease.

The *Times* correspondent with General Robert's force in Afghanistan, supplies a graphic description of the terrible Jagdalak Pass, where Elphinstone's army was annihilated in the first Afghan War, in 1842. The correspondent says:—

"The country through which the route lies is extremely barren and uninteresting and apparently uninhabited, not a single homestead or village being seen from the line of march until our arrival at Jagdalak, which is a small village of about twenty houses in a grove of fine mulberry trees, the first we have seen since crossing the Surkhab. The Jagdalak Pass fully realized our expectations. It is a terrible defile, nearly three miles long, and having a mean width of forty feet. It has three gates where the passage narrows to from ten feet to six feet. The rocks on each side rise nearly perpendicularly, the strata being quite vertical and hanging very loosely together, as if a heavy mass could be precipitated by a push of the hand. In places single alabs stand erect on end, rising to a height of one hundred and fifty feet. The road is simply the water channels. The troops marched up to their ankles in water. After surmounting the crest of the kotal, the road again descends, and four or five yards passes through a very narrow cutting in loose sandstone, then issues into less hilly country, descending gradually to the Surkhab river, which was reached after a march of ten miles. The bridge over it, said to have been built by Ali Mardad, still stands; but landships have carried away a considerable part of the parapet and the roadway on the Cabul side, leaving only a narrow passage of about ten feet, the safety of which is doubtful. The river just before reaching the bridge rushes through a deep, narrow gorge, with rocky, precipitous sides, forming one of the prettiest bits of scenery in this desolate-looking country. Although the stream is not deep, the current is very rapid, its waters sounding at night as if it were a mighty river. The camp was pitched on ground reclaimed from the stream; hills frowned down on each side, particularly on the northern, where the cliffs rose sheer up to a height of fully one thousand feet. Pickets were placed on the southern and western hills. The road immediately after leaving Surkhab passes a small affluent of that river, then ascends in a steep, rocky, narrow pathway alongside the hill forming the western face of the amphitheatre. This is the most difficult bit of road in the whole way."

London papers announce that, in a letter to M. Sabiriakoff, Professor Nordenskjöld expresses his intention of undertaking another voyage to the northern coast of Asia as soon as circumstances permit. "After my return," he says, "I think of spending a year in preparing an account of the voyage of the *Vega*, and it is my desire then to continue the exploration of the Icy Ocean along the coast of Siberia, making the river Lena the point of departure and the Siberian Isles the basis of operations. For the object I have proposed to myself—the rendering of the northern part of Asia completely accessible to commercial shipping—the prosecution of these researches is of paramount importance."

The naval review and manoeuvres which were to have been held in the presence of the Emperor and Empress this week has been postponed indefinitely. The *Mainichi Shimbun* states that the events will not take place until April.

Our local skating club has enjoyed a few hours good sport on its recently constructed rink on the Rifle Range, a better and more accessible situation after all than was selected at the gravel pits near the kerosene oil godowns.

It appears to us that imprisonment with hard labor for a term of seventy days is very inadequate punishment for an offence of such gravity as that committed by Mr. Kimura Shinjiro. This man, who is said to have furnished the principal false and defamatory evidence which resulted in the arrest of Nakano and Fujita, whom he has thus been mainly instrumental in injuring, socially and pecuniarily in their reputations, and in a number of other ways to an extent which it is impossible to realize. The heartless and sordid ruffian convicted of such infamy, received yesterday, at the hands of the Tokio Saibanabo, the sentence above stated, a term hardly, if at all, longer than the time during which his victims were kept in suspense and duress.

We observe that the next P. & O. steamer is announced to leave on Saturday, the 17th, at noon, instead of Monday, at daylight. This will, no doubt, avoid a Sunday mail, but at the same time it means that a period of eleven days will elapse from the departure of the *Malacca* from Yokohama, and the connecting steamer from Hongkong.

An Afghan gentleman at Dera, who is shortly about to return to Cabul, has informed the correspondent of the *Delhi Gazette*, that Sir Louis Cavagnari's head (after he was decapitated) was sent to Herat in a bag to convince the soldiers there of the Envoy's massacre! The hunt for Cavagnari's head will in time become an historical event, like that for the lost head of Cromwell's body.

The *World* says: the *Lancet* startled us the other day by the story that ladies at the Westend were in the habit of scientifically intoxicating themselves by the subcutaneous injection of morphia. I do not believe a word of it. Hypodermic applications of the kind may be used as a relief to acute neuralgia; but I decline to accept such an insult to the distillers as to admit that any woman could prick herself into inebriety while a bottle of *fine champagne* could be had behind the arras at the confectioner's. But there is an ingenious novelty in the means of satisfying the craving for drink which I can vouch for. It is—this in all confidence—it is in the form of an opera glass, with the central cylinder enlarged and hollowed for the reception of choice old cognac. To this is attached a nozzle, which can be unscrewed, and a suction-pipe inserted, so that the jewelled occupant of a box *en évidence* can imbibe the liquor for heroes unobserved, while affecting attentively to watch the final pirouette of *La Sylphide* on the stage. This alcoholic lorgnette is as neat in its way as the device of Judge Boyd, of the Irish King's Bench. Daniel O'Connell used to tell that this legal luminary was so fond of brandy that he kept a supply of it constantly in court upon the desk before him in an inkstand of peculiar make. His lordship used to lean his arm upon the desk, bob down his head, and steal a hurried sip from time to time through a quill that lay among the pens, which manoeuvre, he flattered himself, escaped observation.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the *Japan Gazette Hong List and Directory* for the current year. The present



volume fully maintains the high reputation of the former issues of this valuable work, and from the mass of useful information it contains, and the evident care bestowed in compilation, we feel convinced that this directory will be found a positive necessity in every business establishment, and of use for almost daily reference in private houses.

Agreeably with usual custom, the Iron, Tea and Silk Guilds, have been celebrating the opening of business for the year with processions, &c. The native Fire Brigade also perambulated the town one forenoon, carrying their apparatus and dragging the engines and hose reels.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* contains some interesting particulars respecting the Chinese labourers who went to the silver mines in Mexico (?) under contract. It appears that 6,265 labourers left China last year to fulfil engagements varying from seven to thirteen years, while 7,322 returned after completing their contracts. The personal appearance and dress of the returned labourers, contrasted very favourably with the condition of those who were leaving, and they all seemed to have accumulated money in Mexico and brought home presents to their friends and relatives. Our contemporary pathetically remarks, that the money these people had saved during their arduous toil, "was likely to become smoke from opium pipes and fly away towards India."

The following paragraph from *Vanity Fair*, shows the kind of shooting fashionable in England at present. It does not appear to us there can be much true sport in such wholesale destruction:—"Lord Grey de Wilton and Mr. Arthur Pryor have enjoyed excellent sport at Cockley Cley Hall. They killed one thousand one hundred pheasants with six guns in two days last week, and have had very good average bags throughout the fortnight. Only one or two woodcocks have yet been seen."

"Atlas" in the *World* is informed that Yosie Wooyeno, the Japanese Minister at the Court of St. James's, and now in Japan on leave of absence, will not return in that capacity. It is said that his services are required in Japan, where the new treaty arrangements between that country and the Powers in Europe and America are being actively negotiated, and of which subject he has great knowledge. His successor as Minister Plenipotentiary in London is to be His Excellency Mori, who was formerly accredited to the United States. Besides having a good knowledge of English, he has a reputation for great ability. The writer adds:—"This news will cause regret to many who remember the interesting position which Madame Wooyeno occupied in London society during the last three seasons. I am therefore more pleased at being able to state that his Excellency Mori is also possessed of a most amiable and charming Japanese wife, who, if my information is correct, will arrive with her husband in England in time to be presented to her Majesty at the early Diplomatic Court next season. I am told, however, that she has also adopted European modes in place of the picturesque costume of her country, which is a pity."

The same contributor says:—"I regret to have to announce the death of Lady Parkes, wife of the British Minister in Japan, which took place last Tuesday. Sir Harry Parkes, now on his way to this country, is expected to arrive this week. His return was decided on, partly on account of the precarious state of Lady Parkes's health, and partly to discuss, with the Foreign Office authorities, various *désagrémens* which have arisen between Great Britain and Japan." [Sir Harry Parkes arrived in London on the 15th November, E. J. W. M.]

The *Hochi Shimbun* states that the Japanese authorities received a telegram on the 30th ultimo, stating that an unsuccessful attempt had been made to assassinate the King of Spain.

The Shintomiza Theatre will be re-opened on the 15th instant, and the Hisamatsuza Theatre, to-day.

The Chinese residents in Yokohama are about to establish a hospital. The funds for the maintenance of the institution will be supplied by private subscription.

## PARIS LETTER.

Paris, November 22nd, 1879.

We have a Zulu difficulty, which has not yet risen to the dignity of a cabinet question, and that the transitory passage across Paris, en route for Madrid, of the poor ex-Empress, has not been able to appease. The Bonapartists will not tolerate a representation of Zulu habits and customs by friendly natives, and the republicans insist that this being a land of liberty, the tawny warriors must be allowed to indulge in their Pyrrhic dances. The Empress Eugenie, the few who saw her through her tears and weeds, declare to be a wreck,—a bent, and broken looking old woman. The French are not cruel; despite all the ruin she was the instrument of creating, by forcing her worn-out husband to make an iniquitous war against Germany, those who recognised her as she passed, respectfully took off their hats. However, it is customary to salute the dead. She was kept in view by a squad of detective officers, just as if her load of sorrows was contraband, or that politics had now for her the ghost of an attraction. She was only accorded the privilege that any political exile could claim, of being allowed, on the score of humanity, or the dire necessity of private affairs, a free pass for a fixed period, a truce as it were against the sentence of the code, for reasons of state.

If a proof were needed as to the stability of the present form of Government, the quasi-private banquet just held by the royalists of Vendée, is conclusive: tolerated by the authorities, protected by a republican police, some 800 individuals met to denounce the Republic, exalt the Comte de Chambord, summon up the reminiscences of civil war, and display every kind of factious banner. The tricolor alone was absent. These culinary protestations are harmless; having no longer the command of the avenues to power and place, the grip which royalists had on the populations of a few districts, is getting relaxed; the peasantry show evidence that the scales are dropping from their eyes; the liberal journals arrive in the wake of the lay teachers, new railroads, deepened water-ways, and ameliorated roads. There is a great "levelling up" in operation.

The first snow has arrived, wicked and dry, not unpleasant, save for the aged who have to go abroad, and the poor who have no firesides; charity is quietly doing its work, and, I learn from several sources, more effectually than heretofore, because its distribution has been handed over to local committees of laymen. The mayor's office is the proper place to confide donations, and responsible unpaid agents make at present house to house collections for the suffering. This is independent of the sums raised by sticking a tax of some ten per cent. on the receipts of places of amusement. There is no pauperism in France, for parents, when they arrive at the age of 65, can legally compel their children to contribute to their support, at the rate of five or six sous per day. The result is, that children combine and obtain for a fixed yearly payment, a comfortable home in a well kept hospice for their parents, and *amour propre* is thus at the same time upheld. These hospices are conducted cheaply, as the nuns manage them, a guarantee that nothing shall be found wanting under the heads of order and cleanliness.

The municipal councillors agitate a proposition, that they be paid for their services, which if important, are not so onerous but could afford to be discharged gratuitously; the members have already decreed themselves a medal, insignia of office, and this has its effect on their house-maids and shop-boys. In China a peacock's feather would mark the dignity. Less opposition is expressed at the intention to make convents and monasteries pay rent for their establishments, like Dick, Tom, or Harry; at present they are not subject to taxation, and where the city is the landlord, they are exempted from quarter days. This intention executed, the budget of the city, already so proverbially pléthoric, would be augmented by nearly a quarter of a million of francs, which sum would be devoted to establishing and maintaining lay schools.

What's the use of a French employer holding out against a strike? Is it for form's sake or to save appearances? Strikes here arrive with the regularity of new moons; each trade has its turn regulated in advance; the workman "haugs up de shovel and de hoe," at an hour fixed, and waits till the mountain, in the shape of the employer, comes to him, which is generally so; the master then methodically adds on to bills, the extra price necessary to cover his increased outlay, so that the public

in the end pays, and like the cels, becoming used to skinning, cease to complain. I think all political economy, with due respect to Adam Smith, Mill, Faucett and Say, is comprised in the maxim of Hudibras,—“The value of a thing, is just as much as it will bring.” The bakers have run along the whole line, their “staff of life is strong—fr. 45 a week,” bread and wine included, for they have to work semi-naked, and thirst is consequently excusable. Parisians were in sympathy with the bakers, for nowhere in the world is bread better made than in this city: bakers appear to be artists; look at the forms; the golden and white colors they give to rolls and loaves; you feel an appetite on entering a French bakery, with its marble counter, floor, and shelves; its shining brass racks and comfortable look—for few bakers ever figure in the list of bankruptcies. The bread is toothsome and digestible, not the horrible lumps of warmed dough to be met with in the rural districts, to which Norwegian cakes are superior although these be flat, strung on a cord like Chinese coin, and suspended from a blackened roof and a few months trapeze acquaintance with flies, similar to Dutch hung beef. It is remarked, that it is three thousand years after the appearance of the *Iliad*, that we have only known how to make bread. To accomplish the latter well, Voltaire, I think it is, remarks, is the sign of intellectual and moral superiority of a people. Formerly the lady of the house made it a point to make bread proof of her authority. Abraham so far interfered in household affairs, as to dictate to Sarah the quantity of meal to employ, and he had plenty of servants, not forgetting that maid of all work—*pour tout faire*, Hagar. The Greeks were bakers with the Romans; they had more talent and their manipulation was more skilful.

The passing through the city of the new queen of Spain (what a contrast with that other august visitor the ex-Empress) has created a weak sensation; she is apparently a lady of a masculine turn of mind and means business in her love; she plays into the hands of her mother-in-law; they are as agreeable to each other as such relationship is before spending a honeymoon. Worth, according to a stage whisper, was entrusted to execute the bridal trousseau, and has done his work well: the *robe de mariée* consists of a jupe of white satin, very long, with a square train, trimmed all round with beautiful Alençon: in front, draped and embroidered with silver, and covered with similar lace. Another robe is in rose-coloured damask, trimmed with black, and the mantle is in dark-blue velvet, garnished with lace, and slight golden embroidery.

Out-door sporting life is on the increase; M. Grévy is perhaps the crack gunner in France; he beats Gambetta hollow in bringing down those elegant barn door fowls, known as pheasants, or knocking over a poor puss. As for stag hunting, this *salon* amusement is on the increase, but for an excitement, in the absence of the usual find and finish, commend me to a wild boar hunt, or running down a wolf. Manly sports cannot be too much encouraged for French boys, who snivel their youth away round a store sucking chocolate, or studying how to storn the pantry; *eh bien*, paper hunts are on the increase, and when the hares lead well over a cross country, the result is satisfactory. A great many drawing rooms are still in brown Holland and plate chests continue hermetically sealed, but the opening of the Chambers, on the 27th, will set fiddles scraping and legs whirling. By then, too, all the anniversaries of the Saints will have passed with the usual honors: Saint Cecile shall have received her share of music, and Saint Catherine shall have been honored by old and young virgins, for she was a famous girl of her period; she was beheaded on account of her piety, but the angels had their revenge, as they carried her away and buried her on Mount Sinai, where Renan says he sought in vain for her tomb-stone, just as if he expected it to be of Pyramids pattern, common to her royal countrymen. In the event of school girls not being brought on that day to the theatre, they have the privilege to transform the school-room into a stage and perform Racine's *Esther*; lemonade follows, and then a few waltzes. The Bible alludes to the ugly rush of seven women to take hold of one man, that they could be called after him and so take away their reproach as spinsters. At present ladies of an uncertain age burn tapers, and try the virtue of doing up the hair of a bride, or sticking a pin in her bonnet; anything rather than to be a vestal virgin to St. Catherine.

Mme. Thiers has resolved to keep the study of her husband in the same state as he left it: nothing is changed: it has the

appearance as if the owner had left for a few moments; the last book he read, Plato's dialogues, lies open, having a pencil with which he annotated the text, for when an author—in this case cousin—presented him with a copy of his writings, it was specially printed to leave meadows of margin: all Hugo demands is, that presentation copies be richly bound. An addition has been made to the study, it serves as a store house for all the “crowns” that could not find a place on his tomb: in a press is the plaster model of his features taken after death. No shelf in the library, was higher than he could reach from the floor. He loved his “workshop,” entered it every morning at five o'clock. He never had an almanac card, so that he was puzzled frequently for the date, and when uncertain, never dated his letter. One day a young man called on him to be recommended to a minister: “What day of the month is it?” he demanded of the visitor, who confessed he did not know: “Don't know, Monsieur; and how can I write a recommendation without a date? Take my advice, Sir, never be without a pocket almanac.”

The assizes of Versailles has condemned a plagiarist, in one respect, of Noro, to ten years hard labor. Last August, commenced a series of incendiaries, one a week, during six weeks, and that involved a total loss of property of fr. 32,000. A very handsome dress-maker, aged 17, but looking twenty, was too well guarded by her parents: her mother in the morning accompanied her to her work, and her father brought her home in the evening; she had a lover, aged 19, and was prohibited from meeting him; she set fire to a cottage or a farm-building; the neighbours ran at the sound of the tocsin to aid its extinction: the lover arrived also, but passed his time with the girl while all was confusion. In a late boarding house row, two clients disputed; a duel was arranged; one of the antagonists avowed he had no money to travel to Belgium to fight, the other promised to pay his expenses, for which kindness, his head and nose were smashed with a chair. In the department of the Aisne, a national teacher inspired a warm passion in the bosom of Lucie, a young needlewoman; he rejected the advances, and sent an anonymous letter, accusing her of being ugly and illegitimate: she met him on the public road, attacked him with a knife and scissors, and wounded him several times; he sought refuge in the chapel, still pursued and bleeding; she begged the officiating clergyman not to interfere for a moment, as since he could not marry the fellow, he could at all events bury him. He recovered, and the jury acquitted Lucie.

The New York correspondent of the *Liberty* complains, that on the American stage an actor instead of kissing once, as the exigencies of the play require, indulges in a score. It is hard when a man has the chance with a pretty girl, to leave off when he has commenced.

The European Bank is expected to make a good dividend: some of its scrip was stolen, and not only was it mysteriously returned, but scrip of another company into the bargain.

#### JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

#### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The Local Governors' Assembly is to be held at the Nobles' Club, at Takarada-cho, Tokio, which is now undergoing preparation for that purpose.

The *Choya Shimbun* states that the Governor of Sakai Ken suddenly sent in his resignation at the end of last year, but our contemporary says it will not answer for the truth of the report.

Mr. Yoshikawa, the Chief Superintendent of the Telegraph Department, has returned to Japan after attending the International Telegraph Conference held in London last year.

General Kuroda, the Chief of the Colonization Department, is about to visit Hakodate for the purpose of inspecting the scene of the late fire. It is not the General's intention to go on to Sapporo.

The following notification has been issued by Iwakura U-daijin, to the *Kwan, Sho, Ia, Shi, Fu, and Ken*:—

“It is hereby notified that, during the absence of Sanjo

The officials of the Home and Finance Departments, who are entrusted by the Government with the preparation of the



measure for the compulsory insurance against fire of buildings throughout the Empire, visited the scene of the recent conflagration in Tokio, on Wednesday last, in company with Dr. Mayet, of the Finance Department, who has already taken much interest in the proposed scheme.

Mr. Tanaka, of the Agricultural Bureau, accompanied by several officers of the Department, has left the capital for Osaka, in order to arrange for the opening of the forthcoming exhibition, to be held there next month.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* contains a rumour that a special meeting of the local assembly will be held in Tokio shortly, to consider the advisability of adopting a building act, with a view of preventing the disastrous fires so frequent in the capital.

A fire took place at Shigetara, in the province of Kazusa, about 10 o'clock a.m. on the 10th ultimo. It soon spread in various directions, and was not extinguished until about 2 o'clock p.m., after having destroyed four hundred and nine houses.

The family of the late General Kawaji, the Chief of Police, were presented with the sum of five thousand yen by the Government at the end of last year.

Their Excellencies Sanjo and Iwakura have each presented the sum of one hundred and fifty yen to the sufferers by the late fire in Hakodate.

On Tuesday evening, Mr. Wooyeno, Vice-Assistant Minister of the Foreign Department, entertained His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa at a banquet.

A fire occurred in the boarding establishment connected with the Tokio Normal School on the 5th instant, and was not extinguished until three buildings had been totally destroyed.

From the *Hochi Shinbun* we learn that Mr. Under-Secretary Obana, who is stationed at Ogasawara-jima, in the Bonin Islands, has sent in a report, in which he recommends the cattle now on the Chi-chi-shima (father island) shall be removed to the Haha-shima (mother island) a course which he thinks would prove very beneficial to agriculture. Mr. Obana also recommends that a harbour should be formed at Haha-shima for the convenience of shipping at the islands. The report states that five foreigners resident on the islands, have taken out licenses during the past year, for hunting and felling timber. A Spaniard who went out fishing has not since been heard of, and is supposed to be drowned.

An association has been formed by the political agitators of the three provinces of Bizen, Bitchin, and Minasaka. They propose to memorialize the government, urging the advisability of at once establishing a national assembly, and two members have been appointed to proceed to Tokio and present the memorial. Messrs. Nishi and Takenchi of Okayama, will accompany the deputation in the capacity of advisers.

Assistant Police Inspector Sawa, who went to Europe together with the late General Kawaji, is shortly expected to return to Japan.

It is said by the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, that His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa presented one thousand five hundred yen to the officers appointed to receive foreign visitors, for their attention during his stay at the Enriokwan. The Duke has also forwarded three hundred yen to the Tokio Fucho, to be added to the relief fund for the sufferers from the late great fire in Tokio.

A fire occurred at Funasaki Mura, in the province of Settsu about 2 a.m. on the 7th instant. Sixty-seven houses were destroyed and three persons lost their lives, before it was extinguished.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 28th December, 1879.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 8,075.92
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,140.98

Total.....\$ 9,216.90

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 6,661.85
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 886.25

Total.....\$ 7,548.10

Miles open 18.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 4th January, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$7,691.71
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$1,034.87

Total.....\$8,726.58

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$7,023.28
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 890.47

\$7,913.75

Miles open 18.

##### KORE AND OOTZU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 28th December, 1879.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$10,734.60
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 3,123.31

Total.....\$13,857.91

Miles open 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 8,294.33
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,656.09

Total.....\$ 9,950.42

Miles open 47.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 4th January, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 8,784.99
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,602.03

Total.....\$10,387.02

Miles open, 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 6,882.82
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,402.08

Total.....\$ 8,284.90

Miles open 47.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

London, December 8th.—Obituary: The Duke of Portland.

St. Petersburg, December 8th.—Prince Gortschakoff has resumed the direction of Foreign Affairs.

London, December 8th.—The Board of Trade returns of exports for the past month amount to £17,062,500, showing an increase of £1,093,750 as compared with last year.

Mr. Gladstone has arrived at Hawarden, after being everywhere most enthusiastically received on his tour.

The steamer "Eldorado," onward bound to Colombo and Calcutta, has put into Plymouth for repairs, having encountered a heavy gale in the Bay of Biscay.

Lahore, December 8th.—Yakub Khan arrived at Peshawar to-day and is quartered in barracks guarded by one officer and 90 men. The Safedsung camp is removed to Gundamuck, as the medical authorities condemned it as too cold.

Sofia, December 8th.—A new Bulgarian Ministry has been formed.

London, December 9th.—Thomas Breunann, the land agitator lately arrested at Dublin, has been committed for trial. Bail was accepted.

Madrid, December 9th.—The Spanish Ministry has resigned owing to a determination to abolish slavery and introduce other reforms in Cuba. A new Ministry has been formed by Senor Canovas del Castillo.

London, December 10th.—Lord Salisbury, in a speech at Watford yesterday, praised the manner in which the Afghan War had been conducted, and especially referred to General Roberts as "our great hero."

The Queen has received at Windsor the recipients of the Order of the Bath, and has decorated the officers and men who also distinguished themselves in the Afghan and Zulu wars.

London, December 10th.—A Company has been formed to work the Wynnad gold mines, with a capital of £100,000



The *Times*, in a leading article, announced that a reduction of 4,000 in the British army is intended.

St. Petersburg, December 10th.—The Nihilists have owned to being the perpetrators of the attempt to assassinate the Czar.

In a speech by the Czar at St. Petersburg, his Majesty hoped that Russia would develop her resources in paths of peace.

London, December 11th.—An authoritative denial is given from Berlin to the report published by the *Morning Post* that the German Government intended resuming the sales of silver.

Alexandria, December 11th.—A letter from King John of Abyssinia to the Khedive expresses his readiness for peace with Egypt, if the Great Powers will recognise the conditions thereof. An Egyptian battalion has been ordered to proceed to Massowah.

Kuttra, December 11th.—The fine upon Kabul city will be probably fifty lacs, £500,000. Kashim Khan, the son of Dehra, who is a prisoner, has been appointed Governor of Turkistan; Gholam Hyder, the nominal Governor, having ignored our overtures.

London, December 12th.—The officers distinguished for their services in the Zulu campaign dined with the Queen yesterday. The *Daily News* publishes a telegram stating that the Tekke Turcomans have made raid close in to Tchikislan. The *Times* publishes a telegram from Kabul giving the opinions at army head-quarters respecting the Afghan settlement and urges adherence to the Treaty of Gundamuck and the evacuation of territory while safe and honourable. England, it adds, demands the rest which is urgently necessary.

London, December 13th.—The *Daily News* publishes a telegram stating that a deal of serious fighting has taken place at Kabul.

#### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

##### A FORECAST OF THE YEAR.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimben*.)

IN the discharge of our duty as journalists, we cannot confine ourselves to simply congratulating our readers on the opening of another new year. We think it incumbent upon us to give a brief summary of the most important events or questions which may reasonably be expected to attract most attention during this thirteenth year of Meiji, which has just commenced. It is of course at present impossible to say if these different matters will prove advantageous to Japan, or the contrary, but one thing is quite certain, that they will be either one or the other.

Looking back to the past history of the country, we find that the question of the rights of the people first began to be agitated in the sixth year of Meiji (1873), when the Cabinet became divided in opinion on the subject. Ever since then this question has been assuming greater prominence year by year and been growing in popular estimation, like water running in a stream, or weeds blown by the wind. The opinions first enunciated on this subject were impracticable and void of all reason or sense, so that the holders of those opinions were unable to exercise their legitimate influence. Of late, however, a great alteration has taken place, societies in furtherance of this object have been formed all through the country, and efforts have been made to force the matter upon the favourable consideration of the Cabinet. Amongst other similar meetings we may mention that of the Aikokusha (Patriotic Society), which held a meeting in Osaka last year, and discussed at great length the most advisable steps necessary to be adopted in order to secure the establishment of a National Assembly. This important political association finally determined to present a petition to His Majesty the Emperor next March, urging upon him to grant their request. Nor have the "Aikokusha" been singular in their action in this matter, other political societies have joined with them in furtherance of their object, while other societies again, preferring to act independently, are about to present separate petitions praying for the same boon to be granted. This question of a National Assembly we consider one of the most important which will occupy the public mind during this year.

Treaty Revision, the negotiations for which were resumed last year, is also a grave matter, but the result is as yet unknown. The Ministers are charged with the labour of carrying on the negotiations, but many patriotic men in the empire have assisted in demonstrating the disadvantage of the existing treaties, and the various newspapers and different Chambers of Commerce have, by their articles and memorials, shown that the unanimous voice of the nation calls for their revision. We cannot say if our efforts to be rid of these trammels will succeed this year but, at any rate, the question is one of great importance.

The dispute between Japan and China has not yet, apparently, been settled. Conferences have taken place; General Grant has offered his advice, and lately we learnt that an alliance had been formed by China and Russia on this Loochoo dispute. It appears certain that the matter will come to a head this year, and it certainly is worthy of mention from its gravity and importance. There are other interesting questions which we cannot deal with; numerous trifling matters which our space will not permit us to refer to in detail.

As we have already stated there are many important subjects for consideration this year, which will, we think, be a momentous one for Japan. Such great questions as the establishment of a National Assembly, Treaty Revision, and the settlement of the dispute with China, cannot be successfully arranged without extreme difficulty; and it will be indeed a source of great happiness to our people, if the close of the present year witnesses a satisfactory settlement of these matters. If, on the contrary, we are unable to achieve our desires, how great will be the miseries entailed upon us? Ah! If we could only induce the public to interest themselves in these great national questions, then it would be no idle phrase our lauding this as the "happy new year" according to the custom of Japan and, indeed, of the whole world also.

#### THE RELEASE OF FUJITA AND NAKANO.

(From the *Fuso Shinshi*.)

HOW erroneous was our opinion regarding the suspicious case of Fujita and others! When the said matter first came to light in Osaka, the public at once supposed that the charge brought against them was one of counterfeiting and like offences. The rumours current produced, for a time, an uneasy effect in the money market, but very fortunately Mr. Godai Tomotatsu, in the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, having decidedly stigmatized all such reports as false, public opinion changed, and it was openly asserted on all sides that the imputation was baseless. Indeed, of late, rumour was busy every day affirming that the accused would shortly be acquitted. However, from the first to the last, we never gave credence to these statements. It must be borne in mind that it is a matter of great delicacy to arrest a man. Now, not only did the public officers who are bound to respect the rights of other people, arrest Fujita and Nakano, who had already obtained a certain popularity among the community, but they had taken such measures to accomplish their object in a speedy and effectual manner, that their work was done with the rapidity of a thunder-clap. Hence we thought that those people must be more or less guilty, no matter in what degree. We formed that opinion because we have always trusted our police officers so thoroughly that we would not listen to any popular censure of their proceedings. However, according to what we have now learned, those implicated in the Fujita affair have been absolved, and were set at liberty on the 26th ultimo, furnished with the daily fees for attendance in Court, and their travelling expenses; we repeat how mistaken was our opinion regarding this case! Still the matter truly wore a suspicious aspect, and its details have been kept so uncommonly secret that it is impossible to form a correct estimate of any report which we hear on the subject. When the first rumours became current, we wanted to believe in the police officers: to be convinced that they had not been careless; but we have sometimes had to hear contrary statements, and we have therefore had cause to regret that if the investigations, as was sometimes said, were to result in a decision of "not guilty," the consequence would be the creation of a popular sentiment that our Government does not respect the rights of the people, but

acts as if it were not worth while to protect the lives and property of its subjects. Again when we further considered the matter, we saw that if the accused were released, the Government should admit the real consequences of its careless proceeding and publicly apologise. Fujita and Nakano having lost their personal freedom for several months, finding their honour defamed and themselves damaged in their vocations and property, should demand from the Government that means should be adopted sufficiently to dispel the unjust suspicion cast upon them in the eyes of the public. The real state of affairs should be clearly made known on all sides. Indeed, we have expected up to this moment that the deliberations and conclusions of justice in the case would be published; but having only heard rumours of the release of the accused, we feel still as if we were wandering in a dense fog. What does the public think about it?

## LAW REPORTS.

## IN THE IMPERIAL GERMAN CONSULAR COURT.

Before E. ZAPPE, Esq., Consul.

Friday, January 9th, 1880.

H. ANDERSEN *vs.* RAYMOND, BARON STILLFRIED.

Mr. Kirkwood appeared for plaintiff; defendant appeared personally.

Mr. Kirkwood stated that by judgment rendered in this Court on the 26th of July, 1879, defendant was forbidden for a term of ten years from the 30th of June, 1878, to trade either in Japan or from Japan in photographs, taken by himself, but that defendant had acted in flagrant contravention of that judgment inasmuch as he by a bill of sale executed on the 6th of December, 1879, and on the same day registered in the U.S. Consulate General, had sold to his brother Baron Francis Stillfried for \$6,000 "all those photographic instruments, lenses and camera, stock, materials, negatives and pictures now in and upon the said house and premises known as No. 80, Yokohama," knowing that his brother intended offering the pictures thus bought for sale in Yokohama; and the said Baron Francis Stillfried had actually since then offered for sale and sold from these pictures. He was ready to prove these allegations by the register of the United States Consulate General, by the original bill of sale in the possession either of Baron Francis or of Baron Raymond Stillfried, and by the evidence of Mr. David Welsh, who had been engaged by defendant to sell pictures for him. He asked that the judgment rendered by this Court on the 26th of July, 1879, be enforced and that defendant be made to pay costs.

Defendant utterly denied to have sold to his brother any Japanese negatives or photographs whatsoever, he has not sold to his brother any photographs whatsoever, and the negatives he has sold him were all either East-Indian or Chinese, which in his opinion do not come within the terms of the judgment of 26th of July last. He produced the bill of sale, that had been registered in the United States Consulate, and also an inventory of the objects sold, and he explained that the reason why this inventory had not been annexed to the bill of sale was, that on the day when the bill of sale was executed, those objects were not all unpacked and could therefore not be specified, and the solicitor, Mr. Litchfield, who drew up the bill of sale, declared it unnecessary that the inventory should be affixed to the bill of sale. He asked that the plaintiff's demand be rejected and plaintiff made to pay costs.

Mr. Kirkwood admitted that the bill of sale now produced was the one to which he had referred. He urged that this bill of sale expressly mentions *all* the negatives and pictures now on the premises No. 80, and he was ready to prove, that there were on the 6th of December, many Japanese pictures, both negatives and photographs, on those premises. He would prove that by the evidence of Mr. David Welsh, to whom Baron Francis Stillfried had handed such photographs for sale.

Defendant did not at all deny that Japanese negatives and photographs were on that day on the premises No. 80, which is the joint residence of himself and his brother; but he denies having sold them. More than a month before the bill of sale was executed, he had in Tokio made his

brother a present of all his Japanese negatives, and they were therefore on the date of the bill of sale already the property of his brother. Japanese photographs he has neither given nor sold to his brother; all the Japanese photographs, that on the 6th of December were in No. 80, had been taken by his brother personally. He added that unless a negative be *retouched* it is unfit for use, and the present he made his brother of old negatives was therefore absolutely valueless, until his brother had himself taken the trouble to *retouch* them and thus again make them fit for use. On this point he wished that the Court would take the evidence of an expert. He also asked, that his brother be called as a witness and examined with regard to the whole transaction, especially as to the declaration of Mr. Litchfield. He wished to observe to the Court that the plaintiff is persecuting him with an implacable rancour.

Mr. Kirkwood insisted on the term *all* in the bill of sale, and protested against the tenor of a written document being in any way affected by defendant's present explanations.

The Court declined to call any expert as demanded by defendant, and also to hear the evidence of defendant's brother.

Defendant then asked that the servants of the house be called to prove his allegation about negatives and photographs. He declared that he always had strictly complied with the judgment of this Court rendered in July last, and he mentioned the names of several persons, to whom he, since that judgment was rendered, had refused to sell photographs; but he could surely not be prohibited from making his brother a present of negatives, which to himself were entirely worthless.

Judgment was reserved, and will be rendered on Friday, the 16th instant, at 9 a.m.

## IN THE IMPERIAL GERMAN CONSULAR COURT.

Before E. ZAPPE, Esquire, Consul.

Messrs. F. GROSSER, AND A. SCHULTZE, Assessors.

Tuesday, January 6th, 1880.

FRANTZ BARON STILLFRIED *vs.* STILLFRIED AND ANDERSEN.

(Adjourned from the 30th ultimo.)

THE COURT TO-DAY DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING JUDGMENT.

*The facts of the case.*

The plaintiff at the hearing of this case asked, that the defendant firm be condemned to pay him \$147.50 and costs, and he alleged in support of this demand that he in April 1876, was by his brother Raymond, Baron Stillfried, commissioned to represent the interest of the said firm as their exhibitor at the Philadelphia Exhibition 1876, and to take delivery from the firm of Wilson & Co., in Philadelphia, of an invoice of photographs belonging to the firm of Stillfried and Andersen. He asserts that he has fulfilled that commission, and therefore, as well as for the outlay therewith connected he now demands \$147.50, and says, that he, in the course of the year 1876, rendered account to his brother Raymond, but then stated that he would see himself refunded later by sending the firm of Stillfried and Andersen an order for Japanese curios. His brother on behalf of the firm, admitted his account as correct, but the settling of the account had been neglected.

The defendant firm has in the first place demanded security for the eventual payment of costs, and then contended that it never commissioned the plaintiff to represent it, and that, if plaintiff has received such a commission from Baron Raymond Stillfried, such commission must have been to represent the private interests of the latter, and not the interests of the defendant firm. The defendant firm has further demanded that plaintiff produce vouchers in proof of his alleged outlay on behalf of defendants.

Plaintiff has denied defendants' assertions, and asked that Baron Raymond be heard as witness, and also that the press-copy be produced of a letter written by Mr. Anderson, on behalf of the firm of Stillfried & Andersen, to Wilson & Co. in Philadelphia, in which the latter firm, among other things, was requested to deliver the pictures to the plaintiff, —or that Mr. Andersen take his oath that he never wrote such a letter. The evidence of the witness was received during hearing on the 30th December, when also the letter in question was produced.

*The law of the case.*

To prove his claim, it is incumbent upon plaintiff to prove that he in the year, 1876, was commissioned by the firm of Stillfried and Andersen, or one of the then partners of that firm, to represent certain interests of the said firm, as more fully mentioned in the petition, at the Philadelphia Exhibition, and that he is justified in therefore claiming \$147.50. The witness Raymond von Stillfried is not only a relative of the plaintiff, but has also an interest of his own in the issue of this law suit, and his sole evidence would therefore not be sufficient to prove the truth of the assertion that the commission in question had actually been given; but this deficiency in the proof is fully supplied by the letter which Mr. Andersen on behalf of the firm of Stillfried and Andersen, wrote to Wilson & Co. in Philadelphia. This letter orders, in clear and unequivocal terms to deliver to plaintiff those pictures which Stillfried and Andersen had sent to Wilson & Co. for use at the exhibition, and refers to plaintiff as ready to refund any outlay hitherto made by Wilson & Co. Mr. Andersen's assertion, that he was not aware that his former partner Raymond Stillfried had already authorized the plaintiff, sounds improbable, considering his own communication to Wilson & Co. It is not to be assumed that a man of business requests another man of business to deliver property entrusted to his care to a third person and to apply to the latter for payment of his claim for expenses, without this third party having been made aware of the service that is required from him, and without his consent having been secured. When, therefore, Mr. Andersen did not notify plaintiff of the delivery to him by Wilson & Co., of the pictures, then it may be presumed that he omitted it because he knew that plaintiff either had received, or would receive, the necessary instructions from his partner. It being thus considered proven that the commission was given, it remains to examine whether plaintiff is now justified in suing the defendants firm for payment of his claim, and whether the amount of his claim is satisfactorily established.

As to the first question the answer must be in favour of plaintiff, considering the terms of Art. 114 in the *Handels-Gesetz-Buch*:

"Each of the partners, who represent a firm, has power to transact any kind of business on behalf of the firm."

"The transactions made on behalf of the firm by one of its active partners carry rights and obligations for the firm; it makes no difference whether the transaction was made expressly in the name of the firm, or whether it appears from the circumstances that it was the will of the contracting parties that the transaction should be on behalf of the firm."

It is according to the article evident, that in deciding the question whether the partner of a firm is responsible for debts contracted by his co-partner, it is irrelevant whether the co-partner, *vis-à-vis* his partner, was empowered to contract such a debt, but the sole point is whether the debts were made by the co-partner in his own name or in the name of the firm, and the Art. 114 says plainly, that in this respect makes no difference whatever, whether the transaction or the contract was made expressly in the name of the firm, or whether it only appears from the circumstances that it was the will of the contracting parties that the contract should be on behalf of the firm. From this point of view it also becomes irrelevant, that the letter written by Raymond von Stillfried to plaintiff, which contained the commission in question, was signed, not with the name of the firm, but only "Raymond," a signature that is easily explained by the relationship between the correspondents and the nature of the business, of which the letter treated. Defendant is at present the sole owner of the former mercantile firm of Stillfried & Andersen; he has taken over the business, and under these circumstances he is responsible for the fulfilment of the earlier business liabilities; it has never been averred by Mr. Andersen that he has not assumed the liabilities of the former firm.

The court has therefore no choice but to declare the firm of Stillfried and Andersen liable for all the expenses arising from the commission in question.

On the other hand the defendant is undoubtedly entitled to demand that the plaintiff produce a regular account current, with proper vouchers. The bill that is annexed to the petition is insufficient, and in the same is at once to be cancelled the item of \$25, which the plaintiff charges

for his trouble, because he had told Raymond von Stillfried, while the latter was still a partner in the firm, that he renounced that remuneration, and this remuneration must now be carried to the credit of the defendant firm.

The allegation, that Raymond von Stillfried had formerly admitted the accounts as correct is not proven, because the single testimony of Raymond von Stillfried is not sufficient to constitute such proof.

For these reasons the court decides:—

The firm of Stillfried & Andersen is held bound to refund the plaintiff Baron Francis Stillfried the outlay which the latter has made on behalf of the defendant at the exhibition in Philadelphia in the year 1876, in consequence of a commission entrusted to him by the defendants firm; but it is also now declared that the plaintiff is not entitled to claim the \$25 for this trouble. For the rest, the plaintiff is ordered to prove his bill and bring satisfactory evidence that he has expended \$122.50 on behalf of the defendants firm.

As to costs, the judicial costs are divided equally between both parties; the extra-judicial costs are thrown out.

## INVESTIGATION.

Into the circumstances connected with the stranding of the Mitsui Bishi Co.'s steam-ship *Kiushiu Maru*, at Samusawa, on the 30th of September, 1879.

The following is the decision of the Court:—

From the evidence adduced it appears that the steam-ship *Kiushiu Maru*, of 1,216 tons gross and 112 horse power, William Sherett Davison, master, on the 28th day of September last, came to a single anchor off the village of Samusawa, the port bower being used and 9 fathoms of chain veered on it; the weight of this anchor was 22 cwt., and the size of the chain, 1½ inch.

About 5 o'clock p.m. on the 29th, her stern touched on the eastern bank whilst swinging to the ebb tide, the anchor having come home; the cable was hove on but the anchor continued to come home; a hawser was then made fast to the opposite shore and by it at about 6.20 p.m. the vessel was hove off, and then anchored in mid channel. At this time the barometer was falling and a southerly swell setting into the harbour. At about 8.30 p.m. the vessel swung to the flood, that is to say, with her head to the southward, and, as the weather was getting worse and the swell increasing, the master deemed it prudent to remove to the outer anchorage, which he accordingly did, and there anchored her by the port bower in 3½ fathoms of water, veering to 30 fathoms of chain. At midnight on the 29th it was blowing a fresh gale from the south, with a heavy swell setting into the harbour. At 7.30 a.m. on the 30th, it was blowing a strong gale from the southward, and the vessel being swung to the ebb tide was sheering about very much and started her anchor, in consequence of which the starboard one was also let go (the weight of this anchor was 16 cwt., and the size of the chain 1½ inch,) and 15 fathoms of chain veered on its cable, and at the same time the port one was slackened away to 45 fathoms.

The Master stated that at this time he would have weighed and proceeded to Okinohama for shelter, but the vessel being very light, and heading the wrong way, he did not consider it prudent to start his anchor in such a strong tide. At 10 a.m., it being slack water, the master decided on making for Okinohama, and with this intention commenced heaving on both cables; at 10.30 the starboard anchor was sighted and held by claws attached to the chain, and the cable hung off the windlass. The port cable was then hove on, and when about one fathom of it was in when the vessel took a broad sheer to port and the cable parted. The engines were put on full speed ahead, and the order given to get the starboard anchor ready for letting go, and the main try-sail set; but before the anchor could be let go, or the vessel gather steerage way, she struck heavily ast, on the eastern bank, and her head fell off before the wind; at this time she was drawing from 12ft. 6in. to 13ft. 6in. aft and 8ft. forward. The engines were then turned full speed astern, but the vessel kept forging ahead and striking heavily; the master then finding the vessel would not come off, and knowing there was a sandy beach ahead opposite the village of Samusawa, ordered the engines full speed ahead and ran the vessel hard and fast on this sandy bottom.



From this position a stream anchor was run out, and a hawser made fast to the opposite shore. The following morning the weather moderated, when the cargo was discharged, and on the 1st of October she was got off, and ultimately towed to Okinohama.

The damage sustained whilst the vessel was striking was very considerable, a large portion of her bottom having to be renewed in consequence.

From the parting of the port cable till the striking of the vessel a space of about 4 minutes elapsed, during which time she must have drifted a distance of at least one cable. Had the starboard anchor been let go immediately the port cable parted, it is probable it would have prevented her going on shore, but the delay appears to have been due to the old and awkward anchor gear with which this vessel is fitted, and not to any fault on the part of the master or mates.

The stranding of this vessel was due to the parting of the cable, and we do not attach any blame to the Master, William Sherrett Davison, but we think he did all that he could under the circumstances he expected of him, and therefore recommended his certificate of competency should be returned to him.

We would take this opportunity of calling the attention of owners, and others interested in shipping, to the importance of having their vessels supplied with ground tackle of sufficient weight, and of good quality, and, to ensure the latter, would recommend that no anchors or chains should be used that have not been tested at a Licensed Public Testing Machine, as is required by Lloyd's and the other principal registries of shipping. Anchors and chains not so tested are as a rule of very inferior workmanship and material, and should be regarded with suspicion. A certificate from a Licensed Public Testing House should accompany every anchor, and each 14 fathoms of chain.

The Master stated that the chart of Samusawa, No. 81, ("Sketch Survey") is very incorrect, and as this is a Harbour of some importance we recommend steps should be taken to have a careful survey made of the same.

(Signed) A. R. BROWN,  
F. KNIPPING,  
JAS. ELLERTON.

Tokio, January 7th, 1880.

I hereby approve of this decision, and direct that the Master's certificate of competency be returned to him forthwith.

(Signed) H. MAYESHIMA,  
Vice-Minister, Home Department.

## A DEADLY FEUD: A TALE FROM FRANCE.

BY RUDOLPH LINDAU.

At sixty-five M. Isidore Tisson, professor of History at the University of Montpellier, had still one great passion and one dear friend. He was a collector of rare books, and loved to be called a *bibliophile*. His friend's name was Colonel Casimir Coste.

M. Tisson had been a widower thirty years. His two daughters—who, after their mother's death, had been educated by an old aunt of a very religious turn of mind—were both married. One of them was settled at Nîmes; the other at Lunel. They were highly proper and highly respected ladies, who punctually performed all their duties without a murmur and without any pleasure. They paid their father frequent but short and formal visits, and never stopped a night in Montpellier, so that they in no way interfered with the quiet routine of the Professor's life.

Colonel Coste was a bachelor. Isidore Tisson and Casimir Coste, whose parents had been next-door neighbours, had begun to play together when they were only five years old. They had been to the same school, and had parted for the first time when they were seventeen. Tisson then went to the University of Toulouse, while Coste was sent to the military college of St. Cyr. They did not meet again for forty years, and by that time they had completely forgotten each other. During this long interval M. Tisson had published several learned works, and had obtained the chair of Professor of History in his native town. Coste had fought the Bedouins in Algeria and the Russians at Sebastopol, and had been obliged to retire from active service in consequence of a severe wound received at the storming of Fort Malakoff. He was a lieutenant-colonel, and an officer of the Legion of Honour. On leaving the hospital, the lonely, weary man returned to his native town, which he had not visited since the days of his youth. But he had often felt a strange longing to spend there in quiet the evening of his restless life, and now he hoped to do so.

He found Montpellier but little altered during the long years of his absence, and soon recognised in one of its narrow streets the very house in which his parents had lived and where he was born. It so chanced that a small apartment was to be let there. He hired it, furnished it simply, and established himself there at once.

Behind the house was a large garden; and the Colonel, as a favoured tenant, obtained permission of the landlord to walk in it when he chose.

One evening in September, as Coste was passing up and down the gravel-walk in this garden, smoking his short pipe and thinking of Africa, the Crimea, and friends that were dead or lost, he heard himself called in a fashion that startled him—

"Casimir!"

For nearly forty years no one had called him by that name. His superiors and his soldiers during that time had addressed him successively as lieutenant, captain, major, and colonel; his brother officers as Coste. He had lost his father and mother many years ago, and had never had any brothers or sisters. He might well have forgotten that he had a Christian name, and now some one was calling him by it!

"Casimir! Casimir!"

He turned round and saw at a window of the first floor of the house next to his own a middle-aged gentleman, who was smiling and nodding to him in the most friendly manner. For a moment the Colonel remained motionless. Then with an oath, which it was his habit to utter whenever he wanted to express joy, anger, astonishment, or, in short, any sudden emotion, he called out in return—

"Isidore! Is it possible?"

A few minutes later the Professor was in the garden with his friend. He told him that he had returned that very morning from a trip which he had taken during the vacation, and had only just learned that a Colonel Coste, a native of Montpellier, had come to live next door.

"I at once thought it must be you, and would have called upon you to ascertain if my conjecture was correct, but I saw you in the garden and recognised you at once. You are not a bit altered."

The Colonel upon this laughed so loudly that the sparrows in the trees flew away in affright. "Well," he said, "I think that's just a little exaggeration. When I accompanied you to the diligence that took you to Toulouse you were a handsome, slender lad, with a soft down on your upper lip and a profusion of dark curly locks. Now you can boast of a very respectable circumference, and your dark hair has turned grey.—I was then a mere boy, with bright eyes, sound teeth, active legs, and a magnificent head of hair which I used to part sometimes on the right, sometimes on the left side, not being sure which way was most becoming. Now I require spectacles to read, I munch like a rabbit because I have lost my back teeth, I walk lame because the Russians sent a bullet into my right leg, and I have so little hair left that the natural parting of it reaches nearly from one ear to another. Frankly, I cannot think I am very like the Casimir you knew."

"Still I recognised you at once. I would have known you among thousands, and would have said: 'That's my old friend and school-fellow, Casimir Coste.'"

"Well! and did I, I should like to know, hesitate as to your name?"

Then the two old gentlemen shook hands for the twentieth time, and laughed, while their eyes grew moist. Both talked at the same time, so that neither understood what the other was saying, until at last they came to regular questioning.

"Are you married?"

"No; and you?"

"I have been a widower many years."

"Children?"

"Two married daughters."

"Here, in Montpellier?"

"No; one at Lunel and one at Nîmes.—Are you going to live in Montpellier?"

"Of course; and you?"

"I am Professor at the University. But come; it is getting cold. Pascal, my old housekeeper, shall give us some supper. We will drink a bottle of rare wine and have a good chat together."

The Colonel made no objection, and the two friends sat together till a late hour in the Professor's snug drawing-room, telling each other the simple stories of their lives. They met again the next day, and the Colonel dined at the Professor's. On taking leave he invited his old friend to be his guest the next day at the *table d'hôte* where he was in the regular habit of taking his meals.

"I have never kept house," the Colonel said, "and I am too old to begin now. Wherever I have been stationed, the *table d'hôte* has been my table. I hope you will dine with me there to-morrow."

But M. Tisson objected. "We dine together," he said, "because we like one another's company, not because we want to do a polite thing. I have no fancy for restaurants and hotels. There are always strangers there, and one cannot talk comfortably and freely. Besides, to tell you the truth, Pascal has spoiled me. I am accustomed to her cooking, and hotel fare does not agree with me. Please withdraw your invitation. We do not stand on ceremony. Dine here again to-morrow and the day after—every day; you cannot do me a greater favour."

The Colonel consented to dine with his friend the next day.

Two weeks went by. The friends spent several hours together every day, and the bachelor had dined, maybe, a dozen times at the widower's house, when one day after dinner—old Pascal having left the room after serving coffee—Coste lit his pipe, cleared his throat, and made the following speech, for which he had been preparing himself for the last week—

"This is all very fine, Isidore, but things cannot go on in this way."

"What do you mean?"

"I have never lived better in my life than I do now with you, yet I do not like my board."

"Why not?"

"When I was a lieutenant I used to pay sixty francs a-month for my dinner: when I became captain, it cost me eighty francs; since I have been a major, I have always reserved a hundred and fifty francs for that purpose. I must stick to these old habits to be com-



fortable: and if you cannot think of some way in which I can spend my money and have your company. I must give up dining with you."

"Excuse me, Coste, but really you are not speaking like a sensible man."

"But I have been thinking that I would be very sorry not to see your familiar face opposite me at dinner; and, somehow, I fancy you too would miss me."

"You may take your oath of that."

"And therefore I make a rational proposal to you."

"There was a long pause. The Colonel cleared his throat again."

"Well, go on," said the Professor, gently, "I see what you are driving at in that clever way; but let me tell you, I consider your proposal childish. Yes—be angry if you like—positively childish."

"Childish or not, I stick to it. And if you care as much for me as I do for you, if you are not afraid of having too much of me you will accept it."

The Professor resisted for some time. He tried hard to persuade the Colonel to continue to be his guest; but the old soldier would not yield, so the Professor had to give up.

"You were ever obstinate and self-willed," he said, "whereas I was always the good-natured and sensible one of us two. Let it be as you wish: henceforward you shall pay for your board."

But this did not settle the question. Coste proposed to pay too much—Tison asked for too little. At last they agreed that Pascal, who for thirty years had been the Professor's housekeeper, should act as arbitrator. She was what is called in France a *waitresse-femme*, and had a clear, sensible answer ready for any question that might be put to her; so after a short conference with her, it was settled that M. Tison would not be a loser if the Colonel contributed 120 francs a month. Thus this long discussion came at last to an end.

From that day a new and brighter life began for the two lonely old men, which made them forget their age, and which continued without interruption for many years. The Professor had little to do; the Colonel nothing at all. They spent many hours together every day, they walked arm in arm up and down the "Perou" and the "Esplanade"—the two principal promenades of Montpellier; they sat together in the Professor's library; or they went out together on the "Links," being passionately interested in an interminable game of "golf"—a pastime which is almost as much in honour at Montpellier, and at Montpellier alone of all French towns, as at St Andrews in Scotland. Their evenings were spent at the Club, where they found their regular whist-party. They became daily more and more dependent on each other, as happens with old people from whom the rest of the world is gradually withdrawing, who love few people, and are loved by few, and whose interest centres in a narrow circle. Very soon they became indispensable to each other. Tison became uneasy if Coste was five minutes late for dinner, and the Colonel had every morning a confidential talk with Pascaline to inquire if the "maister" had passed a good night, if his cough had been troublesome, and if he had enjoyed his breakfast. He was a regular attendant at the Professor's lectures. His venerable head, his attentive, earnest, mild countenance, soon became known to the whole University. The young students took a liking to the quiet old gentleman, and made room for him respectfully when he entered the lecture-room. And he greeted them kindly: "Good morning, gentlemen." When the lecture was over, the Colonel liked to have a talk with the Professor—often asking for explanation of some obscure point. The Professor would offer it with a pleasant smile, and with an air of innocent, gentle pride. Now and then the Colonel would quote some Latin sentence, in order to show that he, too, was not deficient in classical knowledge: "Alca jacta est," "Dulce est pro patria mori," "In vino veritas," and other sayings of that sort. On such occasions the learned Professor was wont to look a little embarrassed, though he smiled approvingly, and he would change the conversation. But when the old soldier spoke of his campaigns, the Professor, in his turn, would listen for hours, and put encouraging questions so as to induce the narrator to continue his story.

The friendship of these two old gentlemen had become proverbial. The Professor's daughters were perhaps the only beings who did not look upon it favourably. They complained of the fearful profanity of the Colonel's and of his poisoning the whole house with that horrible short pipe of his, which he smoked indiscriminately in every room of the house. "But papa approves of everything the Colonel does," they said. "Let us hope that he will have no cause to repent some day."

The remark was not quite correct, however. Their father was far from approving entirely the views and the mode of life of his friend. The Professor was an earnest Catholic, and, like most members of the upper classes in the South, a staunch Legitimist. Coste, on the other hand, possessed an inexhaustible stock of rather scandalous stories, in which priests, monks, and nuns were not always mentioned with the respect that Tison thought due to them. In politics he was a Liberal, inclining towards Republicanism. Tison would sometimes call Coste "Charraa," and the Colonel would retort by "Polignac." Their discussions, which were long and frequent, were generally brought to a close by one of them reminding the other that the time for a rubber or a game of golf was come. Then the excited countenance of his opponent would at once assume a calm expression; both would take their hats and sticks, and walk to the Club or to the "Links," chatting cheerfully by the way, as if nothing had ever disturbed the perfect harmony of their intercourse.

The terrible year—*l'année terrible*—of 1870-1871 put an end to these discussions between the two friends. Both were true patriots, and in their grief for France they forgot all differences of opinion. Both blamed the Emperor and the Empress, the Ministers and the generals, with the same severity. They believed with the same implicit confidence all the stories which were told of the heroism of the French soldiers and the barbarity of the Germans. They felt

the same indignation towards Russia, which did not hide its sympathy for the enemy; the same disdain for the English, "that nation of shopkeepers," who had forgotten Sebastopol; the same contempt for those "ungrateful" Italians, who abandoned their old ally in her distress; and they shed tears together when the news of Sedan reached Montpellier.

About this time a peculiar kind of feverish, nervous excitement had taken possession of the whole French nation. Our two friends did not escape the contagion. The cheerful equanimity of former years was gone. They never touched a card, and dust gathered on their golf clubs and balls, lying unheeded in the hall. They read the papers with passionate eagerness; they made strategical plans, and discussed them as earnestly as if armies had been at their command; they hoped against hope; they believed that the fortune of war would take another turn; they never despaired, for it seemed to them simply impossible that France, their proud, mighty, beautiful country, could succumb in a war with any other nation—and they felt almost crushed when the dreadful truth at last dawned upon them, when they knew that the power of France was broken, and they saw her, humbled to the dust, at the mercy of the conqueror.

Coste and Tison spent day after day together, silent and mournful, feeling that their common sorrow had drawn them even more closely together than the peaceful happiness of former years. But as, in spite of their advanced age, they had preserved a good deal of that liveliness and elasticity of mind which characterises the inhabitants of southern France, they shook off after a time that dull oppressive sense of gloom. Nervous irritability and great bitterness of feeling remained, however, and showed themselves in frequent and violent explosions of anger against the supposed authors of the great national misfortune.

Then the papers brought the news that a Revolution had broken out in Paris, and that the Communists had seized the reins of government. At first the two friends heard these reports almost with indifference. The wounds inflicted by the foreign foe were still so fresh that they were unable, so to speak, to feel any new pain. But soon the civil war compelled their attention. It became the principal theme of conversation. The interest in the struggle for the possession of Paris, where Frenchmen fought against Frenchmen, soon absorbed every other feeling.

It was on the 3rd of June, 1871. The day had been hot and sultry. Dark thunderclouds had gathered, and threatened a storm at every moment. The air was heavy.

The Professor was peeing up and down the dining-room in an agitated manner, waiting for the Colonel, to sit down to dinner. At last Coste arrived half an hour after the usual time. He held some half-opened crumpled newspapers in his hand, and, on entering, threw them on the table. He looked pale and disturbed.

"I have waited for the papers from Paris," he said; "read—it is horrible, incredible!"

Tison took up the papers and looked at their contents. Pascal had served the soup; the steaming plates stood before the two old men, but neither thought of touching them.

The papers reported the horrors committed by the Communists: the destruction of the Tuileries, the Hotel de Ville, the Ministry of Finance, the Cour des Comptes, &c. . . . They related the massacre of the hostages the furious fighting in the streets, and lastly, the slaughter among the "enemies of society" by the avenging Versailles troops.

Tison looked up and said, with a long-drawn breath of relief, "God be praised! The good cause has triumphed!"

"It might well have triumphed with more humanity," retorted Coste, sullenly.

"I hope you are not going to defend the Commune?" continued Tison, in an almost threatening tone.

"No," replied Coste, turning pale and speaking in a tremulous voice, "I am not going to do that. But I do think that the troops might have shown less bloodthirsty cruelty. Fifty thousand! . . . Think, Tison, what that means. . . . Fifty thousand human lives have been sacrificed! . . . Fifty thousand! It is dreadful! . . . They have shown no mercy to women and children; they have been killing as if they were destroying wild beasts!"

"They have done right!" cried Tison. "Brave men who have fought against wild beasts—a murderous crew, the scum of humanity, robbers, murderers, incendiaries!"

"Tison, Tison, think of what you are saying! You are speaking of Frenchmen, of our countrymen, our brothers!"

"Your brothers, if you please—not mine, thank God! I have nothing in common with thieves and murderers."

"Nor have I."

"You have—since you dare to defend them."

"Dare? . . . You must be out of your senses, Tison, to speak to me in this way."

"No, I am perfectly in my senses, and I tell you calmly and deliberately that it is a shame—a burning shame—that you should dare to say a word in defence of the Commune,—yes, you ought to be ashamed of yourself!"

"Recall that word, Tison! recall it, or by . . .!"

"You ought to be ashamed, I say. Shame! shame!"

The Colonel rose, pale as death, with flaming eyes. He struck the table with his clenched fist, so that the plates and glasses rattled, and he swore with a fearful oath that he would never sit down at that table or put his foot in that house again until Tison begged his pardon and retracted what he had said.

"And I declare," replied the Professor, who of a sudden had become strangely calm, but was as pale and trembling as his wretched old friend—"I declare, without the use of any blasphemous language, that the words you require me to say shall never pass my lips."

Then the Colonel went to the door, took his hat and in a moment, without another word or look, was gone. Tison heard his heavy,

halting step upon the stair. The house-door was opened and shut again; then all was still—the stillness of death.

For three whole days the Colonel and the Professor lived on their passionate wrath. Then their anger cooled, and both began to understand what they had lost. The isolation consequent on their estrangement became unbearable. Coste dared not leave his rooms for fear of meeting his old friend; the Professor crept stealthily out of his house when obliged to go to his lecture,—and the two old hearts longed for reconciliation. Yet it could not be. They thought over again and again that parting scene, and remembered every word and every look.

"He should not have insulted me at his own table in his own house," said the Colonel; and he felt he could not, in honour, break the oath he had sworn.

"He was entirely in the wrong," thought the Professor. "How could he defend the greatest rascals and criminals the world has ever seen?" And he remembered with a shudder that he had solemnly vowed never to pronounce the words which alone could induce the Colonel to return to the house as a friend.

One morning old Pascal came to the Colonel. "What have you done to my master, sir?" she asked, with tears in her eyes. "He does not eat, he does not sleep. He sits all day long in his study without opening a book or writing a line. He will see nobody, he speaks to nobody—he will die. What have you done to him, sir? Do help my poor master!"

The Colonel had always treated the faithful old servant with kind familiarity, and he was quite ready to discuss the matter with her. "You see, Pascal," he said, in conclusion, "I have sworn upon my honour never to re-enter his house until he house until he has acknowledged himself in the wrong—and I cannot break my word."

"It is a wicked thing to take an oath when in anger," said the old woman. "Ask our vicar, sir; ask the bishop himself. They will release you from your vow."

"I have given my word. No human being can help that. I must keep it." Tears stood in the dim eyes of the old soldier. He looked miserably sad, but he spoke with so much determination that Pascal felt she must give up all hope of reconciling the two friends.

Soon after this the Professor's daughters came to pay their customary visit to their father. Pascal told them what had happened. They disliked the Colonel, whose manners they considered coarse; and they merely observed that no doubt their father would soon find out that the loss he deplored now, was, in fact, a gain. They were about to say as much to their father, but he stopped them angrily, telling them with flashing eyes to keep silent on that subject or to leave the house.

For a whole month there was no change in the relations between Tisson and Coste. Their quarrel had become the subject of talk in all Montpellier, but no one felt inclined to play the part of peacemaker between the two old men.

At the end of that time the Professor went away on his usual holiday trip. For the last ten years Coste had been his companion on these occasions. They had visited together Paris, the Pyrenees, Auvergne, and Switzerland. They had enjoyed themselves everywhere. But now the Professor started alone. He thought of going first to Paris—and then? He had not settled where. He wanted to leave Montpellier. He could not bear to remain there any longer.

The Colonel stood at his window, hidden by the curtain, when the cab stopped at his neighbour's door. He felt a heavy load on his chest, and his eyes burned in their sockets when he saw the Professor leave the house with a heavy step and enter the carriage. When it had driven off, Coste hid his face in his bony hands and wept bitterly; but he experienced a sort of relief in the thought that Tisson was no longer in his immediate neighbourhood. He walked up and down his garden sadly and thoughtfully, feeling himself free and unobserved. A kind of peace stole over him; and one day, when he got up in the morning, he wrote the following letter:—

"DEAR TISSON,—I have made up my mind to leave Montpellier and to return to Algiers, where my old regiment is stationed, and where I have still a few comrades who will be company for me. They cannot make up for what I have lost; but, at any rate, I shall not feel as utterly lonely as I do here. Before I leave, never to return, I would like to meet you once more as in the good old times. I therefore beg you will write to me, on receipt of this, to appoint a place of meeting in Paris. We will, as in bygone days, have a stroll through the big town, we will dine together in the evening, and then bid each other 'good night,' as we have done for the last ten years. On the morrow I will leave Paris. You will then be able to think of me as of an absent friend from whom you have parted in peace and goodwill. My anger lasted but a few days. Since I have become cool and collected I feel the same old friendship for you which I shall ever feel, even if you reject my proposal.—Believe me, dear Tisson, your faithful friend.

"CASIMIR COSTE."

Old Pascal gave him her master's address. The Professor was staying at a small hotel in the Rue du Helder. The landlord was from Montpellier, and Coste and Tisson had lodged there on several occasions.

The second day after the despatch of this letter the Colonel received one from Paris. He at once recognised the writing of his friend, and tore open the envelope with a trembling hand. The letter consisted of a few hurried and almost illegible lines:—

"I have sworn never to pronounce the words which you require before re-entering my house; but I may tell you how hard it has been for me to keep my vow. Forgive me the pain my anger has caused you. I, too, have suffered much, and I remain, till we are parted by death, your faithful and attached friend,

"ISIDORE TISSON."

The letter fell from the Colonel's hands, and all seemed dark for a moment. When he had recovered a little he went to Pascal. She had received no tidings of her master. Coste then telegraphed to the landlord in Paris begging to be informed of the health of the Professor. In a few hours the answer came back,—Professor Tisson had died suddenly. He had been found dead in his bed on the morning of the preceding day. The funeral was to take place on the morrow. The daughters of the Professor had been communicated with.

Coste started that same evening for Paris, and arrived there a few hours after the funeral. He saw the daughters and sons-in-law of his friend at the hotel. They were in deep mourning, but appeared to bear their loss with great equanimity. They seemed surprised at the Colonel's troubled countenance when he entered their room unannounced in his dusty travelling dress, and they answered his inquiries briefly and precisely. Their father had had a stroke. He had gone to bed in his usual health at ten o'clock, and had been found dead the next morning. The doctor thought he must have died about eleven. At any rate, he had been dead some hours when found; and he had died, they hoped, without pain.

Coste went the next morning to visit the grave. On his return to the hotel he was informed that "the family from the south" had left Paris after ordering a "pretty" tombstone to be placed on the Professor's grave.

The landlord M. Doucet, a great talker, who had known Coste for many years, and was particularly fond of having a chat with him under ordinary circumstances, became unusually silent and reserved when the Colonel asked him for the particulars of his friend's death. He was evidently concealing the truth, and Coste determined to find it out. He bribed the waiter, who at first held back; but when the Colonel promised faithfully not to betray him, the man related in a nervous, frightened manner all the knew.

M. Tisson had arrived five days ago. He went out little, dined alone in his own room, and spoke to no one in the house. On Friday morning he wrote several letters, which he posted himself. About ten o'clock he ordered some tea, and told the waiter that he was going to bed, adding that he did not wish to be disturbed before the next morning.

"When I knocked at his door on Saturday morning at nine; to give him a letter that had arrived from Montpellier, I received no answer, and finding the door was locked on the inside I became alarmed. I called M. Doucet, who sent at once for the police, and in presence of the 'Commissaire' the door was opened. M. Doucet, the 'Commissaire,' and a doctor who had come with him, were the only people who went into the room. My master told me to stand at the door and not to let any one go in. I had to wait a long while. When those three came out of the room, M. Doucet was as pale as a ghost. He took me aside and said: 'I trust that you, an old servant of the house, will not talk. It would damage the reputation of the hotel.' I promised to be silent, and up to this moment I have not opened my lips about it to a single soul, nor will I do so again. But you were an old friend of M. Tisson's, and ought to know the truth. A little later the doctor returned with an assistant. They locked themselves into the room where the dead body was lying, and remained there about an hour. Late at night, so as not to alarm the other visitors, the coffin was brought quietly into the house. The next morning M. Tisson's relations arrived. They asked to see the body, and I followed them into the little drawing-room where it was laid out. The features of the dead man were not distorted, they were yellow as wax. Round the neck was placed a broad white cravat, which reached up almost to the ears. I felt a cold shudder when I saw it. I told M. Doucet in a whisper that it looked very horrible. He made me a sign to be silent, and seemed very agitated. It's my opinion, sir, that M. Tisson laid violent hands upon himself and—"

Coste turned deadly pale, staggered back, and sank into a chair. The waiter sprinkled some cold water on his face and gave him something to drink. When he had recovered from the shock, the man entreated him once more not to betray him, and then quietly left the room.

A few days later Colonel Coste returned to Montpellier, but only to superintend the removal of his simple furniture and belongings to Paris, where he settled in a remote part of the town at no great distance from the cemetery where Tisson was buried. He lived there for a year in sadness and solitude. Then his health began to fail, and at the end of a few weeks he was confined to his bed. The doctor advised him to take a Sister of Charity as a sick-nurse, as he had no relation or friend to take care of him. Coste assented to everything. The nurse came, and performed her duties carefully. She was a strong young woman, with a smooth calm face, fair, with rosy cheeks—a face that looked as if it belonged to one pure in body and mind. She nursed the lonely helpless old man carefully, unwearyingly, without anxiety and without hope, as she had nursed for years many other sick and dying people.

"He is getting weaker and weaker," she said one day to the doctor. "He does not know me now."

The Colonel lay on his bed, with half-closed eyes, breathing feebly. The doctor felt the pulse, forehead, and heart of his patient, and said, while slowly drawing on his gloves—

"I do not think he will hold out through the day. I will look in again to-night; in the meantime you may go on with the medicine I prescribed yesterday."

The sister nodded, and when the doctor was gone, took up some needlework, with which she busied herself whenever the patient did not require her attendance.

The day passed quietly, without any perceptible change in the state of the dying man. When it grew dark the sister left the room noiselessly to fetch a lighted lamp. The door had remained ajar. From the next room she thought she heard the patient speak, and hurried back to his bedside. He had raised himself from his pillows, and his face, which she could not well distinguish in the dim twilight, seemed to her to have grown younger. His eyes, which

during the whole day had remained half closed, were now wide open, and looked kindly and peacefully around. That indescribably sweet smile with which so many weary ones greet the approach of peace-bringing death lighted up his countenance.

"It is getting dark," he whispered. "Wait for me, Isidore; we will go home together."

He fell back on the pillow. His breathing became slower—slower and fainter—then ceased.

The sister remained for a few moments perfectly still. She then left the room, and soon returned with the lighted lamp. She raised it above the head of the dead man, so that the bright light fell upon his pale, emaciated, and calm features. She looked at him attentively, without tenderness, without sorrow, or indeed any visible sign of emotion, turned quietly away, and after placing the lamp on the table, returned to the bed to close the eyes of the departed. In the same methodical way she smoothed the pillow and placed the quiet head carefully and gently upon it, drew the sheet up to the chin of the dead man, and placed a crucifix in the cold hands, after having folded them above the counterpane. Then she lighted two candles, and placed one at the head and the other at the foot of the bed. Lastly, she took a small bottle and poured the holy water which it contained into a saucer, already prepared for the purpose, which stood by the bedside. When she had attended to all this without hurry, or without hesitation, she looked around as if to see if anything else remained to be done. Her calm searching glance surveyed with the same serious composure the corpse, the tapers, the crucifix, the saucer with the holy water; and when she had satisfied herself that nothing had been omitted, and that everything was in perfect order, she drew from her pocket a little, well-worn, black book, opened it with unerring hand at an accustomed place, knelt down, made the sign of the cross, and her silent, moving lips recited the prayers for the dead.—*Blackwood's Magazine*.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XXXI.

#### THE LORD SENESCHAL'S TOURNAY.

It has been recorded with what reluctance Yoshitsune's retreat to Oshin was undertaken in obedience to his uncle's desire and his comrades' counsels, so that we are not surprised to find him discovering in Iné's fate a more than sufficient motive for abandoning that project. The girl's brave and always sagacious action had been so intimately associated with the progress of all his plans, and her sympathy had unconsciously become such a solace in misfortune and such an addition to success, that the purpose of his life was for a time completely obscured by the shadow of her loss. There are indeed among the rarer gems of humanity, some whose lustre sheds upon life a light too fair to be fully appreciated until men have been made wise by a sense of the grievous darkness that succeeds their extinction, and such a jewel most assuredly was Iné. When the four men had kindled incense and set up vases of cypress and lily before her tomb on the seventh day, to no one of them did anything of solace seem to remain save the hope of avenging her. They did not tell one another of this common sentiment; it was too evident to require expression; neither did they immediately seek to devise any scheme of achieving their purpose, perhaps because they felt that they might not yet command the patience necessary to success, but while they lingered at Kiyoto, performing all the ceremonies of sepulture with scrupulous exactness, every one of them knew that this sedulity was inspired not more by the memory of the dead, than by a secret desire that Hiromori's search might at some time bring him within reach of their swords, by whatever strength he should be environed at the moment of encounter.

But strange to say the very temerity of their action proved their safety. Hiromori, though he traced each step of their return to the neighbourhood of the city by the dead bodies of his followers, never for a moment supposed that they would venture to remain at Kiyoto, and thus while they, strewing fresh flowers day after day upon Iné's tomb, or praying for the peace of her soul at all the chief fairs of the city, looked hourly to find themselves face to face with a hundred foes, their arch enemy followed the baffling guidance of false reports hither and thither on the northward routes, until at last, weary of a search which Iné's death had robbed of its prime object, he returned to Kiyoto on the very day they chose for their final departure.

A most unlooked for obstacle had turned Yoshitsune from his renewed determination of joining the Lord Seneschal and seeking his aid in the development of some scheme

of revenge. That obstacle was Saburo's dissent. His was not one of those lighter griefs that find expression in blind wrath or loud complaint, but a silent sorrow that appropriated every faculty of his nature, changing the blithe, light-hearted soldier, into the stern, unswerving follower of an inexorable purpose. If he had once been somewhat apt to overestimate the perils that menaced his friends, he had ever been more than proportionately ready to despise those lying in his own path, and certainly no outcome of his bereavement seemed less probable than an access of caution almost amounting to timidity. Yet such was unquestionably the quality that characterized his conduct after Iné's death. Side by side with an utter apathy to all the common chances of life, he did not scruple to show an unwearied care for its preservation, so that Yoshitsune's rash desire to remain in Kiyoto found in him an unexpected and most determined opponent.

The marvel of this utter change invested its cause with additional solemnity in his comrades' eyes, for though little congenial with their own natures, they were not so lacking in sympathy as to misinterpret it. They understood that if Saburo, having deferred his reunion with Iné until the punishment of her murderer, was yet heedful to avoid any profitless risk, it was not because his suffering had unmanned him, but because the very intensity of his purpose made him circumspect in his method of attaining it.

To such a motive they could not refuse their approval, neither was it to be controverted that though to follow the Lord Seneschal's guidon might bring them the solace of hard blows and little leisure, it would at the same time postpone and perhaps altogether preclude the opportunity they so earnestly sought. Thus then the four men, setting out on the seventh day from the cemetery where they had laid the bodies of Saburo's young wife and his faithful vassals, might almost have heard the tramp of Hiromori's lancers as they rode citywards, weary and empty-handed, on their return from a quest in which their black-hearted chief had looked to win a double prize. It was a strange chance, and one in which the superstitious interpreters of Yoshitsune's career have not failed to discover divine interference.

We shall leave the chief actors in our history to pursue their route northwards and turn our attention for a moment to the events which immediately succeeded their departure, for from this time the comparatively narrow interests which have hitherto centered about our hero and his comrades, are destined to widen until they identify themselves with those, not of a mere clan, but of an entire people.

The conference at which Prince Mochihito had been persuaded to grant the House of Gen his Imperial Commission, was not the first occasion Yorimasa had contrived with that object. He had already laid before the Prince a list of goodly dimensions, wherein were inscribed the names of the chief knights and nobles of the Minamoto, whose active aid might be surely expected in the day of revolt. It was a bulky muster roll, and the old Seneschal remembered as he penned it, that but a few years before the men it included could have summoned all the flower of Japanese chivalry to follow them to the battle, though now in truth little remained to them, but the fast fading fame of their ancient greatness. Yet there they were, some three score Earls and Barons, many of tried prowess, all of hereditary renown; and to the gentle-hearted Prince, who at thirty-two years of age had only the scantiest traditional knowledge of the world from which his inconvenient birthright had excluded him, such a confederation seemed an invincible puissance. Yorimasa himself did not perhaps hold the forces his record comprised in less esteem, but the experienced veteran knew well how many days would be needed to equip and unite the scattered elements of his clan's power, and he could not forget that if, in the interim, any intelligence of this design reached the Taira chiefs, his own and his sons' lives would prove but a feeble bulwark to their royal ally.

Before everything then it was essential that the Imperial Commission should be transmitted with all possible despatch to the various provinces, and that the messenger to whom it was entrusted should set a much smaller price on his own safety than on the success of his errand. The Lord Seneschal's choice did not waver in this matter. Living at the cloisters of Kumano, where he had lain concealed ever since the fatal fight of Rokuhara, was the Earl



of Harima's younger brother, Yoshinori; a man whose unflinching courage and stern patience needed not the adjunct of an implacable hatred for the House of Hei to suggest him as a peculiarly apt agent at this crisis. To him, by Yorimasa's advice, the Prince entrusted the precious document, investing him at the same time with the rank of Chamberlain, and changing his name to Yukiye.

History has not preserved any record of Yukiye's adventures, beyond the fact that he passed safely from province to province, disguised in the garb of a travelling Bonze, and that he left with each of the noblemen whose names were borne on his roll, a copy of the Imperial summons. To Yoritomo in his island of exile he carried a special commission, rescinding his sentence of banishment, and authorizing him to assume whatever authority the occasion required, and we find that Yoritomo immediately sent a circular to the men of his clan in the north and east provinces, calling on them to prepare forthwith for action, and desiring them to assemble at points which seem to indicate, that the first plan of campaign was a direct descent upon the capital.

But of Yoritomo and his doings we shall have to speak more fully anon. For the present, the thread of our narrative holds us at Kiyoto, where Yorimasa awaited the issue of Yukiye's errand, scarcely entrusting his projects to his own sons, lest some whisper should forewarn the Taira chief and rouse him to the easy effort of crushing an immature design. At such times indeed the zeal of partisans is often more dangerous than their apathy, and the event amply justified the astute veteran's precautions.

In the cloisters where Yukiye had found an asylum the contrast of his family's misfortunes and their rival's limitless magnificence had aroused more than transient sympathy. Not a few of the friars, stout men and trained warriors, who wielded the glaive better than the crozier and carried a hauberk more blithely than a cassock, had placed their services at the refugee's disposal, and by him their names had been added to the roll of the Minamoto vassals, side by side with the descendants of that prince of liege-men, Watanabe, the 'demon-slayer.' From these, his hosts and allies, Yukiye might not conceal the purpose of his sudden departure. He told them—with what exultation we may well imagine—that the time for action was at last come, and bade them prepare to take part in the great struggle so soon as the achievement of his mission should leave him free to lead them.

These were the days of soft squalline on the verge of summer, when men's passions are stronger than their prudence. Whether they went a Maying or to mass, the soldier cenobites could not forget the lusty sport in which they were presently to take a part, and which, as was natural, their impatience prompted them to anticipate by fencing bouts and glaive practice. They would fain be ready when the summons to arm came, and cared little whether those of their fellows who were opposed to their design, discovered it afterwards, or afforded them an occasion to strike the first blow in its behalf immediately.

For the House of Taira too had its allies among the friars of Kumano, and chief of these was the Prior, Oye. Ample guerdon for himself and large endowment for his shrine had this priests' ministrations won from the piety of Shigemori and the justly troubled conscience of Kiyomori, and never for a moment doubting the strength of the cause he espoused, he saw in the warlike demonstrations around him a new opportunity for winning praise and profit. Assembling four thousand friars, on whose support he could reckon, he marched to attack Yukiye's partisans, confident in his superior numbers and in the surprise of his unlooked for assault.

In the fight that ensued, the war cries of the Gen and Hei were heard again for the first time since the Earl of Harima's disastrous defeat twenty years before. The assailants' force was more than double that of their enemies, but they had at once less stomach for hard blows and less to lose by discomfiture. After a melee that lasted little more than an hour, they fled pell-mell to the shelter of their cloister, leaving some four hundred of their fellows dead on the field and their leader to fare as he might.

Oye, however, who had fought rather for gain than for glory, made no attempt to rally his army of monks, but retreated hastily to the mountains, sending a trusty messenger to carry the news of all these things to the Taira chief

and accusing Prince Mochihito of complicity in the rebellion.

Kiyomori was at his summer palace of Fukuoka on the sea side when the tidings reached him. Failing health, his son Shigemori's death, and a succession of evil omens and troubled visions had ill prepared him for any exhibition of patience. He burst into such a paroxysm of passion as men remembered to have seen overtake him when he caused the Lord Deputy to be tortured in his presence, or when he trampled on the face of the prelate Saiko in the Council chamber. "If this fit hold," said his captains, as they rode after the old autocrat's carriage on the following day, "there will be shrewd work for sword and arrow ere many suns have set."

Arrived at Rokuhara, Kiyomori summoned an extraordinary conclave of his feudatories and vassals. The cause of their chief's visit to the capital had of course become immediately known to the Taira nobles, but it gave them little concern, for the main part found themselves disposed to offer congratulation rather than condolence on so favorable an opportunity of removing for ever the somewhat troublesome claims of Prince Mochihito and leaving Kiyomori's grandson undisputed heir to the throne.

Kiyomori himself, however, looked beyond this present gain, though not by any means despising it. He bitterly lamented the moment of weakness in which he had listened to his step-mother's instances on Yoritomo's behalf, and forgetting altogether the true motive of that clemency, warned his clansmen that unless they found speedy means to rectify the error then committed, it would assuredly one day bring them sharp cause for repentance. As for the rebellious Prince, his punishment should show that the Taira power was not yet on the wane. The two Lord Deputies, and one of the Lord Chamberlains, were ordered to take measures for his immediate arrest, while faithful to his policy of employing the Minamoto nobles upon all duties most likely to be distasteful to them, and ignorant as yet of Yorimasa's complicity, Kiyomori desired the Lord Seneschal's son Kanetsuna, to proceed to the palace in the capacity of Judicial Delegate.

Kanetsuna undertook this mission without remonstrance, but lost not a moment in warning his father of the impending danger, so that almost before the Taira nobles had determined on the best method of carrying out their chief's orders, a letter from the Lord Seneschal was placed in the Prince's hands, conjuring him to fly with all speed to the cloisters of Miidera, where Yorimasa promised presently to join him with all the force he could muster.

The sequel of these things certainly contains nothing more calculated to stir our sympathies than the story of this unhappy Prince's fate. A life of utter seclusion and inactivity had so little prepared his gentle nature for the stern realities he was now called on to face, that when, on the perusal of Yorimasa's letter, he cried aloud with plaintive helplessness; "What am I to do? Who will aid me to escape from this peril?" his oldest servants shrunk from the responsibility they saw thrust upon them. Fortunately, however, a certain knight, Nobutsuna, who had married one of the ladies-in-waiting, happened at that moment to be in the palace. He was a man of immense physical strength and indomitable courage, as had been proved on two noteworthy occasions: once when he carried two refractory nobles from the audience chamber, one under each arm; and again, when single-handed he pursued a party of robbers who had pillaged the palace, and killing four of their number, took a fifth prisoner, so that the whole band were subsequently traced and annihilated. To him those the Prince had taken into his confidence appealed in their perplexity, and not without result, for he immediately devised and put into execution the only feasible plan of effecting his master's escape. Hastening to his wife's apartments he procured a woman's hat and robe, with which he disguised the Prince, and conducting him through the palace garden, struck a by-road that led in the direction of Miidera.

They had proceeded in this fashion some two or three furlongs when the Prince recovered his presence of mind sufficiently to remember that a number of his most prized heirlooms had been left scattered about in the palace, and amongst them the celebrated 'Cicala' flute\* which he had

\* A flute which had been made from a joint of bamboo, exactly resembling a cicala in shape. It was originally a gift from the Emperor of China in return for some timber sent from Japan at his re-

received from the Emperor Toba. So distressed was he by this loss, that in that moment of supreme peril he actually delayed his flight until Nobutsura had returned to the palace and brought away the precious piece of bamboo! If this incident illustrates the helpless childishness of imperial princes in the days of which we write, Nobutsura's subsequent conduct is a no less truthful type of the devoted courage so often displayed by their subjects. So soon as he had conducted Mochihito and his one attendant nobleman beyond the limits of the city he declared his intention of returning to the palace, lest the Taira envoys, finding no responsible officer to answer their summons, should deem that the Genji men had not dared to abide their coming. The Prince would fain have kept the stout warrior by his side to the last, but Nobutsura was not to be dissuaded from his purpose. Alone he made his way back, and had scarcely taken up his post in the palace when the clatter of hoofs in the outer court announced the arrival of his enemies. Then followed one of those scenes which can only occur in an age when men, limiting life's purposes to the attainment of perfection in warlike exercises, sometimes become capable of almost incredible achievements. Kiyomori's messengers, riding into the palace without the slightest ceremony, ordered their followers to seek out the Prince and take him prisoner. Fifty men-at-arms sprang forward to obey this mandate, and to these Nobutsura opposed himself single handed. His sword, a trusty blade that had often served him well before, had laid fourteen of his enemies low before it shivered at the hilt on the cuirass of the fifteenth, and finding himself unarmed, he thought to make use of an arrow which had pierced his leg, but when he attempted to draw it out, the shaft only came away leaving the barb buried in his flesh. Yet in such a strait he never thought of seeking quarter. One of his assailants he knew to be almost as stout a soldier as himself, and seeing this man shorten his glove to deal a final blow, he spread out his brawny arms and leaped on him like one that welcomes death. Probably, however, the novelty of finding himself assailed by an empty-handed adversary disconcerted the Heike soldier, for his misdirected thrust only reached the other's thigh, and the next moment the two were grappling on the ground. Nobutsura was of course taken prisoner, and we would gladly follow him to Rokuhara, where his defiant bearing when confronted with the Taira chief well nigh cost him his head forthwith; but we may not depart so far from the course of our history. Suffice it to say that his life was spared at the instance of the Heike men themselves, and that Yoritomo, who never forgot a benefit or forgave an injury, recognized and amply recompensed his services in after years.

Meanwhile the prince toiled on towards Miidera, his feeble feet finding almost insurmountable difficulties in the arduous by-paths it was necessary to follow. The distance was little more than ten miles, but the road climbed over steep passes or crept through rocky ravines, so that it was nearly midnight when the fugitives reached the cloisters beyond the peak at Nioi. Their coming was quite unexpected, nevertheless, the cenobites received them readily, lodging Mochihito in their principal cloister and choosing the stoutest of their number to guard him.

But this hospitality, however opportune, had little power to reassure the Prince in the absence of his ally and adviser, Yoritomo. Utterly unversed in all life's ruder phases, he had looked to be received at Miidera not only by the Lord Seneschal but also by an ample army of Genji knights from the provinces to which his commission could scarcely yet have been carried, and finding instead a synod of tonsured monks with cassock and stole in place of cuirass and sword, he was only persuaded to remain by his inability to devise any other refuge.

It was not indeed till the fifth day after the flight from the palace, that Yoritomo arrived at Miidera. He had with him but a scanty following, some three hundred knights in all, but they were every one men of repute, and among them were the Seneschal's three sons, who could draw as strong a bow and strike as stark a blow, as ever their father did in the times when his fame was greenest.

quest for the purpose of building a temple, and its fashioning had been solemnized by seven days of litanies and prayers. Once when irreverently played by the Deputy Seneschal, it snapped in his fingers, and consequently received the title of the "broken cicala."

Two names, however, were absent from the muster roll, and they were those of warriors who could ill be spared at such a juncture. Takeguchi and his son, Kiso, were reckoned by men the manliest, and by women the comeliest, knights in the capital. They were staunch liegemen of the Seneschal's and would have been the first to bare their blades at his bidding, but unfortunately they lived within half a bowshot of Kiyomori's castle at Rokuhara, and Yoritomo dared not send them word of his intentions lest their movements should furnish the Heike men with a clue to his own.

And his discretion was well advised. So soon as the Lord Seneschal's retreat to Miidera was told to the Taira chief, he despatched a messenger to see whether Takeguchi was still at home, "for surely," he said, "if Yoritomo has taken the field his stoutest knight will not be sleeping in the alcove."

Of the Seneschal's intentions, however, there was soon unmistakable evidence for the flames of his castle—which he fired as he marched out—were visible from the watch tower at Rokuhara, but as for Takeguchi, it was equally certain that neither he nor his vassals as yet evinced any intention of sharing their liege-lord's enterprise. Their mail was not lowered from the rack nor were their horses led from the stable when Munemori's\* messenger looked in at the vestibule, and the Heike chief drew a not unnatural and very welcome conclusion from this tardiness. Summoning Takeguchi he questioned him as to his relations with Yoritomo, and finding that the knight was, or pretended to be, not a little piqued at the neglect with which he had been treated, he asked him to fight in future under the red flag and promised to do more for him than ever his old lord could have hoped in his most sanguine dreams. To the surprise of all, Takeguchi consented without a moment's hesitation, and Munemori, who well knew the value of such an ally in the dangers that were beginning to lower, held high vassal that night at his castle, presenting Takeguchi with two suits of richly enchaîned armour and two of his own favorite horses, reputed to be the fastest among the fifty score that stood in the stables at Rokuhara.

The next morning, as the Heike men were discussing these things or preparing somewhat lazily to execute the new fortifications their chief had ordered, a band of seven knights rode up to the gate of the castle. They were in complete armour and their iron masks made it impossible to recognize them, but the two foremost wore suits of mail not easily forgotten when once seen, and bestrode horses—a chestnut and a black—of which half the bystanders could have told the names without hesitation. "Tell your master," the foremost knight shouted in a stentorian voice, drawing rein for a moment beyond the bridge, "that we thank him for his gifts, since the harness is light and the steeds swift, and we would fain make good speed to Miidera where Yoritomo awaits us. A tough suit of mail and stout nag are none the worse for being fresh, but the old master is the best, whatever the new may bring."

It was in this fashion that Takeguchi and his son reached Miidera a day later than the Lord Seneschal. Munemori would gladly have sacrificed a thousand men to bar their passage, but he knew that the horses they rode could carry them beyond the reach of all pursuit before his soldiers were even in the saddle. He swore a solemn oath however, that so surely as they fell into his hands they should be sawn asunder on the public execution ground in the city, and he issued immediate orders that twenty thousand of his stoutest liegemen should hold themselves in readiness at a moment's notice.

Not unsuspicious of the wrath they had aroused, though apparently quite indifferent to its results, Takeguchi and his little band of followers rode leisurely towards the peaks of Nioi, expecting every moment to hear the shouts of a pursuing troop, and perhaps not altogether disposed to rejoice at their enemies' forbearance. They were received with acclamations by the Genji knights, for despite his confident assertions, even Yoritomo himself must have felt some misgivings as to the disposition his seeming neglect might beget in these haughty warriors. Men did not easily

\* Kiyomori's son, and chief apparent of the Taira clan since the death of his elder brother, Shigemori. He is said to have been a supposititious child and certainly no share of Kiyomori's iron will, or Shigemori's chivalrous nature, seems to have descended to him.

pardon anything savouring of a slight in those times, and if a liegeman's loyalty was governed by a very rigid creed, his lord's obligations were none the less punctiliously discharged. Takeguchi indeed had just cause for umbrage, but the shadow was dispelled in a moment when he found himself face to face with the Seneschal, and saw the proud joy of the old man's look as it met his own.

And with what a burst of uproarious hilarity did his comrades receive the news of the knights' reception at Rokuhara and of the exquisite cozenage practised upon Munemori. To have laughed in the very teeth of the arrogant tyrant and made him a helpless spectator of his own discomfiture—why the thing was such a triumph as these doughty soldiers might not aspire to secure in a month's battles! Keen as their delight might be too, they knew that it was but a small measure of the passionate exasperation to which Munemori must now be a prey; an exasperation that might even move him to some rash retaliation, offering his foes an occasion to win fresh successes. One act only was wanting to crown the insult, and this the Seneschal's sons set themselves immediately to perform.

They took the chestnut horse—Munemori's gift to the knight he had hoped to seduce—and cutting off its tail and mane, branded on its forehead in large characters, "Taira no Munemori." This done, they led it to the top of the pass at nightfall, and sent it speeding cityward with a shout that stifled the echoes of its flying feet.

When their lord's favorite, disfigured so as to be scarcely recognizable, galloped into the castle court-yard, there was not one of the Heike men that dared report the event. Not indeed that they were generally disposed to count the cost of wreaking revenge, but their respect for the Lord Seneschal's strategic skill made them somewhat distrustful of their chief's impetuosity. Munemori, however, only laughed gibingly when he heard what had happened. "Were this done to my father," he said, "the ashes of the Miidera cloisters would be blown about the peaks of Nioi before daybreak, but fire and sword will not suffice for my revenge. The man that brings me the heads of Takeguchi and his son need look for little guerdon at my hands, but it shall go hard if he that leads them to me alive and unscathed have any reason to complain of my ingratitude."

(To be continued.)

### TRIPLE ACROSTIC.

A motley crowd :—it's really hard to say  
Where one could find a scene more bright and gay.

1.

The little flow'r thus spoken of in song  
Was dear unto the singer, or I'm wrong.

2.

A continent of some extent we see :  
Land of the fair, the minstrel, and the free.

3.

What turn and twist, and sometimes, too, a blunder !  
Well may the stolid Asiatic wonder !

4.

The use of this is not much to our mind,  
And yet it's cruel, only to be kind.

5.

Remark that's sometimes used in mild persuasion:  
I hope you'll think of it on this occasion.

WAMBA.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF JAN. 3RD, BY "HOODLUM."

Leap Year.  
L u l l a b Y  
E u c h r E  
A r e A  
P i l l a R

Correct answers received from Le bon temps Viendra, The Union Jack, Bluff, Zulu, Z., and New Year.

### YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY :—8.30, and 9.45 A.M. ; 12.15, 1.30, and 4 P.M.

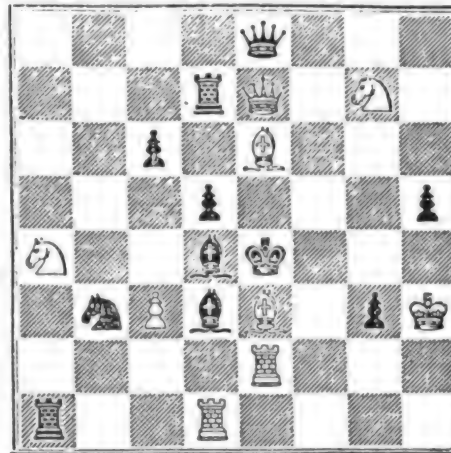
LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY :—7.0 and 9.45 A.M. and 12 noon ; 1.30 and 4 P.M.

### CHESS PROBLEM,

By J. C. WARNER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF JAN. 3RD, BY "S. N. CHENEY."

White.

1—P. to Q.

2—Q. to Kt. 7th.

3—Mate.

Black.

1—Kt. moves.

2—Anything.

Correct answers received from V. d. P. and Q.

[We have to thank Chess Correspondent for drawing our attention to Problem of December 27th :—The White King should have been on K. R 3rd.—Chess Editor, J. W. M.]

### NEXT MAIL DUE FROM

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Jan. 18th*
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Jan. 17th
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 24th
HONGKONG .....	M. B. Co.	Jan. 19th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Jan. 20th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Jan. 15th

\* Left San Francisco 27th December, City of Tokio.

+ Left Hongkong 9th January, Volga.

### NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Jan. 24th
HAOKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	Jan. 13th
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG, .....	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 17th
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG, .....	M. M. Co.	Jan. 12th
HONGKONG, VIA KOBE.....	M. B. Co.	Jan. 24th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Jan. 14th

### NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

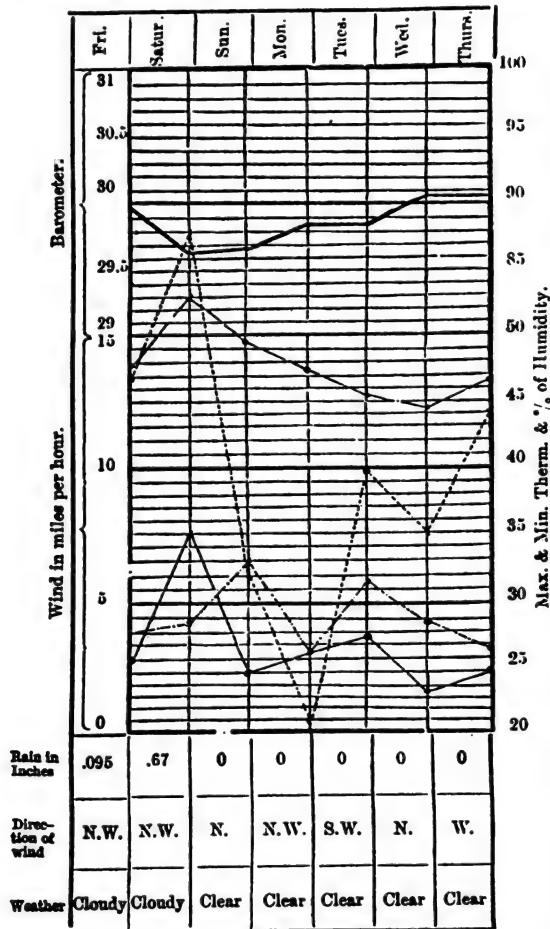
(For Week Ending 10th January, 1880.)

		Yen Satz.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subidiary (New.)	Silver Subidiary (Old.)
		A.M.	Noon	Clos- ing.				
1880.								
Monday.....	Jan. 5	—	—	—	369	326	113	102
Tuesday.....	" 6	521½	526	529	—	—	—	—
Wednesday.....	" 7	529	531	534	—	—	—	—
Thursday.....	" 8	531½	531	530	—	—	—	—
Friday.....	" 9	530	529	531	—	—	—	—
Saturday.....	" 10	532	530½	530½	—	—	—	—



## METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 2ND, 1879.  
Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujimicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.  
Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.  
..... represents velocity of wind  
..... percentage of humidity  
Max. velocity of wind 18 miles per hour on Monday, 3 p.m.  
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.  
The highest barometer reading for the week was 30.105 inches on Wednesday, at 10 p.m., and the lowest was 29.563 inches on Saturday, at 2 p.m.; with the exception of the first two days there has been a rising barometer during the week. This has been accompanied by records for both maximum and minimum thermometers; also by clear weather and comparatively dry air.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Jan. 3, American barque *Nippon*, Rogers, 1,095, from New York Kerosene and General to J. D. Carroll & Co.  
Jan. 5, Japanese barque *Sakurajima Maru*, Cheetham, 555, Coal, from Nagasaki, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Jan. 5, Japanese steamer *Takamago Maru*, Young, 1,230, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Jan. 6, British steamer *Ireconsair*, Sturrock, 1,241, from London via Hongkong, General, to Adamson, Bell & Co.  
Jan. 7, British steamer *Malacca*, Reeves, 1,701, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.  
Jan. 7, Japanese schooner *Awajishima Maru*, Creighton, 660, from Nagasaki, Coals, to M. B. Co.  
Jan. 8, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,200, from Shanghai and way ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Jan. 8, Japanese steamer *Shio Maru*, Thompson, 524, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per American steamer *Richard Robinson* from New York.—Mr. Ingham.  
Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hongkong.—14 Chinese and 2 Japanese. From Kobe: 3 Japanese in cabin; and 27½ in steerage.

Per British steamer *Malacca* from Hongkong:—10 Chinese in steerage.  
Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and way ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Townsend and infant, Mrs. Edwards, Paymaster Whitehouse, Messrs. J. McCarthy, W. Heize, Hagart, Mout, Milne, Fenton, Yamada and Rev. D. C. Green in cabin, and 1 European, 4 Chinese and 115 Japanese in steerage.

## OUTWARDS.

Jan. 3, American ship *Golden State*, Delane, 944, for Kobe, General, despatched by Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.  
Jan. 3, German barque *Anna*, Davidsen, 532, for New York, General, despatched by Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.  
Jan. 5, British steamer *Sunda*, Seaton, 1,914, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.  
Jan. 5, German brig *Maid Marian*, Brinkmeyer, 256, for Hakodate, General, despatched by Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.  
Jan. 7, Japanese steamer *Takamago Maru*, Steadman, 880, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Jan. 7, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,260, for Shanghai, and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Jan. 8, Russian chartered schooner *Otome*, Jansen, 55, for Nemuro, wrecking gear, &c.,—Russian Authorities.  
Jan. 9, Japanese steamer *Takamago Maru*, Young, 1,230, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Jan. 10, Japanese steamer *Kinshin Maru*, Walker, 690, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Jan. 10, Japanese steamer *Sekio Maru*, —, 435, for Samusawa, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Jan. 10, Japanese steamer *Suwida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—Hon. J. Saumarez, Mr. J. McRitchie, Mr. Koeniger, and Mr. Gibson in cabin, 1 European and 4 Chinese in steerage.  
Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Schoning, Mrs. Soper and child, Mrs. Hirohashi, Miss Hirohashi, Paymaster Peterson, U.S.N., Dr. Wagener, Messrs. Moredira, Makomoto, Shimadzu, Motoyama, Omy Hing, H. Osborn, J. Gould, Tanaka, Oka, Tsuji, Kakemoto, O. Reimers, Eeke and Sugiyama.  
Per Japanese steamer *Suwida Maru* for Hongkong:—Dr. and Mrs. Schultze and infant, and Mr. A. Reimers.

## CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—  
Silk for London ... .. 51 Bales.  
" " France ... .. 371 "  
Per Japanese steamer *Takamago Maru* from Kobe:—  
Treasure ... .. Yen 6,000.00  
Per British steamer *Malacca*, from Hongkong:—  
General... .. 2,329 pkgs.  
Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai, and ports:—  
Treasure ... .. \$ 9,150.00  
" ... .. Yen 3,046.00

## REPORTS.

The Japanese barque *Sakurajima Maru* reports: Left Nagasaki 31st December, 2 p.m., arrived at Yokohama 5th instant, 5 a.m. Experienced strong westerly winds, fine clear weather.  
The British steamer *Malacca* reports: Left Hongkong at 6 a.m. on the 31st Dec. Experienced moderate N.E. monsoon to Tokushima; thence to port fresh to strong N.W. winds with fine weather. Arrived at 10 a.m. 7th Jan. Passage 7 days and 4 hours.  
The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* reports: Left Shanghai on the 31st ultimo at noon. Arrived at Nagasaki 2nd inst. at 7 a.m. Left at 7 p.m. Arrived at Kobe 4th inst. at noon. Left on the 6th inst. at 6 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama, on the 8th inst. at 12.30 a.m. From Nagasaki to Kobe, strong N. W. winds, squally weather. From Kobe to Yokohama, strong N. W. wind and fine weather.

## YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

## DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

## UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

## LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—  
Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.  
Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.  
Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.  
Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as seen as it can be made out,

## VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charlwood	LONDON	Yokohama
" 22	Gordon Castle (s.s.)	"	"
Nov. 5	Crossfield	"	"
" 5	Bundaleer	"	"
" 5	Escambia (s.s.)	"	"
" 19	Glenfinlas (s.s.)	"	"
" 5	Menelaus (s.s.)	"	"
Aug. 9	Urania	LIVERPOOL	"
Nov. 10	Claverhouse	FALMOUTH	"
Mar. 8	Lota	GLASGOW	"
" 25	Alma	CARDIFF	"
" 29	Craig Aird	"	"
Apr. 18	Charger	"	"
Aug. 2	Titan	"	"
July 2	Fleetwing	NEW YORK	"
Aug. 2	Kato Davenport	"	"
" 9	Oakland	"	"
" 30	Hagarstown	"	"
Sept. 3	Mervia	"	"
" 3	Clydesdale	"	"
" 3	Larnaca	"	"
" 25	Merom	"	"
" 26	Clydesdale	"	"
Oct. 8	St. Charles	"	"
" 10	Columbia	"	Hiogo
" 25	L. J. Morse	"	Yokohama
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 7	Centennial	"	"
" 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
" 21	Manuel Llagudo	"	"
July 20	Cardiganshire	SHIELDS	"
Aug. 17	Coldstream	HAMBURG	"
Nov. 5	Hesperia	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Oct. 17	Glenhantley	SUNDERLAND	"
" 26	Sca King	PHILADELPHIA	Hiogo

LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Nov. 21	Flintshire (s.s.)	LONDON	Yokohama
" 21	Glenlylo (s.s.)	"	"
" 21	Killarney (s.s.)	"	"
" 21	Benarty (s.s.)	"	"
" 21	Crossfield	"	"
" 27	Susan Gilman	NEW YORK	"
" 27	Paul Revere	"	"
" 21	Lydia	HAMBURG	"
" 21	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 21	Large	"	"

**BRITISH  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT,  
YOKOHAMA.**

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Subscribers to receive the Accounts and Report for the year 1879, and for the election of Office Bearers for the current year, will be held at the

**Chamber of Commerce Rooms,**

(Kindly lent for the occasion),

—ON—

*Thursday, the 15th instant,*

AT 2.30 P.M.

Yokohama, January 8th, 1880.

BY ORDRE.

## ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

### TOKIYO MEETING.

**A** GENERAL MEETING will be held at the  
**SHOHEIKUWAN, SEIDO, TOKIYO,**

—ON—

*Tuesday, the 13th January,*

AT 4 P.M.,

The following papers will be read :

"THE BIRDS OF JAPAN," by Captain BLACKSTONE,  
and H. PRYER, Esq.

"THE KANA TRANSLITERATION SYSTEM," by  
F. V. DICKINS, Esq.

"ON THE JAPANESE LETTERS CHI AND TSU,"  
by the Revd. JOSEPH EDKINS, D.D.

"REPLY TO THE ABOVE," by ERNEST SATOW, Esq.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL.

Tōkiyō, January 9th, 1880.



**"Star in the East" Lodge,  
640 S.C.**

THE REGULAR MEETING of this Lodge will be held at the

### MASONIC HALL,

ON

*Tuesday, the 13th January,*

At 8.30 P.M. precisely.

Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

By command of the R.W.M.,

DRUMMOND ANDERSON,  
*Secretary.*

Yokohama, January 7th, 1880.

### IN THE PRESS.

### JAPANESE

## CHRONOLOGICAL TABLES,

SHOWING the date, according to the Julian or Gregorian Calendar, of the First Day of each Japanese Month,

*From Taikwa 1st year to Meiji 4th year,*

(A.D. 645 to 1873,)

BY

**WILLIAM BRAMSEN.**

Yokohama, December 31st, 1879.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND RIG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Breconshire	Sturrock	British steamer	1,241	London, via Hongkong	Jan. 5	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Hiroshima Maru	Haswell	Japanese steamer	1,200	Shanghai & ports	Jan. 8	M. B. Co.
Malacca	Reeves	British steamer	1,709	Hongkong	Jan. 7	P. & O. Co.
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13/78	M. B. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	" 20	M. M. Co.
Tanais	De la Marcolle	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Jan. 3	M. M. Co.
Takasago Maru	Young	Japanese steamer	1,230	Hongkong & ports	" 5	M. B. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Don Enrique	B. Cremor	British ship	1,334	New York	Dec. 8	Frazar & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary P. Bohm	—	German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Lenard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	" 24	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Nippon	Rogers	American barque	1,095	New York	Jan. 3	J. D. Carroll & Co.
North Star	Janssen	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	" 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Richard Robinson	Smith	American ship	1,652	New York	Jan. 1	C. & J. Trading Co.
Sarah Scott	Estall	British barque	666	London	Dec. 15	L. Kniffier & Co.
Sooloo	Allen	American ship	963	New York	" 21	Smith, Baker & Co.
William Manson	Kindred	British barque	550	Sydney	" 22	Adamson, Bell & Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH.—Hornet ... ..	4	584	506	Gun-vessel	Kobe	Com. J.S. Eaton
FRENCH.—Champlain ... ..	10	1,901	—	Corvette	Chefoo	Com. Michaud
AMERICAN.—Alert ... ..	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
ITALIAN.—Vettor Pisani ... ..	12	1,800	—	Corvette	Yokosuka	H.R.H. Duke of Genoa
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ... ..	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostok	Captain Schance
" Crayser ... ..	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Cruise	Captain Nazimoff

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ... ..	Malacca	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 17th, noon.
Hongkong ... ..	Tibre	M. M. Co.	Jan. 12th, at 9 A.M.
Hongkong ... ..	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 24th, at 4 P.M.
Kobe ... ..	Wm. Manson	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Quick despatch.
New York via Hongkong ... ..	R. Robinson	Edward Fischer & Co.	Quick despatch.
New York via Kobe ... ..	Sooloo	Walsh, Hall & Co.	About Jan. 15th.
San Francisco	Gaelic	O. & O. Co.	About Jan. 21th.
Shanghai, &c. ... ..	Hiroshima Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 14th, at 4 P.M.



## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**IMPORTS.**—Market has opened after the holidays with a strong demand for Yarn and a large business has been done at slightly higher rates. At the close, holders are not willing to go on at current prices, Manchester quotations being much advanced. *Grey Shirtings* are still dull although prices are nominally higher in sympathy with home advices. *Fancy and Dyed Cottons* also are in some request, *Woolens* show a little more life.

**COTTON YARNS:—**

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per pieul	\$27.00 to 33.00
" " Good to Best ... "	\$34.00 to 35.00
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... "	\$29.50 to 31.50
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... "	\$35.00 to 36.00
" " Good to Best ... "	\$37.00 to 38.00
" 38 to 42 ... "	\$39.00 to 40.00

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—**

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.60 to 1.90
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.85 to 2.30
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.15 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.65
Drills, English: 14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:—13 " 44 in.	\$1.80 to 1.90
Prints:—Assorted... 24 " 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italian & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.11 to .13
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.85 to 1.55
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.50 to 1.65
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.**

Velvets:—Black ... 35 " 22 in. per piece	\$9.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns:—... 12 " 42/2 in. "	\$0.75 to 0.80
Taffetas:—... 12 " 42 in. "	\$1.75 to 2.00

**WOOLLENS:—**

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	5.25 to 6.50
Figured Orleans ... 20-30 yds. 31 in.	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 yds. 32 in.	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Cords ... 20-30 yds. 22 in.	4.00 to 5.00
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in.	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 yds. 30 in.	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy... 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.40 to 0.50
Presidents ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.55 to 0.67½
Union ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.62½
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs ... per lb.	0.35 to 0.41

**SUGAR.**—There has been a fair business in this commodity, sales of about 13,000 bags having been reported. Stocks are estimated as low as 2,000 bags.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... per pieul...	\$5.60 to \$5.20
" " in basket ... "	\$5.20 to \$5.00
Taiwanfu in bag... "	\$5.20
do. in basket... "	\$5.00
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ... "	\$8.00 to \$9.00

China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fah per pieul...	\$6.25 to \$8.00
Daitong ... "	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... "	\$2.60 to \$3.00
Kerosene Oil ... "	\$1.70 to \$1.75
Newchwang Peas ... "	\$2.20 to \$2.25

**KEROSENE.**—A still further decline may be noticed in the oil market, 27,000 cases having changed hands at from \$1.80 to \$1.70. Deliveries of cargo, under former contracts "to arrive," are still going on. Stocks are about 282,000 cases.

**EXPORTS.**

**SILK.**—A very fair business has been done during the week and prices have advanced. Filatures have again attracted the chief attention. During the last two days offers have been made by foreign buyers for large quantities of Hanks, very little actual business has however as yet resulted, on account of the high pretensions of holders, whilst several hundred bales have changed hands among Japanese dealers.

Small parcels of Kakedas and Oshins have been settled at quotations, and a sale of some 25 bales of Sadai at \$620 has been reported.

Settlements:—220 bales of Hanks, and 290 bales of Filatures, total 510 bales. Arrivals 300 bales; Stocks 3,700 bales. Total export, 13,309 bales against 12,843 bales last season.

	In London at 3/10 per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.		In London at 3/10. per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.
Hanks,—Superior, nom...			Kakeda,—Extra .....	\$730 to 750	24/9 to 25/4 frs. 68 50 to 70 00
" Best .....	\$680 to 690	23/1 to 23/5 frs. 64 00 to 65 00	" Best .....	23 5 to 24/1	frs. 65 00 to 67 00
" Good .....	\$660 to 670	22/6 to 22/10 frs. 62 00 to 63 00	" Good .....	\$690 to 710	20/11 to 22/6 frs. 58 00 to 62 00
" Good Medium .....	\$640 to 650	21/10 to 22/2 frs. 60 50 to 61 50	" Common .....	\$610 to 660	20/11 to 22/6 frs. 58 00 to 62 00
" Medium .....	\$610 to 620	20/11 to 21/2 frs. 58 00 to 59 00	Filatures,—Extra .....	\$780 to 800	26/4 to 27/ frs. 73 00 to 75 00
" Common, Infr. ....	\$570 to 590	19/7 to 20/3 frs. 54 00 to 56 00	" Best .....	\$730 to 770	24/9 to 26/ frs. 68 00 to 72 00
Oshins,—Best .....	\$650 to 690	22/2 to 23/5 frs. 61 50 to 65 00	" Good .....	\$640 to 710	21/10 to 24/1 frs. 60 50 to 67 00
" Medium .....	\$600	20/7 to 57 00 to	" Med. & C'n .....		
Hamatsuki .....	\$600				

**EXCHANGE AND BULLION.**

Rates close as follows:—

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight .....	3/0½
" " 6 " " .....	3/10 nom.
" " Bank Bills on demand .....	3/9
" " Private 4 months' sight .....	3/10½ to 1/4
" " 6 " " .....	3/10½ to 1/4
ON PARIS—Bank Sight .....	4.74
" " Private 6 ms. sight .....	4.90
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight .....	1 1/2 prem.

ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight .....	1/2 prem.
ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight .....	71½
" " Private 10 days' sight .....	72½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand .....	90
" " 30 days sight Private .....	92
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand .....	90½
" " 30 days sight Private .....	92½
Kinsatz .....	530½
Gold Yen .....	369

**SHIPPING.**

**SHIPPING.**—During the past week, the American barque *Nippon* has arrived from New York with a cargo of kerosene, as also the British steamer *Breconshire*, from London via Hongkong, with a general cargo. The departures have been, the German barque *Anna*, with general cargo for New York, and the schooner *Maid Marian*, for Hakodate.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

Paid-up Capital ... .. \$5,000,000.  
Reserve Fund... .. \$1,200,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. SASSOON, Esq.  
Deputy Chairman—WM. H. FORBES, Esq.

E. R. Bellius, Esq., H. L. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppius, Esq.,  
Hon. W. Keswick, Adam Lind, Esq., Wilhelm Reiners, Esq.,  
W. S. Young,  
Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

## LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillips, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.  
E. F. Dancanson, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.  
Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

## SHANGHAI.

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo, Hankow,  
Saigon,  
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

## YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.  
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o  
" " " " 6 " " 4 "  
" " " " 3 " " 4 "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description  
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,  
India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

A. M. TOWNSEND, Acting Manager.  
Yokohama, April 13, 1878. 6mly.

## MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA, (HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

PRIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class,  
let at the rate of from 50 sen to 80 sen per day, and  
from 12 yen to 20 yen per month.

## BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class.....	1.50 yen per day, or 40.00 " " month.
3rd class.....	1.00 yen per day, or 28.00 " " month.

All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or  
small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates,  
for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood  
of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged  
from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

  
**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tl.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## W. & A. GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS.

W. & A. GILBEY have special facilities for carrying  
on an extensive Foreign Trade, having held for  
many years in their Excise Bonded Stores, for the purpose  
of their Home Trade, a stock of not less than 12,000  
Casks of Wines and Spirits, which are equally  
available for Export. These stores are by far the largest  
private Duty Free Warehouses in the World, and are under  
the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially at-  
tached to these Warehouses.

THE EXTENT of W. & A. Gilbey's purchases enables them  
to give the best VALUE to the public, as a twentieth part of  
the Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom is  
supplied from their stock. In the year 1876 W. & A.  
Gilbey paid duty on 1,881,049 gallons of Wines and Spirits,  
and the average quantity bottled and sent out by them  
daily was 3,050 dozens or 36,600 bottles.

QUALITY is guaranteed by W. & A. Gilbey, and is the same  
whether the Wines or Spirits are obtained direct from their  
Head Establishments or from any of their Agents. The  
purity and genuineness of every article in this list are  
guaranteed in accordance with Act of Parliament, 38 and  
39 Vict., Cap. 63.

W. & A. Gilbey have always adhered to the standard of  
Bottle Measure recently recognised by the Government,  
namely—

6 bottles contain one gallon; 12 half-bottles contain  
one gallon.

SECURITY is ensured to the purchaser, each bottle bearing  
W. & A. Gilbey's seal and label guaranteeing quality and  
measure, and the strength also in the case of Spirits.

## W. &amp; A. Gilbey's Head Establishments:—

England.—(Offices) Pantheon, Oxford Street, London;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Oval Road, Camden  
Town, London.

Ireland.—(Offices) Upper Sackville Street, Dublin;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Upper Sackville St.,  
Dublin.

Scotland.—(Offices) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Haymarket, West  
End, Edinburgh.

France.—Principal Establishment, Chateau Loudenne,  
near St. Estephe, Medoc.

Excise Bonded Stores.—Warehouses, Nos. 1 to 5, North-  
Western Goods Station, and Boney Street,  
Camden Town, London.

Distillery.—James Street, Camden Town, London.

Printing Department.—Poland Street, Oxford Street,  
London.

**J. J. GARGAN,**  
**ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,**  
No. 88, Creek Side.

Machinery of all kinds overhauled and  
Repaired.

House Building and Repairs Con-  
tracted for.

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,***New Premises, No. 80, Main Street.***SCROLL SAWS,**

THE NEW LESTER, with LATHE, DRILL and CIRCULAR SAW.

THE NEW ROGERS, with Drill.

THE DEXTER, very convenient and cheap.

HAND VICES, 1½ and 1¾ Inch jaws.

EXTRA SAW BLADES, for any Scroll Saw.

**SEWING MACHINES,**

"NEW AMERICAN," three sizes \$15.00 to \$40.00.

"NEW HOME," from \$12.50 upwards.

"CROWN," suitable for both heavy and light work.

"IMPROVED HOME SHUTTLE," a very fine family Machine.

One very fine GROVER &amp; BAKER'S MACHINE, second-hand, but in good order.

MACHINE OIL and NEEDLES.

*All the above are offered at very low prices.**Stationery of all kinds.***CIGARS, TOBACCO & SMOKERS' ARTICLES.****SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,***New Premises, No. 80, Main Street.**Yokohama, November 1st, 1879.***SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,***No. 80, Main Street,***HAVE NOW PUBLISHED A NEW****LITHOGRAPHIC MAP****Of the Foreign Settlement and Bluff of Yokohama.**

This Map has been compiled with the greatest care, and is correct according to the best authority.

It will be ready for delivery on Monday the 22nd instant. As the Edition is small, those desiring a copy who have not already subscribed can see an advance copy, and subscribe for same upon application to Publishers.

**PRICE:**

In Sheets..... \$1.00  
 Mounted under glass ready for hanging..... \$1.50  
 Yokohama, December 18th, 1879.

**C. SEITZ,****CUSTOM HOUSE & COMMISSION AGENT***ATTENDS TO LANDING,***CLEARING & SHIPPING OF CARGO***(Office close to the Hatoba,)***NO. 41.***Yokohama, October 1st, 1879.*

tf.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.**

No. 4 of the 12th Year of Meiji, (1879.)

**SIRIYASAKI LIGHTHOUSE.****STEAM FOG SIREN.**

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice, that a Steam Fog Siren has been erected at Si iyasaki lighthouse.

Siri yasaki, at the entrance to the Tsugaru Straits, is the extreme north-eastern point of the Province of Mutsu, in the Island of Nippon.

The Siren will be sounded during fogs, snow storms or other causes that may render the outline of the land indistinct during the day, or the light by night.

The blast from the Siren will be of six seconds' duration with intervals of one minute. During such time as may be necessary for getting up steam for the Siren, or if from any accident the Siren cannot be sounded, the Fog Bell, hung from the balcony of the Lighthouse and rung by machinery, will be sounded at the rate of fifteen strokes per minute as before notified.

YAMADA AKIYOSHI,  
*Minister of Public Works.*

Tokai, 20th December, 1879.

14d.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.****MOTOYAMA BUOY.****SUWO-NADA, INLAND SEA.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the BUOY which marked the limit of the MOTUYAMA SHOAL, in the SUWO-NADA, has broken from its moorings.

The Buoy will be re-moored in its position on an early date of which due notice will be given.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,  
Benten,  
Yokohama, 11th November, 1879.**NOTICE TO MARINERS.****BLACK BUOY****OFF HANEDA LIGHTHOUSE,  
BAY OF YEDO.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this Buoy advertised as having broken adrift from its moorings on the 8th instant, has been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,  
Benten, Yokohama,  
12th December, 1879.



## MISCELLANEOUS

# J. & E. ATKINSON'S PERFUMERY,

CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained the following

## EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA, 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876. VIENNA, 1873.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY,"  
PARIS, 1878.

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And all other odours, of the finest quality only.

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A most fragrant Perfume, distilled from the choicest Exotics.

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A very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

## ATKINSON'S Ethereal Essence of Lavender,

A powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

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Quinine Tooth Powder, Violet Powder, Macassar Oil, Glycerine Cream,

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ESTABLISHED 1799.

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12m. 26in.

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Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
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YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
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OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
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YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,  
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Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.

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PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,  
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July, 1878.

52 ins.

**H. MacARTHUR & Co.,**  
No. 179.

LAND, <sup>AND</sup> <sub>OR</sub> SHIP, AND CLEAR  
CARGO,

AT MODERATE RATES.

Yokohama, April 5, 1879.

tf

## THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

**CANOMILE PILLS** are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengthener of the Human Stomach." "Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years. Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

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STOURPORT, ENGLAND.

**SHEET IRON,**

BRANDED

"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

**TIN PLATES,**

BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"  
"ARLEY" "STOUR."

*Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,  
and Close Annealed.*

Export Agents—

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April 6, 1878.

52ins.

**KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES,**

COUGHS,  
ASTHMA,  
BRONCHITIS,

ACCUMULATION OF PHLEGM.

Composed of the purest articles. These Lozenges contain no opium nor any deleterious drug, therefore the most delicate can take them with perfect confidence. Their beneficial effect is speedy and certain. The old unfailing family remedy is daily recommended by the most eminent Physicians. (In use nearly 60 years).

**MEDICAL TESTIMONY.**

July 25th, 1877. 22, Cold Harbour Lane, London.

Sir,—Your Lozenges are excellent, and their beneficial effects most reliable. I strongly recommend them in cases of Cough and Asthma. You are at liberty to state this as my opinion, formed from many years experience.

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Mr. T. KEATING, Indian Medical Service.

Dear Sir,—Having tried your Lozenges in India, I have much pleasure in testifying to their beneficial effects in cases of Incipient Consumption, Asthma and Bronchial Affections. I have prescribed them largely, with the best results.

W. B. G.—, Apothecary H.M.S.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are sold by all Chemists, in bottles, of various sizes, each having the words "KEATING'S Cough Lozenges" engraved on the government stamp.

**KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,**

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL** or **THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.—SOLD IN BOTTLES BY ALL CHEMISTS.

Proprietor, **THOMAS KEATING, London,**

Export Chemist and Druggist.

April, 1879.

6in.

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CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND  
EXPORTERS

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

**MACHINERY.**

May 4, 1878.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

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**WONDER OF MODERN TIMES!**

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Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

Sir SAMUEL BAKER,

In his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakay that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

**SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!**

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.**

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

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In his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World  
May 17th, 1873. tf.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA

EXHIBITION, 1876."

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**WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH**

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER, AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

**OAKEY'S**  
**INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS**

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

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MANUFACTURERS OF  
EMERY, EMERYCLOTH, BLACK LEAD, CABINET, GLASSPAPER  
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July, 1879.

52ins.

Printed and published for the Proprietors by the Manager  
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16 Bund  
Yokohama.



# THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF  
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

Vol. IV. No. 3.]

Yokohama, January 17, 1880.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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## SILK.

THE first and most important *semestre* of the season being completed, we may perhaps be permitted to review the course of trade in this article, compare a few statistics, and take a glance at future prospects; not failing to "point the moral" as occasion may arise.

On the whole the present position of the trade may be considered fairly satisfactory: indeed some of the general prosperity of the world would seem to have reached as far as the benighted Silk-exporter; and while the Import merchant gazes with complacency on the result of his ventures in Yarn, or the Teaman contemplates with satisfaction the returns given by his shipments of "spring-leaf", even the poor long-suffering Silk-man may feel that at last his labour has not been in vain. Without doubt Japan silk has participated in the much-talked-of "revival of trade": whether the demand is principally speculative, or based on a real improvement in the manufacturing branch of the industry we will not stay to inquire, but merely observe that, at least in America, there seems to be a legitimate and increasing demand on the part of consumers for the raw-silk of this country.

Turning to statistics we find the export for the past six months compared with recent years to be as under:—

	1879.	1878.	1877.
England .....	4,780	8,512	8,234
France .....	4,892	6,517	6,654
America .....	2,847	1,536	611
Other countries .....	67	849	1,193
	12,586	11,908	16,692

In these figures there are two salient points which claim our attention. First, the extraordinary falling-off in the shipments to "Other countries" (presumably Italy and Switzerland); and secondly the still more remarkable increase in the quantity destined for the United States. It may be that the first change is accounted for by the fact

that large quantities of Japan silk now find their way from Marseille—which is becoming more or less an emporium of raw material for the manufacturing districts of France, Italy or Switzerland—and that the reduction is therefore more apparent than real. On the other hand the increase to America seems really sound; and, as we hope to shew further on, is brought about by the intrinsic excellence of Japan raw silk as now produced here.

There is no doubt that from 1874 to 1876 the produce of this country reached the very lowest depth of inferiority; and turning to our files for the year 1875, we find the columns filled at short intervals with leaders, denunciations, and warnings, inspired by the indefatigable labours, researches, and travels, of these honored patriarchs of the trade,—JACQUET and PRIQUET. Careless reeling, and bad quality of cocoons caused by the suicidal export of "seed," each in turn received its share of blame; while the powerful influence of H. B. M. Consul for Kanagawa was apparently invoked, for we find his Trade Reports for the years 1874 and 1875 teeming with remarks on the prevailing evil. And it is certain that Japanese silk at this time did really fail to command its intrinsic value in the markets of the world; this melancholy position being doubtless brought about by the great inferiority of the staple, as well as from the fact that the large export of silkworm-eggs enabled European throwsters to supply themselves with Japan raw silk grown in Europe, to the great detriment of the legitimate grower of the article here.

On the 16th of October, 1875, we published a letter from a well-known silk-inspector; in which, after reviewing the comparative merits of China and Japan silk, and strongly advising the Japanese to improve the culture and reeling of their produce before their great neighbour should awake from the conservative torpor in which she seems so fast bound, the writer concluded with this remarkable passage:—

"Now the Japanese have hitherto shewn some inclination to adopt Western ideas and civilization—at any rate on the surface of things—and there is no doubt that, if they will give themselves up liberally to the idea of growing their silk in accordance with European usage, they may for many years to come ensure a ready and even eager market for their produce at good and remunerative prices. On the other hand, if they do not take warning in time, the present dislike among consumers to Japan silk will increase, until it becomes what is so forcibly expressed by the words a 'drug in the market.'"

For some time it seemed as though this good counsel had fallen upon stony ground, and very little improvement was perceptible. Then, in 1876, came the whirlwind of frantic speculation; during which men cared not for quality, so that they could secure something with the name

\* The complement to these almost prophetic words may be found in the quotations we made a few weeks ago from Mr. Wyckoff's recent work published under the auspices of the Silk Association of America, and some of which (in spite of the seeming plagiarism) we shall venture to quote again later on, so important do we feel the lessons taught therein.

of silk, and plenty of it. After this typhoon (leaving sad scars in its track) had passed away, a season of calm prevailed, in which our native friends began in earnest the work of improving the reeling and preparation of their produce. It is true that for some years previously the Government had fostered a "filature" under its own imperial wing, and that in some other districts the Ken authorities had followed the august example; but now the idea was taken up with avidity by the general producers of Shinshiu, Joshu, and Koshu, with the result that factories for the re-reeling of hanks or reeling of silk à l'Européenne have rapidly increased until at the present writing there are reported to be over seven hundred such establishments in operation. The re-reeled Maibash hanks find appreciative buyers in the United States, while the better kind of filatures proper compete successfully with European-grown silk in the markets of Lombardy, Piedmont, and the South of France.

We say "European-grown" silk advisedly, for it is beyond controversy that the great bulk of so-called European silk is now nothing but *Japan silk grown in Europe*. It is also incontrovertible that (other things being equal) worms reared in their native land will produce better thread than those transported in embryo several thousand miles, and there reared in a strange climate with alien food. This postulate is much strengthened by the failure to "reproduce" in the magnaneries of Europe the Japan worm from the imported seed. We believe that the result of gradual acclimatization might be different; but as the matter stands at present, the abrupt transition from so great a distance would appear to seriously affect the constitution of the worm, making it incapable of reproduction the second year, thus causing growers to clamour each season for "fresh seed." From these premises we draw the inference that if our native friends still follow the path of improvement they will eventually succeed in placing their home-grown produce above the European-grown; even should they continue the insane policy of supplying their European rivals with the sinews of war in the shape of those *cartons*, which are so cheerfully given away for a mere song, but which would prove mines of wealth to all concerned were they retained for growth in this country.

The rapid increase in the production of these improved kinds may be gathered from the following statistics taken from the records of the local dealers—the figures representing native boxes of about fifty-five catties nett.

	1879.	1878.	1877.	1876.
Filatures .....	4,800	2,900	1,600	1,100
Re-reels .....	4,100	1,800	150	none

The bulk of the filatures proper go to Europe, and there sell at the same prices as ordinary Brutia or Italian raws; indeed it is a matter of notoriety that the recent large settlements in these kinds have been mostly shipped to the Lyons market. At present the best Japan raws cannot displace the high class silks of Novi and the Cevennes; but there is no reason why in course of time they should not even excel them, if producers here will retain the best seed for their own use and devote still greater attention to the careful sizing of the silk when reeled. The great complaints of manufacturers refer to the uneven size; this can only be remedied by very careful sorting of cocoons before the reeling is commenced, and by special care being taken, at the *bassine*, that no thread shall be allowed to run a strand short even for the smallest distance.

The figures last quoted are well worthy our attention, shewing as they do that within the last three years a new kind of raw silk has sprung up here; the demand for which has been entirely created by the desire of manufacturers in the United States to obtain a *labour-saving* material. We allude to the kind tabled above as Re-reeled and known

by the Japanese as "Chankuri" (presumably a compound of *chanto*, correctly, perfectly, completely, and *turn*—to reel). They are not strictly speaking "filature" silks in the proper sense of the term, but consist of Joshu and other hanks bought up by native dealers, and by them given out to various factories (mostly of small size) for sorting, cleaning, and winding anew. These, when made up into skeins with *bouts noués* and properly assorted, are calculated to save the throwster from fifty to seventy-five per cent of time and waste at the winding-engine; and as, in America, labour is very dear, it pays the consumer there to get such cleaning, sorting, etc., done in the country of production. For years past there has been a great export of Hainin and Tsatlee re-reels from Shanghai to the States; but these seem now in a fair way of being entirely supplanted by the Chankuri of Japan.†

Let us once more hear what Mr. Wyckoff says on this subject:—"The re-reeling" (in China) "is however not always well done. Aside from carelessness, which alone would deteriorate the value very largely, there is considerable imposition practised in adulterating Chinese raw silk. Sugar, salt, rice, and acetate of lead are mentioned as among the substances used for adulteration. At intervals there have been brief periods when there was more care and less fraud in Chinese re-reeling; at present there is a season of backsliding, and the raws are about as bad as they have ever been."

"The Japanese have taken a different course. Within four or five years they have established a number of filatures where excellent work is performed. The government has encouraged the work and owns one of the filatures, where skilled operatives from Europe were employed at first, and native labour has since been educated. The result has been that, while the Chinese have improved a very little, the Japanese have advanced with singular rapidity, and their silk has taken rank with the best in our market."

This singularly corroborates what we have said above as to the relative values of the best Japans with Europeans in the markets of the world; and is a strong encouragement to reellers here, never to slacken their endeavours until they stand on the topmost pinnacle of perfection. In connection with this subject we may also notice that, while the total import of raw silk into America has increased but slowly during the last few years, the excess in Japans has grown rapidly; thereby seeming to displace other kinds, presumably Chinese and European. We give the total imports into the United States, compared with exports from Yokohama, for corresponding years:—

	1872	1875	1878
Imports in lbs. av. ....	1,244,193	1,890,482	1,690,663
Export hence in bales ...	158	58	2,386

These facts and figures would seem to bear out abundantly the assertion that there is a vast outlet in the United States for this product of Japan; and it may be confidently predicted that the market will be capable of almost infinite extension in future years, as the broad continent between the two oceans becomes peopled with the vast millions of the next generation. We cannot refrain from congratulating our Japanese silk-men on the promptitude with which they have risen to the occasion. We cordially urge them to go on and prosper, to take for their motto the watchword "Excelsior," and never to rest satisfied so long as the least imperfection remains in their

† It is curious to note that the immense increase in the export to America from this country has entirely arisen since these Chankuri were first made: thus,—

Export, season 1876 to 1877.....	150 bales, (no re-reels made.)
" " 1877 to 1878.....	1,411 "
" " 1878 to 1879.....	3,200 "
" half season 1879 to 1880.....	2,847 "

work. We are sorry to say that there is some foundation for a warning on this point. We transcribe a portion of the last report of the Silk Association of America bearing date Wednesday, 14th of May 1879.

"There has been a large increase in the receipt of raw silk from Japan. The quality has not, however, been quite satisfactory in all instances, owing to a want of care in preparing this silk for the market. This defect has been specially noticed in respect to the Kakedas. The silk from the best filatures is not open to this criticism. The deservedly good repute of Japanese silk was only won a year or two ago by diligent effort; it can be lost even more rapidly by carelessness."

This extract especially hits the mark with regard to Kakedas, as the large and well-nigh unsalable stock here amply proves. The evil has indeed grown during the present season; and, although it is true that the Japanese have not adulterated their silk with chemicals, yet they have done so to an alarming extent by reeling inferior Oshiu cocoons into the style and form of "Kakeda." Now it is well known, to all silk-buyers, that the district from which true Kakeda silk comes is of small extent and quite incapable of producing more than a fractional part of the silk which is put on the market under its name. The quality of true Kakeda silk, being of exceptional excellence, has made for this class a name of renown; and it is no secret that reelers have attempted to profit from this by making nearly all Oshiu silks into so-called Kakeda, and thus bringing disrepute upon the original good stock. To such an extent has this been practised of late, that, until quite recently all Oshiu sorts (Sendai, Harimichi and even Hamatsuki) were reeled in this fashion: and not until buyers made a determined stand against the imposition did the original forms of Oshiu reappear. This is an abuse which must be eradicated at all cost, if Japan wishes to hold her own among the silk-producing countries of the world. Commercial probity and mercantile honesty cannot be trifled with in the slightest degree by any people aspiring to the front rank in the great Commonwealth of Trade; the least suspicion of chicanery or disingenuousness will surely be discovered, and the recoil will be felt with tenfold severity by the people practising it. On the other hand the straight and onward path will invariably lead to the highest renown and success. Especially then does it behove our native friends, in a case like the present where a good foothold has been fairly gained, to take the greatest care, so that nothing within their control shall check their forward march even for a day. We should like to print in letters of gold the pregnant sentence quoted above:—"THE DESERVEDLY GOOD REPUTE OF JAPANESE SILK WAS ONLY WON A YEAR OR TWO AGO BY DILIGENT EFFORT; IT CAN BE LOST EVEN MORE RAPIDLY BY CARELESSNESS."

#### THE IMPERIAL MINT.\*

THE Commissioner's report scarcely loses in value because it is published six months after the date at which the year of which it treats expires, any more than the circumstance that its author spells the era in which he lives "Meiji," while the Educational Department adopts the literation "Meidi," detracts from the value of his compilation. Neither section of the public service has yet adopted any of the most specially approved etymologies of the capital, which is still allowed to remain recognizable, in its former literation, on the title page of each of the two productions.

\* Report of the Commissioner of the Imperial Mint for the year ending the 30th of the sixth month of the 12th year of Meiji (30th June 1879). Tokio: printed at the Kappann of Inseten Kioku.

The present is the ninth report of the working of one of the most important departments of the public service, and one which has had and will continue to have the satisfaction of making a fair annual return to the Government resources. The pamphlet includes the official statement of Mr. Ishimal, the Commissioner, and the reports, to that gentleman, of the foreign Technical Adviser to the establishment, Mr. W. Gowland, F. C. S., Associate of the Royal School of Mines, and Mr. Robert MacLagan, M. I. M. E., Engineer, these being at this time the only foreigners employed in the service of the Imperial Mint at Osaka. Regarding the general aspect of the receipt of bullion during the year, the Commissioner remarks that "compared with the last year, there has been an increase in the number of importers, as well as in the amount imported, of gold; whilst the importation of silver has suffered a decrease, owing to the fact that the greater part of the old silver coins had already been gradually recoined. There has also been a large decrease in the importation of new or tile copper on account of the recoinage of old copper cash, which has just been commenced." The amount of gold bullion imported into the Mint was 23,504 ounces Troy, that of gold of standard fineness accepted for coinage 25,349 ounces: silver bullion imported into the Mint 1,638,082 ounces: silver of standard fineness accepted for coinage 1,797,177 ounces. Of the value of precious metals thus received a very small percentage was in worn coins of the country. English gold money to the weight of rather more than thirty-eight ounces was among the quantity received into the Mint. Of copper bullion 817,701 pounds avoirdupois was imported, whereof 290,197 pounds was native copper, and the rest, Tempo, Bunkiyo, and Nirin zen.

Gold coined during the twelve months was exclusively in five *yen* pieces, to the number of 92,079: value 460,865 *yen*. Of the rather more than two million dollars worth of silver minted, the great majority was in *yen* tokens, the balance being 20,150 ten *sen*, and 144,733 five *sen* pieces. Upwards of eighty-three million copper coins, of two, one, and one-half *sen*, were struck, attaining a total value of 897,286 *yen*. Since the first establishment of the Mint eighty-six million dollars worth of coins has been minted. During the year, eighty-nine ingots of refined gold have been supplied to the Imperial Government; and the whole number of ingots supplied of precious metal since the tenth month of the eighth year, is three hundred and ninety refined gold and ten refined silver, aggregating in value upwards of 4,049,715 *yen*. The manufacture of refined copper ingots, for the purpose of exportation for foreign markets, having been recommended and approved of during the second month of the year, a considerable number of such ingots has been already produced and awaits further instructions as to exportation. In addition to the usual work of the department, a number of medals were manufactured: two bullion balances were constructed for the printing bureau in Tokio; and Mr. Y. Ohno Shiogishi, a superintendent, having received an order from the Imperial Household Department to manufacture a clock for use in the palace, applied his time for five months to its fabrication; and having at length successfully completed the work, he himself took it to the capital, and was presented with some amount of money as a reward for his labour.

Six hundred and five officers and men constitute the staff of the establishment. The percentage of sick admitted to the hospital attached to the mint was comparatively small. Sixteen thousand persons visited the works during the year, the far greater part on Tuesdays, on which day the place is open for inspection by the general public. It is interesting to note that no counterfeit coin have been found; but transfigured and silver-plated copper coins have



been detected to the number of twenty-eight only in all the divisions of the empire.

With regard to the operations in the refinery the Commissioner states that of pure Troy ounces, 58,078 gold, and 1,118,282 silver, were dealt with. The important decrease in the amount of bullion refined during the year is mainly to be attributed to the fact that the refining or parting of the previously accumulated stock of old coins, both gold and silver, held by the Imperial Government, had all been completed.

An average of between fourteen and fifteen thousand *kin* of sulphate of copper was sold by the Mint during the period reviewed; and the Sulphuric Acid works have been fully occupied as before. The extraction, in China, of a small percentage of gold contained in her old "sycee," for which purpose concentrated sulphuric acid is mostly consumed in that country, still continues to be successfully carried on. Of the 2,890,428lbs manufactured in the works 594,891lbs were taken up for home consumption: the balance 1,855,557lbs were exported, 1,595,678lbs of which were sold in the neighbouring empire through the China and Japan Trading Company. The Commissioner says that it is very encouraging to record, for the first time, that a large amount, 146,201lbs of brown sulphuric acid had been disposed of for Japanese use only. This acid is of late becoming more generally used for local consumption by several newly established manufacturing firms of indigo, paper, bleaching-powder and the like, who are gradually increasing in number and importance year after year, a gratifying tribute to the augmentation of native industry and enterprise. A total of about twenty thousand pounds weight of muriatic, and eight thousand of nitric acid was also sold from the Mint retorts. Buildings are in course of erection, on property acquired by the Mint, for the manufacture of carbonate of soda, in conjunction with that of sulphuric acid.

There is little to add to this brief review of Mr. Ishimal's report, except that the memorandum of Mr. Gowland, the Chemist and Assayer, proves that the establishment is kept in a high state of efficiency. The pyx trials made in London and America coincide with the local analyses. It only remains for us to repeat what we have before asserted—that the Japanese coinage is of great beauty and full intrinsic value, and in every respect qualified to become, as it should be, the medium of exchange in all the ports of the Far East.

#### A SITE FOR THE ROWING CLUB?

AS each new year commences we have to chronicle the meetings of the members of the various institutions that are growing up among us;—the affairs of Church and State of these settlements. It is a pleasant task to note the tone of prosperity that rules through the reports of these associations so far as concerns the doings of the past year. But it is to the Amateur Rowing Club that we wish especially to allude at present. This popular club, numbering more than one hundred and twenty members, and having an ample revenue, is in evil plight;—is threatened in fact with dissolution; not from internal disorder, not from apathy of its members, not from any symptoms of decay which presage a gradual falling into disuse; for never before were the members so unanimous, never was there so earnest a feeling, not only among the members but we may safely say among the whole community, that the Rowing Club is an Association so necessary to the comfort if not to the health of a majority of the settlement, that it must not be allowed to fail. The danger that threatens it is the want of a suitable site.

When it was known that the Mitsu Bishi S. S. Co. would require the land lately occupied by the boat-house, we then suggested that the French Hatoba afforded a convenient site for the new premises, and we did not anticipate that any objection could be raised to our suggestion being given effect to. Centrally situated, and being as suitable a spot for the purposes of the Club as can be found in this bay, we considered it the best place for the new location. Disused as a landing place for cargo, the greater part of the space has become a promenade for pariah dogs; so when we were informed that the Committee of the Rowing Club had applied to the Governor of the Ken for permission to rent a part of the Hatoba, and had at the same time declared their wish to convert the desert into a smiling straud, we were astonished to find that any objection had been raised to the accomplishment of what appeared to all reasonable minds a public benefit. That there would be some delay, that there would be much struggling in the meshes of red tape that hedge about official rank, we anticipated. "International friendship and good will," interpreted by diplomatic action, has its disadvantages as well as advantages. Among the former is the rule that prevents the amiable Governor of this Ken from receiving a direct proposal for the lease of ground that is confessedly useless and profitless to him, while at the same time earnestly desired for the enjoyment of others. Had the Governor full power to entertain the proposal and decide upon the grant, we have no doubt that the matter would have been settled at once. We hear that a sentimental objection has been raised to the proposed location; but we can confidently state that the objection is far from well founded. The Club have offered to do as much as possible to secure the amenities of the public, and to see that the Hatoba, or that part of it which might be confided to their care, should be kept free from even the appearance of what the most susceptible could construe into a nuisance. Further, they are willing to conform to all municipal regulations, so that the local authorities should not object to their occupancy. When we look along the sea-line bordering the settlement, we are forced to decide that the French Hatoba is the sole available site for the purpose. The local Japanese authorities will probably come to the same conclusion; and, if they do so, we hope and believe that they will reconsider the decision at which they are believed to have arrived.

REFERRING to what we have, on several recent occasions, written on the subject of copyright, it is interesting to observe, in the columns of the *New York Nation* that in America, where the introduction of an international arrangement has so long been opposed, favour is beginning to be shown to the plan. It is said to be generally understood that a vigorous push is to be made this winter at Washington to secure some provision for international copyright. "This attempt will be made under circumstances of a peculiar and novel character. Hitherto the agitation has been mainly promoted by authors. Now, however, for the first time in its history, a strong and united pressure will be brought to bear by the large publishing-houses," which have been the main opponents of the proposal when previously brought forward. In all discussions on the subject in America "the argument in favor of some international recognition of authors' rights has been mainly rested upon abstract considerations of justice and fair dealing, and it has been taken for granted that the present condition of the law was for the pecuniary advantage of the United States. In this instance, however, important business interests prove to be at stake. Hitherto, again, it has been generally assumed that international copyright,

though not yet given a place in the statute or treaty law of the United States, was still making a steady advance in public opinion, which would sooner or later produce its effect in legislation. The system of royalties paid to foreign authors by leading publishers—a growth of the last thirty years—has been often pointed to as a cheering proof of this tendency. It now appears, however, that the growth of public opinion is being sapped, and the system of royalties itself threatened in its weakest part, by a new and serious danger, which, if not checked, must in the long run reduce foreign authors' rights to the pitiful condition in which they stood thirty years ago, give a general license to piracy throughout the United States, and remit the enactment of an international copyright law to a period too remote to be a matter of interest to any of those who are now on the stage." The *Nation's* article is too long, however interesting, to be republished in this journal. The point that it most insists on is that the system, pursued by the highest class of American publishers, namely, that of securing the right to publish foreign authors' works through the 'courtesy of the trade' has broken down. This system has been a very simple one. "The house that desired to reprint a foreign book for the American market gave a sort of informal notice of its intention, and thenceforth was recognized by courtesy as having the right to republish that author's work without interference from other publishers. Not long ago, however, it occurred to some enterprising publishers of what would be called in England 'penny dreadfuls,' that they might reprint in an extremely cheap pamphlet form, books protected by the courtesy of the trade. They accordingly began to bring out, at a price slightly in excess of the cost of manufacture, current English books. Issuing them in this form, at regular weekly intervals, and numbering them consecutively, they succeeded finally in having them classed by the Post-office authorities as periodicals, and therefore entitled to the cheapest rate of postage. The effect of this was of course to threaten the royalty system in its most vital part. Such houses as the Harpers could not afford to go on paying foreign authors a royalty if books were placed on the market at such a price as to make the system unprofitable. The only way to meet this new danger was to insist at once on an international copyright law which would absolutely prevent piracy, and enable them to keep the control of the market." Following the line of reasoning here suggested it is easy to see how, at length, and almost by accident, it has suddenly become for the direct pecuniary interest of some of the largest publishing houses in the United States that international copyright should be established with all possible speed. More difficulties are still in the way than are at first apparent. The interest of foreign authors, American publishers, and the American public have all to be conciliated, in any scheme on the part of the United States. Among English publishers, according to the *Nation*, there appears to be a hostility to any change. "This probably grows out of a dread lest the amount of their direct exportations to the United States may to some extent be curtailed. It is also their honest belief that any restrictions on copyright as to manufacture are in themselves unjust." Our contemporary does not think that a treaty would meet the case, and proposes a scheme of its own. "For any international system of copyright the consent of both England and the United States is required. But it is not so for the purpose of securing foreign authors' rights in this country. There is nothing to prevent Congress of its own motion from establishing these by law without a step being taken in Great Britain. . . . There can be little doubt that with the powerful support of the publishers such an act could be passed without serious difficulty, and almost as little that it would be speedily followed by some enlightened permanent system. The only class that could possibly object to such an act would be foreign

publishers; and the interests of foreign publishers we are not bound to protect. Curiously enough, such a statute has been introduced into Parliament by the British Government, in accordance with the recommendations of the Copyright Commission. This bill provides that any alien, wherever resident, may acquire English copyright by first publication in the British dominions. When such a law as this is being favorable considered in Parliament, and a reciprocal scheme is being advocated on this side of the water by the only great interest which may be expected to have the opportunity of influencing legislation in Congress, it seems as if the day of international copyright ought not to be very far off. The alternative now is either international copyright or a system of piracy compared with which that practised hitherto would seem like evenhanded justice." We quote at some length because from the proposition of such views as are here enunciated the suggestion is self-evident:—Could not the Japanese Government, without having recourse to treaty, spontaneously enact measures for the protection of foreign authors, whose works are now pirated in translations and direct verbal appropriations in Japan?

AS the punishment of Pra Preechah, that Siamese nobleman who married the daughter of Mr. Knox, British Consul-General in his country, has attracted considerable attention, and a great deal of sympathy, from Europeans, which but for his foreign connection would probably never have been accorded, it is only fair to pay some regard to what is averred to be the other side of the question. It will be remembered that the marriage of Pra Preechah with an alien lady was alleged to be the first cause of his disgrace, subsequent ruin, cruel imprisonment, torture and final execution, as well as the degradation of all the members of his family and the confiscation of their property. It will also be recollected that Mr. Knox threatened the Siamese authorities with the vengeance of the British government for the ill-treatment of his son-in-law, and that the young English wife of the prisoner who is said to have been ignominiously put to death, recently left for Europe with her infant child. An occasional correspondent of the *Siam Weekly Advertiser* now traverses the whole popularly received story of Pra Preechah's wrongs; and it must be admitted that his version has some colouring, at least, of reason, inasmuch as the king and his advisers have long had the reputation of being progressive, anxious to act according to new found lights, and in general conformity with justice. This "occasional correspondent," then, says that he has perused the judgment pronounced by the High Court of Criminal Justice. The document, a very long one, bears ten seals of the principal judges, who had only the charges, answers and depositions before them, submitted by the seven judges who investigated the case. Four counts are dealt with: 1st. Failure to account for 871,961 ticals (\$523,176.60) of Government money. 2nd. Appropriating to his own use seven and a half cetties weight of gold from the mint. 3rd. Causing the death of Nai Ket with the intent to prevent his informing the King of the speculations at the Gold Mine. 4th. Causing two Chinese to be bound and thrown into the river and drowned. The evidence in all these cases was examined, and weighed, and Pra Preechah was found guilty on every count. It will thus be seen that the accused was condemned for at least two crimes of which conviction would have meant death in any community where murder is capitally punished. After reciting the local laws bearing upon the charges, the judges conclude their memorial as follows:

"The facts and the laws being as above stated, our opinion is that Your Majesty graciously raised Pra Preechah, made him a Privy Counsellor, and appointed him to govern the province of Pachum and work the gold mine; and he

should have shown gratitude, appreciated the favour shown him and performed his official duties truly and faithfully. He violated gratitude, received large sums of the King's money and fraudulently made away with them for his own benefit, and furthermore fraudulently appropriated a large amount of the King's gold, acting against the law and presumptuously disregarding the royal power to punish. Nai Koet, a dutiful subject, knowing of Pra Preechah's fraud, wrote a statement which Pra Preechah intercepted. Pra Preechah had him handed over to Hlaung Pachau to flog, strike, and imprison in the severest manner. He had him chained with a ring round his neck and squeezed into a cage under a house only just large enough to hold him. He commanded that only three mouthfuls of rice should be given him each day, until he died—died so that Pra Preechah's wickedness might be concealed. Again presumptuously he made his servants and slaves seize two Chinese caulkers, beat them, bind them hand and foot and throw them into the water to sink and die. Pra Preechah had no feelings of kindness or compassion. He assumed authority to punish in excess of the powers of his office. He feared not the royal power to punish. He dared commit these three crimes, and his criminality is deeper than that of ordinary criminals. His offences are felonies of the worst kind, and the law directs that all his possessions be forfeited, his wives and children and slaves seized, his title and rank taken from him, so that he return to his former name Som-ang; that the wretch Som-ang be then flogged ninety stripes, and he be taken and executed—a warning to Government servants not to follow his example."

Grievous, however, as the crimes mentioned are, even if their commission has been indubitably established, their punishment should not have been accompanied by the judicial barbarities said to have been inflicted upon the accused, and still less by the concomitant destitution and reduction to slavery of all his family and dependents. Indeed the *Siam Weekly Advertiser* adds that, while there was nothing on the document seen to shew that the King mitigated the sentence, it appeared that, while sanctioning the execution, His Majesty remitted the flogging. "Moreover it is probable that the sentence will not be carried out in respect of the seizure of wives and children." In another place we read that the latest accession to the alleged delinquent's "harem—the prelude of his misfortunes,—was neither disturbed nor interfered with by the Siamese Government. Rumor has it that she left Bangkok in the last trip of the British Steamer *Ban Yong Seng*, and considering herself the highest member of that harem probably improved the advantages of her position in appropriating what she may have judged was her right. As the Siamese Government did not dare bring her into its courts, she is now safely beyond their reach and power." The whole affair, as far as the foreign family is concerned, is an unutterably unfortunate one; but it contains a social moral which is evident and should not be disregarded. Nothing has, certainly, so far, transpired to give it the importance of a state question, or to justify that British interference which was sought and has been wisely withheld.

**S**ERICULTURE appears to be making progress in Asia Minor. We observe that very interesting information is supplied by the Beyrout correspondent of the *Journal Officiel* respecting the increased cultivation of silkworms and the spinning of the cocoons in Syria since 1850. In that year only five mills existed in Syria, of which three were in the hands of French manufacturers; there are now some seventy silk works, nearly all belonging to native spinners. This rapid extension is attributable to the fact of the low price of hand-labour and to the incontestable security which has been granted to the district by the Lebanon administration. The Lebanon works at present employ altogether about 10,000 hands, and produce annually from 140,000 to 160,000 kilos. of silk. The silk crop of the present year amounts, it is estimated, to 2,000,000 kilos., whilst that of last year yielded

about 2,500,000 kilos.; the quality is, however, thought to be much superior to that of last year.

**I**N India, too, the growth of silk is looked upon as an important adjunct to the other productions of the peninsula, though, there as elsewhere, the extreme sensitiveness of this branch of enterprise subjects it to unforeseen and serious checks. A correspondent has furnished the *Pioneer* with some interesting notes regarding this industry in the Gurdaspur district. He states that it has declined somewhat since the lamented death of an owner of a filature; and several persons who would have been silk-growers, had that gentleman lived, have failed to keep silk-worms for want of encouragement and help in the way of advances of eggs, money, &c. The present season has, moreover, been an unfavourable one; in some instances all the silk-worms of a silk-grower have died off, and the yield has not been generally more than half that of an average season. This mortality is ascribed by the natives to the effect of the winter drought on the leaves of the mulberry trees; but it is more probably due to the lateness of the season at which the eggs are hatched. The price obtained for the cocoons is about eighty rupees per maund for unpierced cocoons, and at this rate there is a fair market; one native gentleman at Umritsur alone having, it is said, purchased ten thousand rupees worth last year. He has sent men into the district again this year to effect purchases. An agent of a Bradford firm has also been buying extensively, and it is probable that he will acquire the filature at Sujjanp, and rear silk-worms in the neighbourhood. The writer adds that "the silk industry of the Gurdaspur and Kangra district is one of considerable interest and importance; and at present, when it may be said to be languishing, every effort should be made by the local authorities to foster and increase it. The extensive purchases alluded to will, no doubt, have a good effect—probably much better than any system of cocoon exhibitions and distributions of prizes would have produced, though it is understood that these will be continued."

**A** TERRIBLE fate is probably reserved for the lately captured chieftain of the Kwangsi revolt, at the hands of his imperial vanquishers. The *Peking Gazette* in its manuscript edition of the 4th of December, translated by the *N. C. Daily Herald*, thus describes his defeat and hints at his expiation. "The several forces hurried forward, and gained a succession of victories, recovering Cho-yai and other places in that country that had been seized by the rebels, who were nearly all captured. Chang Shu-sheng and Feng Tzu-ts'ai have now surrounded the remnant, and captured their leader Li Yang-ts'ai at Lung-teng-shan, for which action they deserve a certain amount of credit. The penalties attaching to so great a crime as that of Li Yang-ts'ai a military officer, who had collected together lawless characters to create disturbance, are great indeed." Feng, the general above mentioned, who was under a cloud for not having put down the revolt more promptly than he did, "applied some time since for the bestowal of penalties on himself because he had not seized the head of the rebellion;" but the rescript "commands that, as an act of special grace, he be spared the infliction of this penalty, and that he further be handed over to the Board for the bestowal of the highest marks of distinction. Here follows a long list of rewards to be conferred on numerous officers engaged in the campaign." The foreign press in China thinks that, while there is no chance of the insurgent's life being spared, and that he will be fortunate if he escapes execution by lingering and cruel torture, yet some leniency will be shown to the remnants of his forces, Li Yung Chai himself being sent to Peking for adjudication.



JAPAN is not the only Eastern country desirous of preserving in the hands of its own people what profit and benefit may accrue from the coasting trade. Its mammoth neighbor, China, is working towards the attainment of the same object, but by less direct means than those adopted by the statesmen of this empire. In his report on the trade of Wengchow for 1878, H. M. Consul notices what he justly calls an "important point." He alludes to the competition of junks and foreign vessels and the "enormous advantage which the former possess in paying duty at the native instead of at the foreign Customs. Not only are the duties at the native Custom House much lower, but further, though there exists a fixed tariff, it is constantly lowered to suit circumstances, with the object of keeping the carrying trade, as far as possible, in native hands. The Chinese authorities have a direct interest in this, as a large portion of their income is derived from the farming of these Custom Houses. One sailing vessel came to the port seeking for freight, but could only succeed in getting a half cargo, at such a low rate as to offer no inducement to return. Up to the present time foreign vessels have been totally unable to compete with junks."

MISSIONARIES in China have not always the quiet lives and uninterrupted ability to devote themselves to their duties which characterize the career of their brethren in Japan. *Feng-shui*, that mysterious and often obtrusive superstition, frequently, as in the case of the English Church Mission at Wu Shih Shan, near Foochow, causes them grievous annoyance. A still more recent instance of assault upon a clergyman has occurred in the same district; namely, at Yenping Foo, an inland city about three days' journey from the treaty port. The *Foochow Herald* continues to ascribe the hostility of the mob towards the professors of Christianity to the influence of the literati, and gives the particulars of the outrage. A Mr. Sites, an American preacher, visited the station of his society in the first mentioned town, where, shortly after his arrival, he and his flock were denounced and threatened, and his church menaced with destruction. He was warned by a local functionary, to whom he applied for counsel which he is said to have followed, to avoid holding any meetings. In spite of his compliance, however, he was severely beaten by a crowd in the street. The magistrate to whom he had first applied arrived on the scene of the disturbance in time only to save the life of the person assailed, who was so badly injured that he was obliged to be placed under medical treatment. Although in the Wu Shih Shan affair the Chinese were certainly very far from acting without provocation, this last riotous attack upon a man who is said to have been walking quietly through the town, after careful abstention from any action which might offend the multitude, remains, facts being as they are stated, without the shadow of an excuse.

MR. Gagliardi, writing to the *Echo du Japon*, from Suwayama on the 10th instant, makes an announcement which, if it is borne out by subsequent results, may well be called one of great importance to the industrial future of this country. He says that, on the sixth of October, he received orders from the Japanese Government to visit the Ibaragi Ken for the purpose of surveying the marble-bearing mountains in that district. During six days he explored the hills, making discoveries of marble of different colours. On the 13th of October he went to the great Mount Suma, whence he sends his despatch, and which, he says, is entirely composed of statuary marble; and on the same day he made the remarkable discovery of a black and very handsome marble, in no way inferior to the very finest produced in Belgium, and Bardiglio Fiorito, Italy. He does not profess to be a

geologist, but, owing to some peculiarities in the mountains, has reason to believe that they are in some way connected with the mounts of Carrara, which are so rich in marble quarries. On the 17th of October, Mr. Gagliardi returned to Tokio, taking with him a collection of several qualities of marble upon which he made his report to the Government. On the 4th of December he again left the capital for the Ibaragi ranges, accompanied by Mr. K. S. Attori. On the 8th of that month they visited the quarry discovered previously on Suwayama, and on the same day Mr. Gagliardi received orders to commence excavations. Work was instantly initiated; with the consequence that the prospectors are able to "ensure the Government a certain success in the exploitation and sale of its marble." The correspondent adds: "Mondiale Carrara has for two thousand five hundred years been the premier quarry of the world. Japan is now about to take its place. It is impossible to describe the riches which I have discovered in these hills, and if the colossal enterprise is developed with ability and energy, it will soon be one of the greatest industries of Japan."

IN an article on intercourse between Europeans and natives of India the *Malras Times* arrives at conclusions which have a pertinent application in other countries than the great peninsula. The writer holds that "wherever a sensible European comes in contact with a respectable, worthy native, intercourse on friendly terms is always established. The difficulties in the way of such intercourse arise from a self-sufficient feeling on the part of the European leading him to be indifferent to the natives, and from a mode of treating the European on the part of the native which he would never think of manifesting in his dealings with men of the same rank among his own countrymen. That there also exists contempt for each other on the part of some of both nations, we cannot but admit, but," it is added, "as such persons do not wish for mutual intercourse, we do not take them now into account." The politeness of manner with which Japanese will treat a native equal or inferior, is often in marked contrast to the rudeness of their demeanor towards a foreign superior or employer. And decidedly the fault is not with the Asiatics so much as with the Western people who have fostered and encouraged the disrespectful attitude of which they complain.

THE question of Pilotage Regulations having now been disposed of, this would seem a favourable opportunity for establishing a similar ordinance for the proper government and order of harbours. More than two years ago the officer in command of the American squadron in these waters, drew attention to the serious consequences that might arise from the chaotic state of affairs existing in this respect. The Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs replied by enclosing a series of regulations drawn up in 1872, and accepted by all the foreign Consuls, but which, nevertheless, seem to be wholly nugatory. A correspondent in a contemporary indicates the danger to life and property to which we are at present exposed, while Admiral Reynolds startled us with the statement, made, however on good authority, that the Yokohama anchorage is growing shallower on account of the quantity of ashes thrown overboard from steamers, a proceeding strictly forbidden in every properly regulated harbour. Ships, it appears, whatever their cargo or size, can anchor where and how the masters please, although they may be a source of danger, not only to other vessels in their neighbourhood, but also to people on shore, and this entirely because of the absence of a Harbour-Master with power to enforce a few simple and ordinary rules, such as can be found in every port in the civilised world. We cannot pretend to explain why the fair and reasonable regulations of 1872 have become

a dead letter; for, like many others, this is a case in which the introduction of order and regularity can only be of mutual benefit to foreigners and natives. As we now stand, a vessel ignorant of the harbour has no guide to a suitable anchorage ground, having due regard to her own requirements, as well as to those of the vessels around her. The question is one of importance, and we commend it to the careful consideration of the Government.

THE Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus which was, on the 13th instant, conferred by H. R. H. the Duke of Genoa, in the name of H. M. The King of Italy, upon Mr. Nomura Yasushi, Prefect of the Kanagawa *ken*, is one of considerable antiquity. Guillim, in his "Display of Heraldry," includes it in his list of "Degrees of Knighthood in Savoy." "These two Orders," he observes, "were erected by Emanuel Philibert, Duke of Savoy, in the year 1572, and at the request of the said Duke were confirmed and united into one Order by Pope Gregory XIII, who constituted the said Duke and his successors, Dukes of Savoy, Grand Masters thereof, obliging them to set out two galleys for the services of the Papal See against the Turkish pirates." As originally fixed, the Order was a green Cross of St. Lazarus (eight-pointed, and resembling the ordinary Maltese cross) charged with a white Cross of St. Maurice; this the knights wore suspended from a gold chain or from a ribbon. The robe was a gown of crimson, with a long train, and wide sleeves, and edged with white taffety, and a cordon with a tassel of white and green attached to its collar.

WE publish this week a translation from the *Choya Shimbun* on the subject of a National Assembly for Japan. The writer, who is evidently in favour of such an innovation upon the present form of government, regrets that the time has apparently not yet arrived, as the great bulk of the community is quite content with the continuance of the existing state of things. The agitation for a constitutional form of government proceeds, according to the native journalist, from a small but active minority, the vast majority looking on with apathetic unconcern. The *Choya* does not think that there will be any change made until it is imperatively and unmistakably demanded by the Japanese people, and not by a small and insignificant section thereof.

THE editor of the *Hochi Shimbun* is apparently much exercised in mind over the reported dispute between the Czar and the Czarowitch respecting the establishment of a constituent assembly in the Russian Empire. Native journalists, however, have a very astute way of ventilating their own opinions under various guises, and it seems probable that what the writer (of whose article we publish a translation elsewhere) really wishes, is to advocate a National Assembly for his own country.

#### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMORIALS.

MEMORIALS, of which the following are copies, have been circulated for signature among the mercantile community of Yokohama:—

To the Right Honorable

THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE TREASURY.

We, the undersigned, being members of the foreign mercantile community of the Port of Yokohama, beg respectfully to memorialize your Lordships in regard to the discontinuance, after next month, of the postal communication by British mail packets between Hongkong and Yokohama.

At present the outward European mails are received here weekly,—alternately by Peninsular and Oriental, and Messageries Maritimes, mail steamers.

Very irregularly some mails are received via America. We desire to call special attention to this, because there is apparently some misunderstanding on the subject.

For *homeward mails* the postal route via America is of great value to Yokohama:—the passages across the Pacific are rapid, and there is no detention of letters in either New York or San Francisco. But for *outward mails* the route is of little value:—the passages across the Pacific are much longer than on the return voyage, and as the departures from San Francisco are uncertain, letters are liable to a long detention in that port, no through mail being made up in England.

Moreover, at this time of the year, there is only one steamer in about every three weeks on this line.

Should then this Port be deprived of the British contract mail service, we shall be left with only a fortnightly regular delivery of outward mails, viz., by the French steamers.

For those brought by the Peninsular and Oriental steamers to Hongkong, we shall be dependent upon such uncertain opportunities as may be afforded by steamers coming this way:—and, as already said, the American route cannot be relied upon for correspondence.

It may be well here—to prevent misconception—to allude to the fortnightly line recently established by the Mitsu Bishi Mail S.S. Co., between Hongkong and Japan, and to say that this will not be available;—*1stly*, because it would be only by pure chance that the steamers of this line would connect with the Peninsular and Oriental outward mails; and *2ndly*, because their route is not direct, but via Kobe to and from this Port.

We understand from the Agent of the Peninsular and Oriental S. N. Co., that without a subsidy it will be impossible for the Peninsular and Oriental S. N. Co., as a private enterprise, to keep sufficient steamers upon this line, to maintain a regular connection at Hongkong with both homeward and outward contract mail packets, and that in their own interests they will be obliged to connect with the homeward only: and indeed should the freights earned be insufficient, they will cease to run their steamers between Hongkong and Yokohama altogether.

We would here advert to the importance of British commercial interests in this Port.

We find in the British Consular Trade Report for Kanagawa (Yokohama) for 1878, that Mr. Dohmen, H. M.'s Acting Consul, writes:—"According to the Customs Returns, the Imports from Great Britain amounted to \$20,236,694, and from British Colonies to \$885,296, in round numbers to 21 million dollars out of a total value of Imports of 26 millions from all countries, thus showing that the share of Great Britain in the direct Import trade amounts to four-fifths of the whole." (The share of the other ports of Japan in this is insignificant.)

In the same document we find that the Export trade to Great Britain and British Colonies formed about one-third of the whole Export trade of the Port, and amounted to nearly seven million dollars.

Further, that one-half of the Foreign Shipping entered and cleared was British, and that British firms and residents constitute about one-third of the whole foreign population.

We would therefore respectfully submit that to have only one regular mail from Europe fortnightly is not sufficient for the trade of the place, and that the large share which British interests take in that trade, warrants the continuance of a British mail service.

It might be added that there are also important mercantile interests here connected with the Colony of Hongkong, with India, with Australia, and with ports in the south of China; and that all these must also suffer by the withdrawal of the British mail service: the more so as it seems likely that the French mail steamer will ere long not connect with Hongkong, but proceed via Manila from Yokohama to Singapore, and vice versa.

We trust your Lordships may take these representations into consideration.

We are,

Your Lordships' most obedient servants,  
Yokohama, 13th January, 1880.

To the Directors of

THE EASTERN TELEGRAPH CO.

THE GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH CO.

Gentlemen,

We, the undersigned, being members of the mercantile community of the Port of Yokohama, Japan, beg leave to lay

before you our protest against some of the Rules and Regulations adopted at the International Telegraph Conference of London, 1879, and which, it is announced, are to come into force on the 1st of April next.

It seems to us that these Rules and Regulations are so framed as to exclude consideration of the public who use the Telegraph Lines, and to endeavour only to obtain the largest amount of payment possible from them.

We cannot but think that this must be inimical to the interests of the Telegraph Companies themselves, for although a combination may succeed in establishing such a monopoly as for a time to impose compliance, yet that it cannot be long ere such steps will be taken in other directions, as to place the public in a more advantageous position, and meet them on more liberal terms.

If it were found that the receipts of the Telegraph Lines at present were inadequate returns for outlays, we should have the less to say;—although even in such a case, all experience proves that a greater liberality produces a greater income. No more striking exemplification of this can be referred to, than the results of the reduction of letter postages.

Against two of the new Regulations we take leave especially to protest:—

1.—The limitation of groups of figures, to three figures as equal to one word.

2.—The exclusion of proper names, except in their natural sense.

The first is calculated to heavily tax the public, more especially in those countries where a decimal coinage is current, and where consequently four figures are required to express fractions of any value above nine.

The second—the reason for which it is difficult to understand—is entailing very serious inconvenience and expense on many whose Codes depended upon the use of proper names.

We trust that you will take these observations into consideration, and that these Regulations may yet be modified.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants.

Yokohama, 13th January, 1880.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

#### CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—So many innovations have been made by the Japanese during the last ten years, that one more, which I take the liberty to suggest through your much esteemed paper, namely the formation of a Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, would certainly not be amiss.

Everytime I visit Tokio, I am disgusted at the ill-treatment of the cab or omnibus horses plying in the Ginza, etc. These poor animals, with their sore backs and flanks, caused by the ill-fitting, hard, dry harness, which apparently is not greased from one year's end to another; with their broken knees and spavined legs, ill-shod and ill-fed; are driven through the streets of Tokio by their brutal drivers at a gallop; one pony having often to draw at that pace, a carriage holding eight passengers and the driver; being whipped unmercifully until the poor brute breaks into a sort of shambling gallop, and is kept up to it by repeated blows and the yells of the driver.

It is really time that some gentleman, who has influence with the native authorities, should for once act in this country as Mr. Bergh has done in America.

It is curious that the Japanese hardly ever ill-treat their dogs, although I could never find out, during the many years of my residence in Japan, what benefit they derive from the curs which they keep and pet; while their horses, through whose hard work many a native makes his living, are ill-treated in all manner of ways.

Hoping you will grant space in your valuable paper for the above, and that it may be conducive towards ameliorating the treatment of animals in general in Japan,—I am, &c.

Yokohama, 14th January, 1880.

H. F.

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

London, 15th January, 1880.

The *Times* in a leading article announces that a strained feeling between Germany and Russia continues.

Germany suspects France.

London, 13th January, 1880.

There are rumours that Russian Troops are concentrating on the German Frontier.

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 1ST MONTH, 17TH DAY, DO-YO-BI.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

##### DEATH.

On Jan. 14, F. C. BELMANNA, M.D., late Surgeon of the M.B.S.S. *Hiroshima Maru*, a native of Florida, U.S.A.

We have but scant mail news to record for the past week. The M. M. steamer *Tibre* left for Hongkong on Monday last, the 12th instant, at nine a.m., and was followed this morning by the P. & O. steamer *Malacca*, for the same destination. No European news has come to hand during the interval, but the M. M. steamer *Volga*, which left Hongkong on the 9th instant, may be expected to arrive at any moment. The Shanghai and way-port steamers have arrived and departed on schedule time.

Some months ago a rumour went the round of the native press an was translated into some English Yokohama papers, whence it has found its way into London journals in the following form:—

A learned Japanese has discovered, to his own satisfaction, that silkworms, which, as is generally known, are subject to many mysterious diseases, suffer from a defect of electrical current. We learn from Japan that one Sekimidsu Harukichi, of Fukuda Mura, Takaza Gori, Saigami, has invented an electric machine by means of which weak silkworms, treated to a current, are made strong and healthy. He has already experimented with his invention in Kurami Mura, and, finding that it is just the thing required, has applied for permission to vend it publicly.

A trade organ thinks that the same story has made the circuit of the world once or twice before, but is glad to reprint it, as the name of the inventor or discoverer was previously unknown. The writer sportively proposes "to ask the Lord Mayor to open a subscription list at the Mansion House, with a view to raising a testimonial to Sekimidsu Harukichi. His discovery will be really invaluable. Perhaps the *phylloxera* would disappear if the vines were treated to a few shocks from a galvanic battery; and possibly the potato beetle might be overcome by the same means."

Probably the most useful, although unobtrusive, adaptation of western ideas in Japan is the very efficient lighthouse system. The official list of lighthouses, lightships, buoys and beacons for the current year has now been published by the Department, and shews that considerable additions have been made to the means of protecting navigation on the coast during the past twelve months.

The limited attendance at the meeting of the subscribers to the Episcopal Church, Yokohama, on Thursday last, showed how little interest is apparently felt by those most concerned in the very important matters treated of in the report furnished by the outgoing committee. A failing revenue, a dilapidated parsonage, the speedy departure of a universally respected incumbent, and the arrival of another gentleman to take up his laborious duties, all urgently required attention; and yet not more than about eighteen or twenty gentleman who, with few exceptions, came late, could be got together to take into consideration matters of such vital importance. The departure of the Revd. W. Garrett alone should have secured a crowded and enthusiastic meeting to testify appreciation of the liberality shown by that gentleman, who out of his own private means has been so great a benefactor to Christ Church.

Properly refined petroleum oil, besides being a cheap, cleanly, and highly luminous means of artificial lighting, is far from



dangerous. When kerosene is perilous, it is when it is insufficiently purified, or adulterated after being refined. Under any circumstances, however, adulteration can be easily detected. A French professor of hygiene has recently announced a test that can be safely and surely applied by anyone. The process is as follows:—Pour a small quantity into a saucer, just enough to cover the bottom; then having first passed a lighted match over the surface, drop the match into the oil. If there is no adulteration, the oil will not take fire, and the match will be extinguished almost immediately.

It is reported that the "Shipowners' Combination" did not survive the end of last year, and that shippers in London are now left to take care, in their own way, of their own interests, as before.

A correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury*, commenting on the late additions to the Chinese naval force, thus writes:—"The terrible alphabetical gunboats, which have inspired the *Pall Mall Gazette* with such alarm and such a lofty notion of Chinese warlike preparations, and of the value of China as an ally, are at Tientsin where they are to be frozen in during the winter, a singular use to put these tremendous engines of warfare to! They rather block up the fairway of the river, and as the steamer *Eldorado* was dropping down the stream, she managed to give one of them a blow with one of the blades of her screw; this made a hole in the side of the gunboat, but as the shot and shell were promptly removed to the other side, she did not take in much water. But if the hulls of these gunboats are so penetrable, where is the cause for the alarm of the *Pall Mall's* paragraphist, who is thought to be a gentleman for many years in the employ of the Chinese Government at Foochow? We have heard before of some defects in these vaunted vessels of war. It is said that when the guns are fired, the rivets of the plates start."

A fire took place this morning at about 1 o'clock on the Bluff, in a small house in the premises of the French Consulate near the English Hospital. Luckily the weather was perfectly calm, and the fire was easily confined to the building in which it broke out, and was speedily extinguished.

It is asserted in the native press that fragments of partially burned wood were carried from the scene of the recent disastrous conflagration in Tokio twenty-five miles across the bay, and deposited in Chiba Ken, at a village known as Kisaradzu. Ashes and portions of records of the Tokugawa government were also wafted to the same spot. Considering the gale that was blowing at the time of the conflagration, there is nothing quite incredible in this statement.

It is rumoured that the cattle-plague, in spite of municipal precautions, has made its appearance in Nagasaki.

The amount collected in Hiogo, at the United States Consulate, where General Stahel opened a subscription list in aid of the sufferers by the late great fire in Tokio, exceeded one thousand yen, which sum, the *Hiogo News* says, has been forwarded to the proper quarter.

Our attention has been frequently requested of late to the really distressingly delapidated condition, during almost its entire length, but especially at the Ishikawa end, of the road leading from the sea, through and beyond Honmura. It is terribly bad on either side of the Messageries Maritimes' Coal Depot, being full of holes and elevations, which are always unpleasant and sometimes dangerous to riders in jinrikisha and horse-carriages, pedestrians and equestrians alike. As the thoroughfare is very much used by persons passing from the Bluff to the Settlement, and vice versa, there is good reason why it should be renovated. In spite of the continuously fine weather which we have long enjoyed, a fall of snow and subsequent thaw may rationally be expected before the close of the winter; and then what the condition of the ground will be in the locality indicated may well defy conjecture. Another grievance of which residents, both foreign and Japanese, have to complain is the inordinate delay shown in the reconstruction of the Mayeda, or middle bridge, beyond that conveyed in the aspect of a pile of scaffolding poles, themselves a serious obstruction to traffic, on the side of the road near where the bridge was, is made, even to the eye, of any approach-

ing improvement. As for the temporary wooden viaduct which has been thrown up to do duty for the permanent structure, it is deficient in space, almost inaccessible on the further side, rickety, and probably as perilous as it appears to be. These are matters which really require the notice of the municipal authorities, who, we trust, will give the matter early and efficient consideration.

We learn on good authority that there is no ground for the announcement of impending change in the Ministry recently made by the *Echo du Japon*.

In a "portrait in words" of Mr. Toole, the well-known actor, the *Whitehall Review* gives the following amusing account of an incident in that gentleman's professional career as narrated by himself:—

"Some years ago, when I was playing in 'Dearest than Life' with Irving and Billington, after the play several gentlemen were in the general room of the hotel where we were staying, and among them a certain Mr. Jones, who professed to have a large acquaintance in the profession, and who appeared to have a local reputation as a judge of ages.

"Well, how old," said some one, "would you take Mr. Toole to be?"

"Well," said he, "sixty-five, if he's a day."

"Do you know him?" I asked.

"Oh, yes; know him very well indeed."

"Ah! and how old should you take me to be?"

"Well, I should take you to be forty, if you're a day."

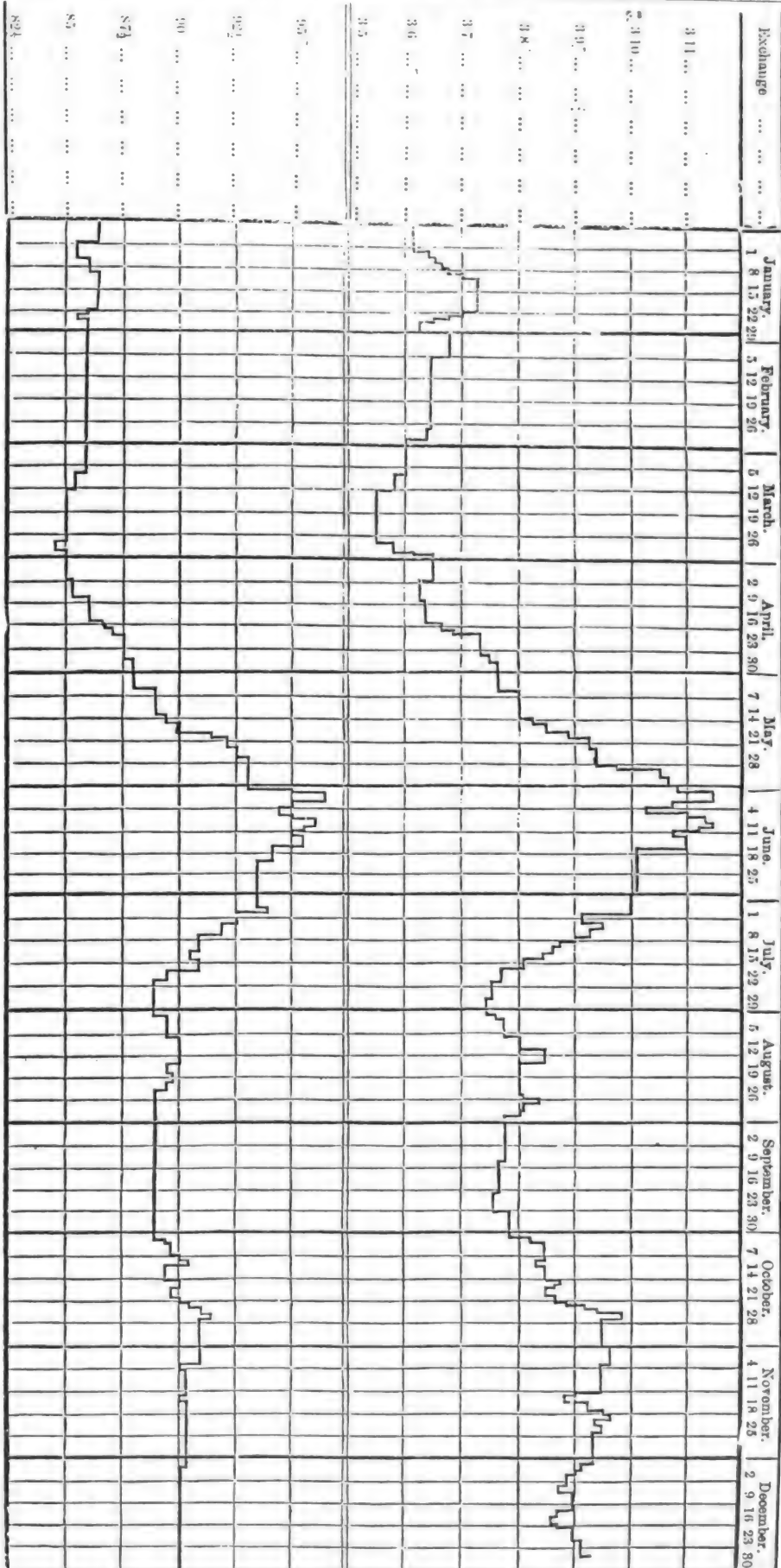
Irving asked Mr. Jones if he didn't think Mr. Toole was nearer seventy-five than sixty-five. "No," he said, "sixty-five if he's a day;" and the company present seemed to put it down that that would be my age. They had most of them been to the theatre and seen me, for the first time probably, playing an old man, and as it was my first visit to the town, and we were going on by the mail train that night, I had a fancy not to go away and leave them under the impression that I was this very old gentleman. I found that Jones was a decent sort of fellow, and I said aside to Irving that before I went I should just give him my card and let him know what a mistake he had made. By and by, when our cab arrived, we said good night to our casual acquaintances, and taking Mr. Jones aside, I handed him my card, whereupon he said "Oh, indeed!" in a very offensive manner, turned upon his heel, and walked away.

"Well," I said to my friends, as we drove away, "that's the most impertinent fellow I think I ever met." Whereupon Billington and Irving went into fits of laughter, and presently confessed that they had warned Mr. Jones that I was continually passing myself off as Toole, and that he was to be quite prepared for my handing him a card and continuing the imposition with him."

In a very interesting account of an interview one of its reporters had with Mr. Rivers Wilson, the quondam Finance Minister for Egypt and Chairman of the Commission of Inquiry into Egyptian Affairs, the *World* has the following on the origin of those Turkish and Egyptian foreign debts which have created so much trouble and anxiety in the politics and finance of Europe. "It must be conceded in favour of Turk and Egyptian that, until after the Crimean war, they knew little or nothing of borrowing. The rulers got all they could squeeze out of the wretched fellahen; and when there was no more to be got, a check was given to the building of palaces and the purchase of beautiful slaves. But it fell out one day that Saïd Pasha, the ante-penultimate Viceroy, thought he should like a couple of millions sterling. It could not be got out of his people then and there, and some kind person suggested the expedient of a loan. Saïd Pasha, hardly believing anybody would lend him as much, thought the thing worth trying, and lo, the sum was subscribed six or seven times over; whereupon he exclaimed in amazement, 'God is great: let us take the money of the infidel!' It was, however, pointed out to the 'childlike' Mahometan that he could only have two millions just then. He sighed and surrendered, but his soul yearned for the balance. And he went on; for what were Oriental tales of genii in pots and caverns, or of magical lamps, compared with such wealth as the Stock Exchanges of Europe were ready and anxious to produce? It was like a dream, as subscribers to the Egyptian debt of about a hundred millions sterling have discovered. The blunder of the late Khedive was that he could never keep his hands off this Aladdin's lamp. He was a potentate of large ideas and expensive habits, and he continued rubbing the lamp till one day it went out; but had he kept within reasonable bounds and paid his interest, the credit of Egypt might to-day have been nearly as good as that of the State of Massachusetts. That cannot be now; but Mr. Rivers Wilson appears to have faith, to a certain extent, in the new ruler, Tewfik Pasha, whose personal habit of economy is a species of guarantee against that reckless disregard of the future which characterised the last two Egyptian Governments."



CHART EXHIBITING THE FLUCTUATIONS IN EXCHANGE ON LONDON AND NEW YORK.  
FOR THE YEAR 1870.



The Chart shows the rate of Exchange for Bank drafts at sight. The lowest rate during the year was reached on March 19th, 3/5 $\frac{1}{2}$  on London, and on March 28th, 84 $\frac{1}{2}$  on New York. The highest rate was reached on June 6th and again on June 16th, 3/11 $\frac{1}{2}$  on London and on June 6th, 96 $\frac{1}{2}$  on New York.

The mean rate for the year is 3/8 on London and 88 $\frac{1}{2}$  on New York.

### BRITISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT.

The annual general meeting of subscribers to the English Episcopal Church for the purpose of receiving the accounts and report for the past year, and for the election of office bearers for the current year, was held on Thursday afternoon at the Chamber of Commerce rooms.

The following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. Wilkin (Chairman), Kirkwood, Robison, Keawick, Whittall, D. Anderson, Dallas, Rickett, D'Iffanger, Ahrens, James, Enslie, Leckie, Reid, and others.

The Chairman (Mr. Wilkin), read the advertisement convening the meeting and called upon the Hon. Secretary (Mr. James) to read the minutes of the previous annual meeting and of the special meeting held in October last. This having been done the minutes were passed as correct.

The Secretary then read the following

### GENERAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CHRIST CHURCH, YOKOHAMA FOR THE YEAR 1879.

#### TO THE SUBSCRIBERS, GENTLEMEN:

The Committee of the British Episcopal Church Establishment at this port in closing their year of office beg to submit their accounts and report for the year ending 31st December, 1879, which shew as follows:—

#### RECEIPTS.

Amount received for pew rents during 1879	\$2,450.00
" to credit of "passage money" transferred ... ..	10.67
" received from Easter collection ... ..	50.00
" Special subscription from juniors... ..	95.00
" " at meeting 21 Oct... ..	235.00
" " per Committee appointed at that meeting ... ..	610.00
Balance carried down ... ..	109.16
	<u>\$3,559.83</u>

#### DEPENDENCY.

Amount due for Seat Rents, but not yet collected	\$100.00
Special Subscription received from the Rev. W. F. H. Garratt.....	400.00
	<u>\$500.00</u>

#### DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid balance due Treasurer, 31 Dec., 1878 ... ..	207.88
" Incumbent's stipend for 1879... ..	2,400.00
" premium on fire policies on church, parsonage and organ for \$10,000 ... ..	252.00
" for sundry repairs during 1879 ... ..	146.79
" " incidental expenses during 1879, including ground rent ... ..	553.16
	<u>3,559.83</u>

Balance due treasurer on 31st Dec., 1879 \$109.61

The accounts now presented have been audited by Mr. R. D. Robison.

The receipts from pew rents shew a falling off of \$300 as compared with the past year, which is a matter of great regret, but is to be accounted for by a number of sittings having become vacant, owing to numerous departures from Yokohama. The expenditure remains the same.

It having become apparent as the year went on that the total expenditure would far exceed the receipts, your Committee called a special meeting of seat-holders on the 21st of October, to take steps for placing the Church finances on a satisfactory basis, and a list which was there circulated, produced the sum of \$235. A special Committee was also appointed consisting of Mr. E. Whittall, Mr. R. D. Robison and Mr. J. Rickett, for the purpose of collecting subscriptions towards reducing the expected deficit and owing to the exertions of these gentlemen a sum of about \$800 was raised, \$610 of which has been already collected and appears in the present accounts, and the Committee take this opportunity of thanking those gentlemen for the very able way in which they have fulfilled their duties.

Your Committee would call your attention to the present dilapidated state of the parsonage: from estimates received, it is found that a sum of about \$900 will be required to put it into a thorough state of repair, and it remains a matter for future decision whether it will not be better to rebuild than to repair. It is estimated that, using the old materials, a smaller, but at the same time more convenient and modern house than the present structure might be put up for about \$2,000.

If it be decided that the parsonage should be rebuilt, it is proposed to raise the requisite sum on mortgage, but in the other case some steps will have to be taken to provide the funds for repairs. Your Committee have thankfully to acknowledge the munificent donation of \$400, from the Revd. W. F. H. Garratt towards this object. A bell and tower have been added to the Church, the entire cost of which has been defrayed by the Revd. W. F. H. Garratt, and is another gift from this gentleman, for which your Committee have to tender their best thanks. On the 4th of February, the Revd. W. F. H. Garratt, the present incumbent, sent in a letter of resignation to your Committee stating that he wished to be relieved of his charge within six months from the date of his letter, and finding that he could not be induced to remain, it was with very great regret that the resignation was accepted, and immediate steps taken to fill the vacancy. After a great deal of correspondence, with various clergymen, who wished to obtain the incumbency, it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Right Revd. Bishop Burdon, who had very kindly expressed his readiness to undertake the task of filling the vacancy. A letter was written to this gentleman by your Committee, giving a general idea of the kind of clergyman required and guaranteeing a minimum stipend of \$150 per annum with free use of parsonage, for a period of three years, and also guaranteeing the expenses of a passage from England up to £100, which sum was raised by special subscription. His lordship's agent in London after receiving the necessary instruction, inserted several advertisements in various clerical papers the result of which is, that the Revd. E. Champneys Irvine, late Vicar of Hinton Christ Church, Hants, has been engaged to fill the incumbency and sailed from England with his wife on the 27th of November, and may be expected here in a few days. Your Committee wish specially to acknowledge their obligation to the Right Revd. Bishop Burdon, for the care, trouble, and time which he has taken in the matter. It is with great regret that your Committee have to announce the resignation, of Mr. J. T. Griffin as organist and leader of the choir, which post he has filled so well and ably during a period of four years and they wish to express their thanks to him, and also to the ladies and gentlemen who have so kindly helped in the choral services.

In conclusion your Committee wish to tender their best thanks to the Revd. W. F. H. Garratt for the many great improvements which he has made to the Church during his incumbency, and the uniform support which he has at all times given in furtherance of the interests of Christ Church.

We remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,

F. S. JAMES, Treasurer,  
J. J. KEWICK,  
MONTAGE KIRKWOOD,  
A. J. WILKIN,  
E. WHEELER,  
J. J. ENSLIE.

The Chairman stated that the next business would be the reading of the report and accounts for the past year. The accounts had come out better than he expected, for the sum of \$109 only was owing to the Hon. Treasurer, while this time last year, it was \$207. This looked pretty fair, but they must bear in mind that there had been a great falling off in the pew rents and that even a further falling off might be expected. They would therefore have mainly to depend upon the continued exertions of the gentlemen who took an interest in keeping up the list of subscribers to the funds. The report and accounts were now before the meeting for adoption or otherwise.

Mr. Leckie proposed the adoption of the report and accounts. This was seconded by Mr. Anderson and carried unanimously.

The next business being the election of a Committee, Mr. Rickett proposed the re-election of the outgoing Committee. Mr. Robison supported the motion which was carried.

The Chairman asked if any member of the meeting had a suggestion to make as to the repairing or rebuilding of the parsonage?

Mr. Rickett wished to know if the Committee had received a tender for the rebuilding of the parsonage for \$2,000?

The Chairman said they got two tenders; one for \$1,500, and the other for \$1,650. Extras, were invariably necessary as many gentlemen were probably aware, and they had therefore put down the amount required at \$2,000.

Mr. D'Iffanger asked how the Committee proposed to obtain the funds, in the event of its being decided to put up a new building?

The Chairman said the money would have to be borrowed, but he understood they could obtain it without any difficulty for the purpose of erecting a new parsonage. The repairs of

the present building would cost \$900; of this sum the Revd. Mr. Garratt had promised \$400 and the remainder would have to be borrowed.

Mr. Rickett observed that under the circumstances it would be better to build a new parsonage on the hill, than repair the present one.

Mr. Robinson asked if \$900 were spent this year in repairs, would a similar expenditure be necessary every year afterwards?

The Chairman thought no further repairs would be required for many years.

Mr. James gave it as his opinion that the existing building was wholly unfit for a parsonage; it was dark and although large, there really was very little accommodation in it. In fact it was more like a great barn than anything else.

Mr. Rickett had noticed that the insurance was very high; could not the amount be reduced?

The Chairman explained that the insurance policies were for \$10,000, which included the church, parsonage and organ, the latter was only insured for \$2,000 when it actually cost \$4,000. If they had to rebuild the church and parsonage altogether, it would cost about \$15,000.

Mr. Kirkwood thought the present a proper occasion for the subscribers to take steps to inform the Revd. Mr. Garratt of the universal regret felt at his departure, and to assure him of the high appreciation in which his services while here, were held by the subscribers. Mr. Kirkwood accordingly moved a resolution to the foregoing effect. Mr. Keawick seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman instructed the Hon. Secretary to write to the Revd. Mr. Garratt in accordance with the terms of the resolution.

Mr. Rickett observed that before the meeting separated it would be well to have some expression of opinion respecting the question of rebuilding or repairing the parsonage.

The Chairman thought the question had better stand over until the arrival of the new incumbent. He should be consulted in the matter, and besides many of the subscribers had not been inside the present building, probably never given the subject any consideration and therefore might not be in a position to vote either way.

Mr. Dallas asked if any portion of the ground could not be utilized, so that they could obtain an income from it if the parsonage had to be rebuilt?

The Chairman thought not, without spoiling the compound. Besides which, land in the locality was not sought after as sites for dwellings.

There being no further business the meeting then adjourned.

#### THE YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

The annual meeting of this Club was held on the evening of the 13th in the Grand Hotel. Mr. J. Rickett occupied the chair and there was a very good attendance of the members, about thirty being present.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Chairman called upon the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. G. C. Wood, to read the following report and balance sheet for the past year:—

#### NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

In laying their Ninth Annual Report before this General Meeting, your Committee feel that the event of the year which most calls for attention is the removal of the boat-house from its late desirable site.

The necessity for this has, as the members are fully aware, been apparent since the last general meeting.

Thanks, however, to the extreme courtesy of the Mitsui Bishi Mail S. S. Company, the proprietors of the land, the building was allowed, upon the repeated solicitations of your committee, to remain until the end of the year just closed, thus enabling the rowing season and the Spring and Autumn Regattas to be enjoyed without disturbance.

The M. B. M. S. Co. required the ground, however, from the first of this month; and it devolved on your Committee to have the building removed. It was therefore taken down, and the materials, together with the boats, stored on an open lot on the Swamp, where everything is protected from the weather, and covered from risk of fire by the policy which formerly insured the boat-house.

The exertions of your Committee to obtain a new site have not been successful. Of the sites along the foreshore of the Settlement, two only appeared suitable; namely, the ground next the Custom House and the French Hatoba.

From inquiries made, your Committee found the former could not be obtained.

With the view of securing a place on the Hatoba, they addressed a letter to the Board of Consuls, laying the matter clearly before them, and requesting them to use their influence with the Governor of Kanagawa Ken to allow a boat-house to be erected thereon.

Your Committee regret they cannot at present say anything decisive on this important point, as the matter is still in the hands of the Board of Consuls and the Governor; but every hope is entertained that the request of the Club will be granted.

Your Committee cannot but think the members have reason to congratulate themselves on the financial position of the Club during the past year.

Early in the year the condition of the Club funds was such that your Committee considered it would be advantageous if the twelve remaining debenture bonds were paid off, thus saving half a year's interest. With the consent of the holders of the bonds this was done at an outlay, with the accruing interest, of \$635.50.

If it is remembered that the Club raised a loan for \$1,000 by debentures in the end of 1877, and that this amount has been paid off, with 10 per cent interest added, in less than two years, it will be apparent how prosperous the Club has been.

From the accounts presented it will be seen that a new "Canton four" has been added to the property of the Club, at a cost of \$210. A new supply of oars has also been received during the year, for which \$203.48 was paid.

The Spring and Autumn Regattas were held in June and October; and at both it was decided to have the races rowed over a course from Kanagawa to opposite the boat-house. The great advantage in this was the speed with which crews of boats could be changed, and the facility it afforded members and their friends of viewing the races from the boat-house.

The Spring Regatta produced some good racing; notably that of the International Fours in which the American crew were such popular winners. In the Autumn Regatta there was the splendid race for the Champion Pairs between Messrs. Playfair and Fraser, and Whitney and Gasper, resulting in a dead heat. Messrs. Playfair and Fraser ultimately won the cups which thus became their property.

The usual swimming and diving matches were held during the summer months, affording much amusement.

The Club has sustained a great loss by the lamentable death of Mr. J. J. Dare, so long one of its main supports.

Mr. J. Rickett has filled the vacancy made in the Committee. The necessity for the removal of the boat-house throws the Club back somewhat financially, but your Committee have no doubt that, with a roll of members such as there is at present, and with a new site definitely fixed, the accounts will soon show a large credit balance.

In conclusion, your Committee trust that their successors in office may be able to report the continued prosperity of the Club.

• Committee { C. P. Hall.  
A. H. C. Haselwood.  
J. Rickett.  
G. C. Wood,—Hon. Sec. and Treas.

• The Captain of the Club, H. C. Litchfield, is absent from Yokohama for a few weeks.

Yokohama, 12th January, 1880.

#### YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

##### SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1879.

Cr.	
Balance in hand from 1878 .....	\$241.81
Subscriptions:	
1st half yearly. .... 45 at \$6 .....	\$270
2nd do. .... 56 at \$6 .....	336
Honorary Members ..... 51 at \$10 .....	513
New Active Members ..... 24 at \$16 .....	416
	\$1,532.00
Rent of private boats .....	60.00
Entrance fees, sale of jerseys, ribbon, etc. ....	80.60
Interest on money placed on fixed deposit .....	7.61
Balance at debit, 31st December .....	199.23
	\$2,121.23
Dr.	
Payment of Debentures. .... 12 at \$50.00 .....	\$600.00
do. of Interest on do. ... 11 at \$ 3.00 .....	33.50
Insurance on building .....	42.00
Rent of premises .....	138.06
New Canton Four .....	210.00

New Oars .....	203.48
Prizes .....	183.83
Landing-stage and repairs .....	93.91
Painting and repairing boats .....	120.40
Printing rules .....	15.00
Advertising and stationery .....	23.15
Photographs of winning crews .....	53.25
Boxes for clothes .....	17.78
Pair of scales .....	25.00
New jerseys .....	6.00
Seudon' wages .....	136.61
Hire of steam launch .....	19.00
Expenses at Spring and Autumn Regattas .....	83.18
Sundries:—Fresh water, coolies, hire of sanpans, matches, lamps, string, tubs, &c., &c. ....	113.63
Paid late Honorary Secretary .....	1.47

\$2,121.25

## SUPPLEMENTARY ACCOUNT FOR 1880.

## Dr.

Balance as above .....	\$199.23
Removal of boathouse, Shed to protect boats, and two months rent of ground on swamp .....	100.00
Debit balance at 12th January, 1880 .....	\$299.23

## E. E.

G. C. WOOD,  
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Yokohama, 12th January, 1880.

Mr. Leckie proposed the adoption of the report and balance sheet. Mr. Towse seconded this proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The meeting then balloted for office bearers for the present year, and, on the result of the ballot being made known, the following gentlemen were found to be elected, viz:—Captain, Mr. H. O. Litchfield; Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. G. C. Wood; Committee, Messrs. Rickett, Hall and Haselwood.

The Chairman then addressed the meeting. He said:—The most important subject which we have to consider this evening is the question of the site for the new boat-house. I have heard many suggestions privately in the matter and as this is a full meeting of the Club, fuller indeed than I thought was likely to occur, I think it best to invite an expression of opinion on the part of the members present. The former Committee had tried everything, and found it wholly impossible to secure a suitable site. The only place that seemed adapted for the purpose was the French Hatoba, and the application made by the Committee for permission to erect a boat-house there, was still under consideration, no definite answer having yet been received. An objection had been raised to the Club getting the use of a portion of this Hatoba, on the ground that by their erecting a boat-house on it, a precedent would be established for building in front of Bund lots. There was nothing in the objection however, as it was patent to everyone, that buildings had always existed on the Hatoba, and it would surely be preferable to have a slightly boat-house there, than the present wretched structures. It had also been said that so many persons bathing at this Hatoba would prove objectionable. He thought this was very far fetched and the Committee would take very good care that bathing was conducted in an entirely private manner and that there would be nothing to offend the most scrupulous eye. It was foolish to talk about the undesirability of the members bathing there. Look at the naked bettoes who may be found all through the summer, splashing about and showing their advance in civilization by airing all kinds of Anglo-Saxon adjectives. Mr. Rickett concluded by saying, that he thought if they were the means of providing a pleasant place where people could enjoy a friendly chat and the cool evening breeze, they would be doing the members of the community good service.

Considerable discussion ensued on the question of a site for the new boat-house, and it seemed to be the unanimous opinion of the members, that unless a portion of the French Hatoba could be obtained for the purpose, the Club would have to collapse altogether. Ultimately on the proposition of Mr. Playfair, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, the matter was left in the hands of the Committee, who were empowered to call a special meeting to confirm any action they might take if the circumstances seemed to the Committee to warrant any such meeting being called.

There being no further business, the meeting closed after a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

## JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

## COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that His Excellency Inouye, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, will be appointed Ambassador to China, to negotiate the settlement of the Loochoo dispute. During the absence of Inouye, Admiral Enomoto will act in his stead.

His Majesty the Emperor attended a meeting of the cabinet on the 9th inst., returning to the palace at half-past ten o'clock in the forenoon.

It is understood that the Governor of Okinawa Ken will be represented, at the forthcoming meeting of local Governors, by his secretary, Mr. Hara. The condition of his prefecture precludes the possibility of the Governor attending in person on this occasion.

It is reported that Mr. Ando, the Superintendent of Police who arrested Messrs. Fujita and Nakano, and was dismissed on their discharge from custody, is about to petition the cabinet for redress.

We hear that Hirotsawa Kinichiro, the son of the late Hirotsawa, will be shortly by created a junior noble of the fifth rank.

It is rumoured that Mr. Kawaji Toshiyasu, the adopted son of the late General Kawaji, who lately received an appointment in the police force, is shortly to be ordered to Paris.

It is said that the number of persons to be admitted to the debates at the Local Governors' Assembly will be limited to six hundred.

It has been telegraphed to the authorities that Mr. Matsudaira Taro, Vice-Consul at Vladivostok, arrived at his post at the close of last year.

It is said that His Majesty the Emperor will visit the grave of Jimmu Tenuo, in the prefecture of Sakai, in March next.

It is rumoured that the head police station in Tokio, and the police stations in every *Fu* and *Ken*, are about to be abolished, and that the whole country will be divided into six great divisions, in each of which a head station will be established. The branch stations will remain as heretofore.

With regard to the disagreement between Japan and China, several rumours state that after the return of their Excellencies Sanjo, *Daijo Daijin*, Ito, Yamada, and Inouye, *Sanji*, to Tokio from Atami, a general council will be held in the Cabinet on the above subject.

The first meeting of the Central Board of Health, for the present year, took place at 3 p.m. on the 16th instant.

The Governor of Iwate *Ken*, Mr. Shima, arrived in Tokio on the 12th instant.

Mr. Yegi Takato, the First Secretary of Foreign Affairs, is expected to leave shortly for America.

It is reported that their Excellencies Ito and Yamagata left Atami for Shizuoka on the 12th instant, and that the Home and Finance Ministers will visit Osaka next month, to be present at the opening of the competitive exhibition.

The Genro-in (Senate) was reopened by His Majesty the Emperor in person on the 15th instant. His Majesty addressed the senators and exhorted them to use their utmost exertions to advance the welfare of the nation.

A rumour is current in the capital that a special meeting of the Tokio Local Assembly, for the consideration of important business of a pressing nature, will be held in the Hall of the Fuchu on the 23rd instant.

Mr. Tanaka, the Assistant Minister for Education, accompanied by Mr. Under-Secretary Kubota, left for Okinawa *ken*, (Loochoo), on Wednesday last.

On the occasion of the visit of Mr. Nomura, the Governor of Kanagawa *ken*, to the *Vettor Pisani* on the 13th instant, His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa presented him on behalf of the King of Italy with the order of "Saint Maurice and Saint Lazarus" of the fourth class.

His Excellency Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs, returned to Tokio from Atami on the 11th instant, and resumed the duties of his office on the 13th instant.



It is reported that Prince Shimadzu is about to visit England, the continent of Europe and America.

General Kuroda, Chief of the Colonization Department, has left for Hakodate by the *Takao Maru*. He was accompanied by Chief Secretary Yamanouchi, and an escort of one police sergeant and two constables.

Chief Secretary Watanabe, of the prefecture of Kagoshima, arrived in Tokio on the night of the 13th inst. by the *Tsuruga Maru*.

His Excellency Sanjo, the Prime Minister, is expected to return to Tokio from the Atami hot springs, about the 25th instant.

The construction of the Imperial Palace will be commenced about the 20th instant. The Bureau of construction will be established within the castle, under the care of the Minister for the Imperial Household.

Judge Kishira, the President of the *Dai-shin In*, who has lately been indisposed, went to the hot springs of Atami a few days ago for the benefit of his health.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

A number of new cadets were enrolled in the naval college on the 11th instant.

The Italian and Chinese Ministers visited the *Vettor Pisani* last Saturday, accompanied by Mr. Yoshida. A salute of fifteen guns was fired as they left the vessel.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* mentions a rumour that all the *Sangi* will shortly be enrolled in either the Army or Navy.

The Imperial Guard was inspected on the 13th instant by His Majesty the Emperor.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the Japanese man-of-war *Tsukuba Kan* will go on a voyage to North America, early in March next.

His Excellency Tokudaiji, Minister for the Imperial Household, visited the Italian man-of-war *Vettor Pisani*, on Saturday last.

His Excellency Admiral Kawamura, Minister for the Navy, on the 12th instant entertained, at the Eastern Admiralty Office, H. R. H. the Duke of Genoa, and the commanders of the war ships of the treaty powers. Admirals Enomoto, Nakamura, and Ito, the commanders of all the Japanese men-of-war in harbour, and Governor Nomura of this prefecture were also present.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* states that it is reported at the War Department that Sub-Lieutenant Ishimoto and two others, who went to France last year, accompanied by Lieutenant General Takashima, have successfully passed the required examination and have now entered the school of Infantry.

Their Excellencies Okuma, Oki, and Terashima, Admiral Kawamura, General Saigo, Prince Kuroda, and Governor Nomura of this prefecture, with seven or eight others, visited the Italian man-of-war *Vettor Pisani*, at 11 a.m. on the 15th instant, where they were entertained by the Duke of Genoa. On leaving the vessel they received the usual salute, which was returned by the fort at Kanagawa. They left for Tokio by rail, at 4 p.m.

Two hundred men belonging to the former third Special Military Corps, received a reward of fifteen yen each on Friday last, for their services during the Satsuma rebellion.

The *Choya Shimbun* tells us that the people of Okinawa *Ken* (Loochoo) are to be free from military conscription for five years, dating from the present year; but after the 18th year of Meiji (1885), they will be enlisted for military purposes under the rules and regulations that apply in other *Ken*.

#### INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

From the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we learn that the imports of cotton yarn into Yokohama, during the past year, amounted to 81,110 bales. Of this quantity, 40,110 bales went to Tokio, 25,000 to Osaka and 6,000 to Owari.

The *Hochi Shimbun* reports the discovery of oil wells, which yield at present about one hundred koku of oil monthly, near Tanimura and Oyemura, in the prefecture of Shizuoka.

Mr. Sato, of Yamagata *ken*, has been very successful in his salt factory. He commenced operations only last year and already his premises have been greatly increased. Prior to Mr. Sato entering upon the business, Yamagata was entirely dependent upon other localities for the salt consumed by the population.

Mr. Ridock, the Minister for the Agricultural Department of the United States, has sent \$1,000 to Mr. Tsuda Sen, the chief of the Agricultural School in Tokio, requesting him to send whatever Japanese seeds and plants to America he thinks will be suitable for the soil there.

Mr. Ayabe, a merchant of Hiroshima, who lived in Loochoo for fifteen years, and is very well acquainted with the habits of the people and history of the country, has now discovered a coal mine on the island of Yayeshima, and has applied to the Public Works Department to have it thoroughly examined.

The funds subscribed up to the 25th ult., for the relief of the sufferers by the Hakodate fire, amounted to 12,600 *yen*, and 192 *koku 2 bu* of rice.

Prince Nabeshima, the *ex-daimio* of Hizen, has applied to the Colonial Department to be allowed to purchase 1,500,000 *tauho* of land in Yesso. When obtained, the ground will be shared among the Prince's former retainers, for the purpose of cultivation.

The paper currency that has been withdrawn from circulation, from July to December last year, amounted to 1,800,000 *yen*. The *satzu* now in circulation, with the exception of National bank notes, amount to 14,190,800 *yen*.

Subscriptions amounting in all to about twenty thousand *yen*, have already been received for the relief of the unfortunates who suffered from the recent fire in Tokio.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

From the *Mainichi Shimbun* we learn that the sum of about thirty thousand *yen* was expended in the investigations, &c., connected with the charge brought against Messrs. Fujita and Nakano.

Passenger traffic between Yokohama and Yokosuka continues to steadily increase. Last month the steamers conveyed 14,416 persons, as against 14,264 the month previously.

The *Choya Shimbun* states that the authorities are investigating a report made to them, that a quantity of ammunition was concealed among the cargo of the *Shario Maru*, on her last trip between Okayama and Tokio.

It has been finally determined to proceed with the construction of the line of railway between Tokio and Takasaki, in the province of Joshu.

The Agricultural Department is said to have forwarded exhibits to the Fishing Apparatus Exhibition in Berlin, by the English Mail steamer *Malacca*.

The Aikokusha, or Patriotic Society of Osaka, contemplate establishing a branch at Nishi-Konya-cho, in Tokio.

Hakodate appears singularly unfortunate in the matter of fires this season. Another occurred there on Saturday last, and destroyed twenty-two houses.

It is rumoured that the head offices of Messrs. Fujita & Co. will be removed from Osaka to Tokio.

Mr. Uyeki, a prominent member of the *Risshi-Sha* (Patriotic Society), in Kochi *Ken*, has been permitted to resume his public lectures. He was forbidden to lecture on the 5th of November last. The *Aikoku Zasshi* (Patriotic Magazine), to be edited by Mr. Uyeki, will be published every Saturday, at Inabashi-cho, Osaka.

The cholera epidemic seems not to have entirely disappeared in Kochi *Ken*. Mr. Hamada Sukei, a member of the *Ken* assembly, was lately attacked by the disease, and after a short illness succumbed.

A fire took place at Sonejaki Mura, Osaka, on the morning of the 7th instant, which destroyed sixty-seven houses, and occasioned the loss of four lives.

A new port is to be built at Oita, in the province of Bungo, and the Governor of that place is shortly expected in Tokio to arrange respecting the work.

The volcano on the Island of Oshima has lately become active, and the smoke rising from the crater can be seen from Takamawa, near Shinagawa, Tokio.

The construction of the new buildings for the Colonization Department at Sapporo, will be commenced about the month of March or April next.

The number of cholera cases throughout the empire during last year, from the first outbreak of the epidemic until the 27th of December, amounted to 168,314; out of which there were 101,364 deaths, and 47,885 recoveries. There still remained under treatment 19,065 patients at the close of the year.

We learn from the native periodicals that the second line of rails between Tokio and Yokohama has now been laid and will be officially opened in March next.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that an International Exhibition will be opened in New York, about the month of May, 1883.

The Osaka-yama tunnel, on the Kioto and Otsu railway, will be completed in the course of April next.

The *Korin Maru*, which left Yokohama on the 29th ultimo for Kobe, met with a severe gale at Yenshiu-nada, and drifted from her course over two hundred and sixty miles. The vessel's condition became exceedingly critical, and the passengers gave themselves up for lost, but fortunately, through the exertions of the captain and crew, she arrived at Kobe on the 4th instant. The vessel was much injured, but none of the passengers sustained any hurt.

The Tokio Public Library was re-opened on the 11th instant, after the new year's vacation.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, January 11th, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 7,675.69
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,016.25

Total.....\$ 8,691.94

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$6,611.92
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 833.64

Total.....\$7,445.56

Miles open 18.

##### KOBE AND OTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 11th January, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$11,444.86
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 2,011.58

Total .....\$13,456.44

Miles open, 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 9,350.32
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,691.19

Total.....\$11,041.51

Miles open, 47.

#### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

##### A JAPANESE VIEW OF THE QUARREL BETWEEN THE CZAR AND CZAROWITCH.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

IN our issue of yesterday we published a telegram announcing that a quarrel had taken place between the Czar and the Czarowitch, in consequence of the latter desiring the establishment of a National Assembly, a concession which the former refused to grant. This telegram certainly surprised us extremely. Russia is our neighbour on the north, and is not only in close proximity to Japan, but has on various occasions interfered in the relations of eastern countries with each other; therefore whenever a dispute takes place between Japan and China, the public always look with anxiety for the action of Russia. On the present occasion it is currently reported that Russia has entered into a secret treaty of alliance with China. It is true that Russia does not possess as great influence in the East as England does, but in consequence of Russia being in such close proximity to Japan, our foreign relations are closely bound up with that empire. It must be evident then, that when any change takes place in the administration of Russian affairs, it attracts far more attention here than any similar occurrence in purely European countries.

The government of the Russian empire is completely despotic and wholly different from a constitutional monarchy. We will give our readers a brief sketch of the Russian form of government. The emperor is the ruler of the country and possesses absolute power. He is the uncontrolled head of the army, the legislature, the judiciary and even of the Greek church, the established religion of the empire.

The civil and military officers of the state are his servants, and dependent wholly upon his mere will and pleasure. The expense of the emperor's household amounts to nearly fifty millions of yen annually which is paid by the state, and his private revenues derived from the crown domains are twenty-eight millions of yen every year. It will thus be seen that the wealth of the Czar is something enormous, while his direct influence is vastly increased from the fact that all the heads of departments have to report to him every particular relating to their duties, and also to the Minister of the Household, who is, in addition to his other offices, always a privy councillor. It will thus be seen that the Czar of Russia exercises the most absolute power within his dominions. The people of Russia are reduced into a state of servitude; this having been accomplished by steadily carrying out the line of policy laid down by Peter the Great, and in a very marked degree from the fact that a long line of able rulers have, without exception, occupied the throne. Notwithstanding that Russia has for a long period been constantly engaged in foreign wars which have entailed much domestic trouble, the power of the Czar has been little affected, although it is doubtless true that, in the interior, a number of agitators have made their appearance who persistently attempt to disturb the peace of the community. Against these turbulent people the efforts of the police, with all their watchfulness, are utterly futile, and they have latterly gone so far as even to attempt to assassinate the emperor, in which crime they were unsuccessful, although so persistent and audacious are they, that it is impossible to say when they will succeed. Now these Russian conspirators are not confined to the lower classes; among them are to be found highly educated men and prominent members of society. Indeed, from what we have been able to gather, the greater part of the political prisoners who have been exiled to Siberia are students, a class who are well-known to be the most patriotic in Russia. It matters little however what section of the body politic supplies these offenders; the fact remains, that the reason of their crimes against the imperial person was the object of getting rid of the despotic authority of the emperor. We will not discuss the question whether the conspirators were actuated by a true feeling of patriotism, although it must be evident that the chief aim of the rulers of a country should be to administer its affairs in such a way as to afford no pretext for any revolt against the constituted authorities. Altogether it appears certain, that it has now become absolutely necessary for Russia to have a National Assembly, in order to preserve domestic peace and secure the safety of the person of the emperor. If this was done there would remain no pretext for rebellion, so that if any further efforts to create disturbances were made it would be evident that the persons implicated were not actuated by patriotic motives; and the movement, being unsupported, would easily be suppressed. We are not aware if the Czarowitch was impelled by those considerations when he proposed the establishment of a National Assembly, but if such was the case, he has undoubtedly proved his love for his country.

All disputes between father and son are serious. Although the Czarowitch loves his country, yet if his desires are opposed to those of his father, should he abstain from expressing them? Or, on the other hand, should he enunciate his ideas—because it is clearly the duty of a child, if he sees his parent falling into error, to caution him? The question is certainly a difficult one. There are numerous instances on record where father and son, and brothers, have quarrelled, but such a dispute as that reported to have taken place between the Czar and Czarowitch, respecting the establishment of a National Assembly, is entirely without precedent. The principle involved is truly a great one and we will now proceed to give our opinion respecting it.

Chinese history mentions many instances where disputes have arisen between a reigning emperor and his son, which resulted in the country being thrown into great confusion. These domestic broils were always occasioned by the insidious wiles of court favourites and even here, in Japan, our history is not entirely free from similar incidents. In western countries, the same unhappy state of things has also frequently taken place and invariably originated from the same cause; but a dispute such as that reported to have arisen between the Czarowitch and his father, is altogether without precedent. If the action of the Czarowitch proceeds from a desire to gain popularity, then

we certainly cannot approve of his conduct. But, on the other hand, if he has lost the affection of his parent from purely patriotic motives, we sincerely commiserate his misfortune. The question then arises—should the Czarowitch persevere in demanding the establishment of a National Assembly, in opposition to the wishes of his father? Regarded from a political aspect, and treating the Czarowitch only as a member of the community, we refrain from giving any opinion, but if the relationship which exists between them is only remembered, then we think the Czarowitch is bound to obey the commands of his father, although his doing so will be prejudicial to the interests of the people. We cannot pretend to say whether or not the opposition of the Czar to a National Assembly proceeds from his affection for his family, as he may perhaps have come to the conclusion, judging from former events, that if he consented to such an innovation it would ultimately result in the destruction of the imperial house. It is also impossible to say if the Czarowitch thinks a National Assembly would pacify the country and prevent any further attempts being made by conspirators on the life of his father. With the limited knowledge we possess, it is impossible to arrive at a correct conclusion regarding these matters. Suppose the Czarowitch's desire for a National Assembly proceeds entirely from a love for his country, while the Czar's opposition proceeds entirely from a love for his family, which of the two is in the right? We think the Czarowitch is in the right, but he should not disturb his affectionate relations with his parent. We, in Japan, have an old proverb, "For the furtherance of a great principle private feelings must be laid aside;" but in the case of father and son this is or ought to be impossible. If it is for the benefit of the whole of the Russian people to have a National Assembly, and simply in the interests of one single family that such an institution is not established, the question then forces itself upon our attention—"should the Czarowitch obey his father and abandon a just enterprise, or should he discard the parental injunction?" This is indeed very difficult a matter to decide. We know the feelings of a son towards the author of his being and how painful it would be to disobey him, and we also love our country and our fellow-countrymen and would die sooner than abandon a righteous cause. When we consider the awkward position of the Czarowitch, we feel as if we were wandering about in a thick fog. What then must be the condition of the Czarowitch. As far as the Czar is concerned he has now attained a ripe age, and has hitherto been singularly fortunate in escaping the attempts made to assassinate him. According to Russian law, as soon as the Czar is one hundred years old, the Czarowitch will ascend the throne in his stead; and as he is very popular, it seems probable that there will be no opposition made to his accession to power. It may be, that the new ruler will make no change in the present system of government, out of respect to his father, for three years; but sooner or later he will carry out his own ideas. With the establishment of a National Assembly, the imperial family would lose some of its authority, which would then be shared with the people, but this might be the means of confirming the Romanoffs on the Russian throne in peace and security, surrounded by a happy, contented and prosperous people.

#### A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR JAPAN.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

CAN it be said with truth that the mass of the people of Japan have made any real advance in knowledge? Who can affirm that the Japanese of the thirteenth year of Meiji (1880) are in any way different from what they were before the restoration? Are they different from what they were in 1873 and 1874 or 1878, and 1879? On the contrary, when we make careful inquiry respecting the general body of the community, we find them still, so to say, in a state of intellectual childhood, and timid of every innovation. Are they then capable of voluntarily assuming direction of the affairs of the empire? They seem quite satisfied with their present condition and think they are enjoying "the golden age"! May we then aptly term our fellow-countrymen a simple-minded race, or ought we rather to put them down as without brains or self-respect? Whatever way the question is regarded, it affords matter for

much regret. While Japan remained isolated from the rest of the world, it was no wonder that the people were in a torpid condition, but how do we stand at present? Over thirty years ago the American expedition which opened the country to foreign intercourse visited our shores, and it is now thirteen years since the restoration, which wholly changed the internal affairs of Japan. If a person is thirteen years of age, although he has not attained full strength and vigour, yet he is able to move, walk and look after himself without any assistance from his parents. How then are we to account for the most energetic and active race of people in the East having passed thirteen years in daily intercourse with foreigners and still remaining in a state of political infancy? Remarks are repeatedly made, that Japan is daily advancing in civilization and knowledge. But what does this all really amount to? Ever since the restoration, the Government has been anxious to improve the state of the country; railways have been built, telegraphs and post offices established, and navigation improved. Science and literature have been fostered, but as long as the mental vigour of the great mass of the people is left untouched, all these proceedings are like drawing the picture of a dragon and omitting the cloud, or forming an image with eyes, ears, nose and mouth, which, no matter how natural it may appear, is still wanting in vitality. Outward show goes for little; and we grieve to say we are unable, notwithstanding appearances, to class our country as among the enlightened and civilized nations of the earth. It is incontrovertible that every nation should have a National Assembly; and that the people should participate in the settlement of the affairs of their country. Some years however elapsed after the restoration before the question began to attract attention in Japan, and the agitation on the subject was confined almost entirely to students and writers upon political subjects. This has continued to the present time and the general body of the people maintain the most profound apathy in the matter. Indeed, they are like persons sleeping so soundly, that no matter how loudly one may shout in their ears, they cannot be aroused from their slumbers. Consequently the Government have paid no attention to the representations of the agitators, judging from the indifference of the community in general, that they are still in their political infancy and therefore unfit to be trusted with such authority. How then can the Government be censured when the people have made no decided move to show their sentiments?

When the boon of Local Assemblies was granted in the 10th year of Meiji (1877), we certainly thought the establishment of a National Assembly was close at hand, and we therefore, in the month of February last year, commented upon the three important measures passed into law the year previously. We then, and indeed on several subsequent occasions, remarked that, "to establish Local Assemblies in the empire of Japan is like setting fire to a forest in the fall of the year when a strong wind is blowing, and it is unreasonable to suppose that the thirty-five millions of people in Japan will rest satisfied with the concession of Local Assemblies which may be likened to a morsel of meat to a hungry man. No! they will desire a full meal in the shape of a National Assembly, and their desire will become like the firing of the forest in autumn, and the flame of their wishes will carry all before it." Thus we thought and wrote and yet the people are still apathetic on this great matter.

We were however glad to see that a number of patriotic men assembled under the auspices of the *Aikokuha* (*Patriotic Society*) in Osaka, from the different provinces, had decided to forward a memorial to the Government urging the establishment of a National Assembly; the people of Okayama and Fukuoka have also held meetings on the same subject, and arrived at a similar conclusion. Can it be said from this that in Japan there are men capable of taking a part in national affairs? Alas! a man may be able to move a finger, and yet it would not therefore be said that his whole body was in sound health. Therefore the exceptional circumstances in Osaka, Okayama and Fukuoka prove nothing of any real value. In the thirty-five millions of Japan the memorialists are like a few men in a saupan floating in a large ocean, and even if they are able to take charge of public affairs, what is to be said of the vast number of the population who have yet made no sign? A National Assembly



will not be established for the convenience of the Aikoku-sha, and no one else seems to care anything about it. Nothing will be granted unless it is loudly demanded, and the apathy of our brethren on this momentous question astonishes and grieves us.

#### LAW REPORTS.

##### IN THE U. S. CONSULAR-GENERAL COURT.

Before General THOS. B. VAN BUREN, Consul General.

*Monday 12th January, 1880.*

**H. ANDERSEN vs. FRANCIS STILLFRIED.**

Complainant charged accused with, on or about the 24th of December last, feloniously stealing one hundred and eighty-two sheets, or thereabouts, of albumenised paper, valued at seventeen dollars, belonging to Stillfried and Andersen.

Mr. Lowder appeared for the defence; Mr. H. Andersen conducted his own case.

Accused pleaded not guilty.

His Honour said that as the case was an important one it would be necessary to have assessors unless both parties were willing to have the case tried without.

Both parties agreed to dispense with assessors.

H. Andersen, sworn: I am a photographer, living at No. 17, Yokohama. I know the accused. On the 23rd of last December I sent an invoice and bill of lading to Capt. Scott, of one case (marked 346, Stillfried and Andersen, Yokohama) of albumenised paper, for clearance. This case was by mistake, together with the invoice, delivered at accused's place, No. 80, Main Street, who signed a receipt, "Baron Stillfried." On Saturday morning, the 27th ult., Capt. Scott came and told me that the case had been delivered by mistake to Mr. Stillfried at No. 80. I told him to go and get the case. At 3 o'clock the same afternoon I wrote to Scott, who came to my office and gave the same explanation, and I again told him to go to No. 80, and get me the case or I would commence legal proceedings at once. Scott then went to No. 80, and brought me a case without a lid and with part of the paper abstracted. On the 29th ult., I wrote to accused (letter read, saying that unless case 346 was returned, legal proceedings would be taken.) I then received an answer (read, in which accused admitted having opened the case in dispute, and offering to explain about the matter, &c., &c.) Having received this reply, I brought the present charge against accused on the following day. The value of the paper abstracted was about \$17.

Mr. Lowder wished to postpone cross-examination till after the evidence of the next witness had been taken, but His Honour refused the application.

Cross-examined: The receipt accused signed is in possession of Capt. Scott. It was on a Saturday that Scott came and said Stillfried refused to give up the case delivered by mistake at No. 80. Scott said he expected a box from the same firm just then. Scott did not say that Stillfried told him that he was very sorry for having opened the case, and used some of the paper by mistake, and that he would pay for it. I told Scott I wanted the paper; he did not tell me that the whole of the paper could not be given to me. When he brought me the box he said "here is the box, and about half a ream of it is gone." He told me before that Stillfried had admitted using some of the paper, but did not say that Stillfried said he was willing to pay for it; I utterly deny that. I did not understand from Captain Scott how or why it had been used. I formed the opinion in my own mind that it had been stolen; that opinion was not altered at all by the receipt of the letter from accused on the 29th, because they could not by mistake break open a box marked "Stillfried and Andersen," when they had none to receive. I am still of the same opinion, for I would not open another man's box and wait two days without going and asking pardon, and I would not have used any paper out of it. I did not instruct Mr. Kirkwood to write accused a letter.

Mr. Lowder wished to read the letter, but

His Honour said it did not affect the case, and therefore to read it was unnecessary. He made a note of Mr. Lowder's application.

Cross-examination continued: Capt. Scott said accused

had abstracted the paper; he did not say he had seen him do it. The box was brought to me between 3 and 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, the 27th ult. Scott came three times that day to see me about it.

Court adjourned till 1.30 p.m.

On re-assembling, Mr. Andersen called

Capt. D. Scott, sworn: I am a Custom House broker. I received a bill of lading and invoice from you, and on the 27th ult. I cleared the box, and sent it to Stillfried at No. 80. I got a receipt for it, which is now in Court.

By the Court: My clerk wrote the receipt form. I did not leave the box myself. I did not send the invoice with the box.

To Mr. Andersen: On the 26th I found that the box had been delivered to the wrong place. I found out the mistake when I presented my bill and the invoice to Stillfried, who said he did not know if the box was his. I took the invoice to you. Baron Stillfried told me that he expected a box from the same party. Stillfried gave me up the box the first time that I asked for it. I was not clearing other albumenised paper then. I brought you the box on Friday, at 4 o'clock.

By the Court: I saw the box on the tatoba; it was about 2 feet by 10 inches or a foot. It was a wooden box; my boy handled the box. Mr. Higginbotham is my clerk.

To Mr. Andersen: I remember telling you that some of the paper had been taken out. Stillfried said that his brother had sold him some of it.

Cross-examined: Accused told me that he had bought some of it from his brother, to whom he said it belonged. When I handed accused the invoice he said he thought it was a mistake and that I had better go and see Mr. Andersen, and ascertain from him whether it was his. Mr. Andersen said it was his paper, and that he wanted it. I told this to Stillfried, who immediately gave up the paper. Stillfried told me that he was willing to pay for what he had used. I think I told Andersen that Stillfried had said he was willing to pay for the paper. I think Andersen said that he did not want paying, but wanted the paper. I did not tell Andersen that accused refused to give up the box. Accused never refused to give up the box. I told Andersen that accused had taken some of the paper. I did not say he had abstracted it. I have often landed cases for Stillfried; sometimes without papers, and the brother of the accused has received them and used the contents. Accused simply told me that he had taken some paper out of the box, about a sixth part, he said.

By the Court: When I took the invoice to accused's place I did not see the box. If Mr. Andersen swears that I did not tell him that Stillfried was willing to pay for the paper, I swear that I did tell him so.

To Mr. Andersen: My clerk sent the box to accused's place because he had sent goods before, marked Stillfried and Andersen, to Baron Stillfried.

By the Court: I am aware that there has been for some time a misunderstanding between the parties, and during that time I have not before sent goods marked Stillfried and Andersen to Baron Stillfried.

E. Amsden, sworn: I live in San Francisco. I was in your (Andersen's) office when Capt. Scott came in, he said that a case of goods belonging to you had been taken to Baron Stillfried's by mistake; he also said that a portion of the contents had been removed. You only said, "bring back the box." This was on a Saturday.

Cross-examined: It was between 11 and 12 when I heard this conversation.

David Welsh, sworn: I am now selling photographs for Stillfried and Andersen. I was in their office on Saturday, the 27th ultimo, when Captain Scott came in; he said that Mr. Stillfried had taken some of the paper out of the box. Mr. Andersen asked how much, and Captain Scott replied, but I do not remember how much he said. Mr. Andersen said it was impossible to have used so much in a day. In the morning, when Scott came into Mr. Andersen's office, he said that he had sent the box by mistake to Stillfried. I saw the box when it arrived at Mr. Andersen's; it had no lid on.

Mr. Andersen again took the stand, and stated: In my business now, the days are short, we do not use more than fifteen sheets a day of this paper. We also do not work on Sundays, and it is impossible for any photographer here



to use the quantity in his business that it has been alleged accused used of this paper.

J. R. Black, sworn: When very much pressed for time with the getting out of the *Far East*, I in one long summer's day used fifty-four sheets of paper. In any average business such a quantity would not be used; about twenty or twenty-five sheets a day would be rather an excessive average.

Cross-examined: When I said that fifty sheets a day could not be used I meant printed; two hundred sheets might be cut up, but it could still be used by another photographer to print on. There is no such thing as a permanent process on albumenised paper.

J. Douglas sworn: The average amount of paper used in the winter season I should judge to be about twelve to fifteen sheets a day. I should say it was impossible in the regular course of business to have used one hundred and eighty sheets in the time mentioned, two days. I do not know any permanent process in which albumenised paper is used. Albumenised paper cut up by one photographer could be used by another.

Cross-examined: It is certainly possible to use albumenised paper in the permanent process, but it would be very expensive, as the albumen would have to be removed. Plain paper is used in the permanent process.

H. Andersen, recalled: All cases coming to us are marked in full with our name and address and a running number.

Mr. Lowder asked that the case be dismissed, because the complaint had not been proved or even attempted to be proved.

His Honour said that it was proved that the case had been left at accused's place, and that he had opened the case and used a portion of the contents. This, unexplained, amounted to larceny. He would hear the defence.

Mr. Lowder then called

Baron F. Stillfried, sworn: I recognize the receipt shown. I do not know who brought it; one of my men handed it to me. It read: "Baron Stillfried, please," &c. No other paper came with the receipt. I did not see the box; I signed the receipt; I told my boy to open the box; I do not know where it was just then. I was busy, and afterwards I went out and saw the box without a lid on; I saw that it contained albumenised paper. I never touched it till it was given to me, or saw the box with a lid on. I was expecting paper which my brother had ordered and which I had bought from him. When my brother gave me the paper I used it, and knew nothing of a mistake till Scott came to me. On the 26th, I first saw the invoice; Captain Scott came to me and presented the bill and also the invoice. I said it must be a mistake, and he said he thought so too; he then went away. I thought he had only brought me the wrong document. The next day Scott came again and insisted that the invoice and goods were my brother's. He said that my brother often got goods addressed to Stillfried and Andersen. This was on the forenoon of the 27th ult. I told Scott to ask Mr. Andersen if they were not his goods. I insisted that he should go and ask; my brother was present; in the afternoon Scott came again and said the goods were Andersen's. I told him to take the box to Andersen, to tell him that I was sorry for the mistake; that some of the paper was missing, and that I would reimburse him. Scott's son was present, and assisted to put the box into the carriage. Soon afterwards both the Scotts came back and said that Mr. Andersen was very angry, and wanted the paper and not the money. A portion of this paper, twenty-five sheets a day, was used for the three days that I had it. I can easily use forty sheets a day. The balance was cut into sizes and dipped into alcohol, which removes the albumen, rendering the paper unfit for ordinary photographic purposes, but fit for use by the permanent process. About one hundred sheets of the one hundred and eighty were used in this way before the mistake was discovered. When I was using this paper I was unaware that I was not entitled to use it. On the Monday I received a letter from Mr. Andersen. On the 2nd January I was arrested on a complaint charging me with larceny, and was allowed to appear when called upon. Subsequently I received a letter from Mr. Kirkwood.

Mr. Lowder again wanted to read the letter and put it in, but

His Honour decided that it was totally unnecessary to do so, as it did not affect the case.

Witness, cross-examined by Mr. Andersen: I sign receipts for goods that I have not seen when they come from parties from whom I expect to receive goods. I manage my own business. My brother was in his room in my house when the box arrived; I went and told him the paper had arrived. I think he said, "strange I did not get any invoice." I had other albumenised paper in the house. I used the new paper to see if it was good; any good photographer would have done so. I did not try about that time to buy albumenised paper anywhere in Yokohama. I put the paper in alcohol because it was not good quality for ordinary photographing, and also because it would be better for the permanent process than ordinary paper. I used seventy-five sheets for photographs to get rid of it.

Court adjourned till 1.30 p.m., to-morrow.

Tuesday, 13th January, 1880.

H. ANDERSEN vs. FRANCIS STILLFRIED.

Mr. Andersen again conducted the prosecution, Mr. Lowder appearing for the accused as before.

Mr. Lowder called Raymond Stillfried, who, being sworn, deposed: I am the brother of the accused, and reside with him. I am in the habit of ordering photographic articles from Europe. About the end of December I expected to receive from Messrs. Myer & Co., of London, amongst other things, some albumenised paper. I remember my brother telling me, on the 24th of December, that a case had come from Scott. He opened it, and told me that the paper only has arrived. This I thought strange, as on previous occasions all the goods arrived before the invoice. I inspected the paper. The box was open when I saw it. The box was marked on the side "from Messrs. Myer & Co." I expected paper from them at the same time. I took some of the paper out, looked at it, and handed it over to my brother to use, as he had bought it from me. I gave him about one hundred and seventy-five sheets. I remarked to him, "the paper is good, but rather thick." Some of the paper was printed in the ordinary silver process, and some in the permanent process. The paper for the permanent process was used the same evening; the remainder during the next three days. I had no idea the paper was not mine at that time. I was not present when Captain Scott came first about the case; I was there the next day when he came. He insisted that the box was ours, and produced the bill and invoice. My brother said to Scott "that is not the invoice belonging to the case." Scott said it was. My brother asked me about it, and I said the invoice did not belong to me. My brother then suggested Scott seeing Andersen. He came back shortly, and said the case belonged to Andersen. My brother then said he was ready to give the case up, but had used some of the paper. The case was then given to Scott. My brother told Scott to tell Mr. Andersen he was sorry he had made a mistake and opened the case, but was prepared to pay for the paper. Scott came back again the same day, and said Andersen was in a great fury, and did not want money, he wanted the paper.

Cross-examined by Mr. Andersen: I am in the habit of receiving goods without any bill of lading or invoice. It has happened frequently. I do not know how many reams of paper I expected, a few. I saw no number on the box, nor did I see the lid.

By the Court: I made a mistake. I got the invoice of the goods I expected from Myer & Co. The goods were lost. I got a letter immediately after the case arrived to say fresh goods were re-shipped in place of those lost. I first heard of the loss of the steamer containing the goods about three months ago. I do not know what became of the cover of the box.

His Honour: It strikes me as something peculiar no one seems to know anything about that cover.

Examined continued: Since we dissolved partnership I have been on bad terms with Mr. Andersen. I have frequently received goods addressed "Stillfried and Andersen." I received some about six weeks ago. I swear there is albumenised paper mentioned in the invoice in my possession. No money was ever actually tendered to Mr. Andersen for the paper. I did not advise my brother to write the letter stating that after Andersen's conduct he

would not pay. The goods which arrived about six weeks ago, addressed to "Stillfried and Andersen," were some angle iron. These goods were ordered between July and September, 1878. They arrived here a long time before I received them. I received the invoice about a year ago. I have not received any invoice addressed "Stillfried and Andersen" since about a year ago.

To Mr. Andersen: The iron has been in Captain Scott's hands.

Mr. Lowder applied to put in evidence the two letters referred to on Monday, to prove that offer of payment had been made.

Application refused. Note of application made.

The witness then stated that any blame in the matter attached to him. He received the case and handed it to his brother.

Shimoka, a Japanese in the employment of accused, stated: I recollect a box of paper being delivered by Captain Scott. I think it was about the 23rd of December. The box was put near the back stairs. The receipt for the box was presented to accused. I opened the box by my master's orders. My master did not see me open the box, but came after it was open. I do not remember what became of the cover. Yamazaki helped me to open the box.

By the Court: There was writing on the cover. I suppose the cover is in the house. I have not looked for it.

Yamazaki, a Japanese, also in the employment of accused, deposed: I assisted the last witness to open a box about the 23rd of December. The cover was thrown away at the back. I do not know where it now is. I think I could find it.

Mr. Lowder stated that the case for the defence was now closed, and proceeded to address the Court on behalf of the accused. He said: "I stand here, your Honour, for the purpose of defending a citizen of the United States, against one of the most false and malicious charges that the name of the Deity was ever invoked to support. I believe that when the prosecutor, Andersen, came here, and took the holy book in his hand, and made this charge against the accused, he lied, and he know he lied. That he made this monstrous charge knowing it to be untrue, and for the purpose of branding a professional rival, in the eyes of the public with the name of a thief. The learned counsel then stated that the matter would be heard of again in another court and before another tribunal, and proceeded to comment upon the evidence, pointing out that the accused discovered the mistake himself and was the first to draw attention to it." Mr. Lowder characterized the statement of Mr. Andersen, that Captain Scott had not told him the accused was willing to pay for the paper, as "a malicious lie," when he was stopped by his Honour, who expressed the opinion that counsel, in making use of language which might lead to a breach of the peace, was overstepping his privilege. "Liar," said his Honour, "is not a proper word to make use of to anyone in a Court of Justice." Mr. Lowder then withdrew the objectionable expression and continued his comments upon the evidence, laying stress upon the fact that there was no proof of *animus furandi*, which is absolutely essential to support a charge of larceny. The learned gentleman concluded an able address by stating that his client had gone into the witness box in the hope that by his evidence he would reinstate himself in the opinion of the public, who had been called upon by the prosecutor to look upon him as a scoundrel, a felon, and a thief.

His Honour observed that a very bad feeling had existed between the parties for some considerable time past, and it was probable that if this bad feeling had not existed, the prosecution would not have taken place. If they had been friends, an explanation would have been made, the mistake rectified, and there the matter would have ended. He was not so sure that the prosecution was not justified. If a man becomes properly possessed of a package, and then breaks bulk, knowing it not to be his own, that constitutes larceny, as the law then implies an intention to defraud. In the judgment of the Court, the present could not, under the circumstances, be deemed a malicious prosecution. His Honour thought the accused and his brother, knowing the feeling that existed, should have been more than usually cautious to avoid the possibility of any mistake of this kind occurring. His Honour then reviewed the salient points of the evidence, and stated that under the testimony

he was bound to discharge the prisoner, who would therefore be discharged accordingly, the question of costs remaining in abeyance for the present.

## IN THE IMPERIAL GERMAN CONSULAR COURT.

Monday, January 12th, 1880.

Before E. ZAPPE, Esq., Consul.

KURATA MASAKICHI vs. H. W. HOHNHOLTZ.

This was a claim of yen 72.46 due for provisions sold by plaintiff.

Plaintiff, who is a provision merchant in Kanagawa, stated in his petition, that he, on the 14th of March, 1879, from his stall at the Sihou market, sold to one Kamingue for ship's use certain provisions for yen 72.46. The sale was understood to be a cash sale, but he was not paid on the spot, and a couple of days afterwards Kamingue, accompanied by defendant, came to his place, asked him to wait a few days, and told him that defendant would then pay the amount. The defendant expressed his assent, and Kamingue handed plaintiff a paper of the following contents:

"Good for 72 rios 46 sen for the following goods, received from Massa:

6 piculs rice at rios 1.33 per picul .....	20.00 rios.
15 piculs potatoes at rios 1.70 per picul .....	25.50 "
150 head of codfish, 6 for 1 rios .....	25.00 "
For barrels and salt .....	1.96 "

Total amount.....72.46 rios

G. KAMINGUE.

Payable by H. Hohnholtz, No. 55."

Plaintiff accepted this paper, which is attached to the petition, but whenever he afterwards called on defendant for a settlement, the latter asked him to wait a few days. Last summer defendant asked for respite on account of his dwelling and store at No. 55 having been burnt down. At last, when plaintiff became pressing for his money, and would wait no longer, defendant told him that he, defendant, did not consider himself as owing plaintiff anything, and at all events could not pay anything before the return of Kamingue.

Plaintiff appeared by a Japanese proxy, who put in a paper, in which it was stated that plaintiff was too busy to attend the Court.

Defendant appeared personally and denied the debt.

The Court refused to admit plaintiff's proxy on the strength of the document produced by him. It adjourned the hearing until Tuesday, the 20th instant, at 10 a.m., and ordered plaintiff to pay the costs of the present hearing.

Tuesday, January 13th, 1880.

POW KONG vs C. SEITZ.

This was a claim of \$150 with 12 per cent. annual interest from the 10th of October, 1879, and costs.

Mr. Kirkwood appeared for plaintiff, defendant did not appear, either personally or by attorney.

The petition set forth that plaintiff, who is a money-changer in Yokohama, on the 10th of October, 1879, lent defendant \$150, which amount defendant was to pay back the next day. Up till date the money has not been paid.

Mr. Kirkwood produced defendant's written acknowledgment of having received the amount now claimed; he further produced his own letter copy-book, containing copies of three letters written of late by himself to defendant asking for a settlement, to all of which letters defendant had replied verbally, admitting the debt. He finally proved that the defendant had been legally summoned by the Court to appear to-day.

The Court gave judgment against defendant in *contumaciam*, ordering him to pay \$150 with 12 per cent annual interest from the 10th of October, 1879, until paid, and costs.

Wednesday, January 14th, 1880.

H. W. HOHNHOLTZ & Co. vs. Mrs. C. ROEPKE.

This was a claim of \$53.25 balance of money due for provisions and liquors sold.

Mr. H. W. Hohnholz appeared for plaintiffs: defendant appeared personally.

Defendant admitted the debt, but pleaded inability to pay otherwise than by monthly instalments.

Plaintiffs asked for judgment.

Verdict for plaintiffs in the amount claimed, with costs.

#### JAS. WINSTANLEY vs. C. SKITZ.

This was a claim of \$220, with interest on \$200, and costs.

Plaintiff stated in his petition that defendant on the 3rd of December, 1879, gave plaintiff orders to sell for him by public auction a steam-launch, and received from plaintiff in advance on the sale-proceeds \$200. The sale was duly advertised, but before the day appointed it was countermanded by defendant, who, however, has not yet paid back the advance of \$200, nor paid the charge of \$20 for commission and advertising.

Mr. H. Andersen appeared for plaintiff; defendant appeared personally.

Defendant admitted the debt and declared his readiness to pay as soon as he was able to do so.

Mr. Andersen asked for judgment.

Verdict for plaintiff in \$220 with 6 per cent annual interest on \$200 from the 3rd December, 1879, until paid, and costs.

Friday, January 16th, 1880.

#### H. ANDERSEN vs. RAYMOND, BARON VON STILLFRIED.

(Adjourned from the 9th inst.)

The Court in the presence of the parties to-day delivered the following

#### JUDGMENT.

##### *The facts of the case.*

On the 26th of July 1879, this Court gave judgment in a lawsuit between the present parties to the effect that the defendant was for a period of ten years from the 30th of June 1878 prohibited from trading either in Japan or from Japan, in Japanese photographs taken by himself. The plaintiff now asserts, that defendant has nevertheless sold to his brother Francis von Stillfried at the price of \$6,000 besides other things negatives taken by defendant in Japan and pictures from those negatives, although he knew that his brother intended to trade in those articles. In proof of this assertion, plaintiff has referred to the register of deeds of sale kept in the American Consulate, on which register the deed of sale which was executed between the two brothers on the 6th of December 1879, has been entered. The plaintiff contends that defendant has hereby infringed the restrictions, which the judgment imposed upon his freedom of action, and demands that the said judgment be enforced. The defendant admits the deed of sale of the 6th of December, but denies that the same includes a sale of Japanese negatives and photographs.

He alleges that he has sold to his brother, Indian and Chinese negatives, from doing which nothing prevented him. With regard to the plaintiff's plea that the deed of sale expressly mentions *all* the negatives and photographs, which on the 6th of December, were in the dwelling-house of defendant and on the business premises of his brother, and that plaintiff by the evidence of Welsh wanted to prove, that the Japanese negatives and photographs in question were also there on that sale, defendant states that he does not deny, that those negatives and photographs were then there, but that they could not possibly have been sold by him on the 6th of December, because all his Japanese negatives had already, about four weeks previously, become the property of his brother, to whom he, defendant, had made a present of them and as for Japanese photographs none had passed from him to his brother.

The defendant produces the deed of sale in question and likewise an inventory of the objects sold, which inventory was taken a few days after the deed of sale was executed. On the strength of the above pleadings, the defendant asks that the plaintiff's demand be dismissed, while plaintiff denies the truth of defendant's allegations and again quotes the context of the deed of sale of the 6th of December.

##### *The reasons for the decision.*

According to general principles of law on the *onus* of proof, he, who alleges a fact, on which he bases a claim,

has, in case of denial by the opposite party, to prove that fact, and it was therefore undoubtedly incumbent on plaintiff to prove, that the deed of sale of the 6th of December, 1879, also included defendant's Japanese negatives and photographs. This plaintiff has not proved, for in the face of defendant's assertion, that he already, about four weeks before the execution of the deed of sale, had made his brother Francis von Stillfried a present of his photographic negatives, and that the latter has not received any pictures from him whatsoever,—it is an arbitrary assumption on the part of the plaintiff, that the word *all* in the deed of sale must necessarily also include the Japanese negatives and pictures. Nor is it, in order to cause defendant's plea that he made a present of the negatives to be disregarded and plaintiff's demand to be granted, sufficient that plaintiff simply denies the gift. And when on the other hand the defendant, in support of his assertion that the sale does not include Japanese negatives, produces a list of the objects sold to his brother, and this list only contains Indian and Chinese photographs, and the Court considers the entire *status*, established between the parties by the judgment of the 26th of July 1879, in connection with the sale of the 6th of December, by which defendant sold to Francis von Stillfried for \$6,000 the whole of his stock with the sole exception of the Japanese negatives now in litigation,—then the Court finds itself unable to distinguish between the truth and the untruth of the respective allegations of the parties, and it therefore makes use of the power with which it is invested by Art. 437 of the Ordinance of Procedure, and gives defendant the choice to swear that it is true, that the deed of sale of the 6th of December 1879, does not include those Japanese negatives and pictures, which are now used in Francis von Stillfried's business and formerly belonged to defendant, and that the same already several weeks previous to the 6th of December 1879, had by gift become the property of Francis von Stillfried.

For these reasons, the Court renders the following

#### Decision.

Plaintiff's demand of enforcement of the judgment of the 26th of July 1879, is granted unless defendant takes his solemn oath as follows: "I swear that the bill of sale executed on the 6th of December 1879, with any brother Francis von Stillfried did not include those Japanese negatives and pictures, which are now used in the business of Francis von Stillfried and formerly belonged to me, and that I already several weeks previous to the 6th of December 1879, had made my brother a present of the Japanese negatives. So help me God!"

If the defendant takes the above oath, then the plaintiff's claim is dismissed.

The costs are to be paid by defendant in case he does not take the above oath; otherwise each of the parties has to bear his own costs.

## TWO COURTS OF JUSTICE IN CHINA.

(From "Cynthia," a Chinese story: *Hongkong Daily Press*.)

### I. ENGLISH.—HONGKONG.

The Magistrates' Court with its dozens of reeking bare backs and expectorating mouths, is a sight worthy of trotting half over the globe to see at any time, but more especially during the summer months.

Having ascended the little go-cart termed a witness-box, Chop Dollar was declared. The Court of Hongkong being a partially sensible institution, and being decidedly economical, such tomfoolery as plate breaking and cock's head cutting is dispensed with.

While the complainant's story is being gradually filtered through the interpreter and placed upon paper, he takes stock of the stage of the Hall of Justice. Raised above the whole is the beetle-browed magistrate; before him the interpreter, beneath and around whom gather counsel, policemen, foreign spectators, newspaper reporters, and others of equal importance. The table in the centre partially covered with blue cloth, is blotched and splashed with ink; its legs have the rickets. The chairs—if it be not presumption to so term such articles as were before Chop Dollar—were of a piece with the table, and are not by any means improved in appearance by being painted "reporter," with such artistic taste as might be supposed to be the peculiar attribute of a Zulu savage.

There is no accounting for taste, but as Chop Dollar looked round the den before him, he could scarcely prevent himself from giving utterance to the thought, that it scarcely seemed the place for a display of the majesty of any law, however made. Cramped, dark, ill-ventilated and uncomfortable, it seemed as if constructed rather as a place of torture than a hall where the innocent were to be vindicated, and the guilty sentenced to meet the punishment decreed for outrage on well-ordered society.

At last the tedious complaint is down, and a few questions having been asked by the bench, the counsel for the defence arose.



Assuming that fatuous expression which long experience has enabled him to feel confident is the best outward and visible exponent of an inward and invisible idiocy, he says, "And so you think you met the prisoner on the steamer in Canton?"

The interpreter hesitated for an instant; but for a moment only, and then shouted "You met the prisoner this way, you think, on the Canton steamer?"

"Which way?" artlessly enquired Chop.

Determined not to have his own ignorance exposed, the interpreter thunders wrathfully, "Any way. Can't you give a straightforward answer. What do you mean by prevaricating. Did you see him or did you not?"

Very confusedly, "Yes."

Chop Dollar began to wish he had brought up that fifty dollar note.

"Now, sir, be very careful—do you know that if you tell lies in this Court you'll be sent to gaol?" This being interpreted in a give-and-take style, Chop Dollar indignantly denied he was telling untruths.

"How did he address you?" inquired the lawyer.

"How was he dressed?" asks the interpreter.

"As he is now dressed," was the answer.

"Just the same," glibly interprets the linguistic functionary.

"Just the same," repeats the magistrate, as he writes down the answer, and then, half-way through looks up with "Just the same! Just the same! What does he mean?"

"What do you mean?" shouts the interpreter.

"Oh! as is usually customary amongst Chinese on meeting," suggests the lawyer.

"Yes, yes," chimes the interpreter.

"Oh! to be sure. In the manner customary—amongst the natives," writes the holder of the Scales of Justice.

"Have you ever been an intimate of my client?" inquires the lawyer blandly.

"Did you ever intimate anything to that fellow (pointing to the prisoner)?" graciously questions the interpreter.

"Never," replies the complainant emphatically.

"He was never an intimate of my client, your Worship," states the lawyer.

"Is it within your own actual cognizance that the prisoner removed your effects from the steamer?" asks the counsel.

"Did you see that man take those things (pointing to the stump of a pencil, &c., on the table) out of your pillow-box?" interprets the official.

"No. How could I?"

"No," writes the magistrate; and asks, "and it is quite possible that the pillow-box came into his possession after he had quitted the vessel altogether?"

"Perhaps when you were standing altogether on the vessel the prisoner was in a position to take the pillow-box?" deliberately said the interpreter.

"I think it quite possible," replies Chop Dollar, not quite seeing what that possibility had to do with the matter in hand.

"I thought so," observes the self-satisfied magistrate.

"Exactly so, your worship, and I think matters have arrived at such a stage as to justify me in asking your Worship to immediately discharge my client. The witness in this case has not come forward yet, but if it were not that I feel I should be most unjustifiably encroaching upon your valuable time, I should almost desire to have his evidence that I might proceed against the two—that is the complainant and his witness—for conspiracy. I think your Worship will admit, that never in this court, nor, indeed, in any other under the British flag, that emblem of freedom, has such a base, determined attempt been made to brand as a felon, and deprive of his liberty, a Chinese gentleman, whose spotless character can be testified to by thousands, and by tens of thousands where he belongs to. Here, he is an utter stranger—"

"I can testify as to his character, your Worship if—" interrupted a turnkey.

"Hold your tongue," sharply cried the lawyer. "You are not a witness in the case. At least, so far as I am aware. Wait till you are spoken to."

"I was going to say, Mr. Emtint," said his Worship, "when you started off with such volubility, that there seem to be good grounds for supposing, from the straightforward and emphatic manner in which the complainant has given his evidence, that, at the least, the prisoner may be committed for trial for unlawful possession. But we—"

"I protest, your Worship, against such construction being put upon the evidence as yet before you."

"Very well. I will take some more."

The informer gave his evidence.

Amongst other questions the magistrate asked, "And seeing these two men running as if pursued, or as if in pursuit, you were struck with the idea that something was wrong and, therefore, followed them."

"Purshoot, and purshoot," muttered the interpreter to himself; "struck,"—"idea,"—"something."

"Here! when those men ran past you, did they strike you with—a pistol or anything of that kind or with a 'hightee'?" he asked of the witness.

"A 'hightee'! What's that?"

"Why one of those new kind of weapons brought from foreign countries, you dance."

"No."

"Ah!" interjected his Worship, "well, I'll commit this case for trial, Mr. Emtint. It seems to me that an offence has been committed. Of course, I suppose you will reserve your defence in such case. It is not the way of a magistrate to be dogmatic, and I should be sorry to injure the reputation of your client, Mr. Emtint, but commit the case I must."

## II. CHINESE.—ANYWHERE.

Taking charge of the runners, Hound led them straight to the residence of the hapless Lamb, and that gentleman found himself deprived of that liberty he had been trying so hard to retain. Nothing was found in his lodging belonging to Chop Dollar. Not even the pillow-box. He had been too cautious to keep his person and his booty together.

Arrived at the police quarters, Lamb was handed over to the custody of those individuals, who were rather wroth on finding they had been out-witted by Chop Dollar.

A day having been appointed for the trial by the magistrate, Chop Dollar faithfully attended. After waiting for some time, he began to feel particularly fatigued. Turning to a runner, he asked—

"Can you not oblige me with a seat? I have been upon my legs a great deal of late, and feel so tired now that I feel I must sit or fall."

"One hundred cash, my friend," said the man addressed, in a cheery way.

Chop Dollar pulled out a ten cent piece with the air of a martyr; and so disgusted was he, that in handing it over he did not ask for the difference of value between the silver coin and one hundred cash.

In due course he was called before one of the presiding assistant-magistrates, before whom, humbly kneeling much to the discomfort of his kneecaps, he related his deprivation of money. The proceeding was a tedious one. The magistrate being from the province of Oo Nam, had to have Chop Dollar's words interpreted to him, and these were then put down by the clerk taking down the depositions.

Chop Dollar was ordered to retire, and Hound was admitted. Furtively glancing round the place, he discovered that none of the people about—all officials or servants of officials—were known to him, and became somewhat bold in consequence. It had not been his intention to appear at all, but Chop Dollar, fearful lest the case should break down, insisted on his giving evidence, under the penalty of being deprived of the promised reward unless he did.

"Your name?" inquired the interpreter. "What age? Where of?" followed in succession.

"You are a witness in this case?"

"Yes," somewhat feebly from the witness, who already began to feel the kneeling process a hardship.

"Well, what do you know about it?"

"I saw the prisoner in the case carrying the complainant's pillow-box on to the steambot at Hongkong. I also saw him on the day it was stolen in company with his fellow thief now in gaol in Hongkong, and also saw him stand by in an hotel, while the other prisoner burst open the —."

"How do you know it was the complainant's pillow-box and no one else's?"

"From the description I afterwards got of it."

And so it went on until his evidence was all given, when he was allowed to rise, an operation he could scarcely perform, and retire. Lamb being brought in, was asked particulars as to age and so forth.

"The charge against you is—" and the interpreter went through the gist of the depositions, "what say you, guilty or not guilty?"

"Not guilty," very firmly indeed; and Lamb sought to prove an *alibi*.

"Have you any evidence of what you state?" asked the interpreter.

"How can I produce evidence now, when all the different people I was in company of, have become scattered?" objected Lamb.

"He lies," said the magistrate severely and emphatically.

"You lie," repeated the interpreter with added severity and increased emphasis.

"Call in the complainant and witness," ordered the magistrate. Being confronted with Chop Dollar and the informer, he persisted in his denial of having committed the offence, disclaiming all knowledge of either our hero or his companion. As to Lee, he had known a great many men of that name, but no one who had ever been to gaol certainly. He was far too respectable to associate with men of no principle.

"He lies," repeated magistrate indignantly.

"You lie," cried the interpreter, perfectly aghast at the enormity of such an offence. Evidently he had never met a liar before.

"Strike his cheeks," said the magistrate, determined to elicit the truth, whereupon the lictors struck Lamb's cheeks with leather kept for the purpose, in instalments of five blows, until they swelled up from the inflammation caused.

"I confess!" shrieked the agonized man.

"Where's the booty?" enquired the magistrate.

"All spent," replied the miserable wretch.

"He lies," sententially asserted the magistrate.

"You lie," iterated the interpreter shaking his head seriously, as if to say "what unaccountable depravity!"

"Strike his cheeks fifty blows," ordered the holder of the scales of justice, and the former ceremony was repeated to the extent of sickening our hero beyond measure. The miserable prisoner on his knees howled, shrieked, and went through all sorts of contortions, even to grovelling and rolling on the ground. He was determined, however, to give in no more than he had already done. Therefore, to every question as to the hiding place of the booty, he persisted that there was none of it left.

At last Chop Dollar could bear the sight no longer, and begged the magistrate, not in the name of humanity, but in that of graciousness, to cause the lictors to desist. He felt he would rather lose double the sum Lee and Lamb had robbed him of, than see again a fellow creature subjected to such terrible punishment, however dead that individual might be to all feelings of honesty and respectability.

In answer to the prayer offered up to him by Chop Dollar, the



magistrate relented, and ordered the removal of the prisoner, with the sentence of deportation two provinces northward; there to remain until such time as his Imperial Majesty the Emperor might choose to release him from supervision at the place to which he was to be deported.

In due time Lamb found his cheek tattooed with his clan-name, name, and offence, and his person being forwarded on to his destination.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

BY CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XXXII.

#### THE BRIDGE.

Three hundred knights who had followed the Lord Seneschal and some seventeen hundred friars, of whom not a few were men of passing prowess though the main part had never wielded a weapon except in sport: this was all the force the fugitives at Miidera could muster, and they knew that at any moment the Heiko chiefs might oppose a century of trained warriors to every score of these priestly tyros. As for the Genji in the provinces, there was little hope that they could reach Kiyoto in time to be of any solid assistance. Kiso Yoshinaka, being at once the most accessible and not the least interested, had, it was true, been summoned to Kiyoto and urged to lose no time in assembling the allies he had so long and so craftily laboured to enlist; but this was before the enforced flight to Miidera, and Yoshinaka, obeying the suggestion of his subtle adviser Nei, had carefully avoided engaging himself to anything that could necessitate a march beyond the mountain fastness he knew so well. There he might confidently look to hold his enemies at bay until a series of petty reverses, or at least the lack of signal success, should shake the prestige that helped so largely to keep the people in subjection. The Lord Seneschal had divined this strategy and could not but approve it, though he himself, placed thus in the van of an unsupported battle, might hope for nothing better than to drag his enemy down with him as he fell. That however the brave old knight counted as no small solace, and if he sometimes bowed his white head sadly when he remembered that in the crash of the coming onset, his three sons' lusty manhood would be of no more avail than his own ripe old, he never suffered this passing despondency to mar his own cheery aspect or damp his inexperienced followers' ardour.

To all the chief cloisters in and about the capital, where the guardians of the Genji sepulchres still cherished the memory of by-gone times, a memorial was addressed by the Lord Abbot of Miidera, praying for aid against the destruction that menaced his monastery and its inmates; but though favourable replies were returned in most cases, day after day passed and still the gazers from the watchtowers saw no glitter of either friend or foe's armour among the pass of Niui. The fact was that while most of the holy brotherhoods were not less willing than their fellows of Miidera to strike a blow in the Minamoto cause, none were bold enough to take the field alone, for this signified in all probability annihilation before a junction could be effected with their allies and under any circumstance the destruction of their shrines and cloisters left thus unprotected. The inaction of the Heike men was not so easily explained, except on the supposition that they desired to ascertain the limits of their enemies' strength before putting forth their own. Those friars of Miidera whose ministrations summoned them to the neighbourhood of Rokuhara, reported that palisades, military pits and such like muniments were in course of rapid construction about the Taira stronghold, but though bands of knights arrived almost hourly to swell the numbers of the garrison, everything seemed to indicate a defensive rather than an offensive programme.

Under these circumstances the Seneschal conceived a design worthy to be cited as the inception of a struggle between the two chief clans of the Empire. On the highlands in the vicinity of Miidera stood a thriving village that owed most of its prosperity to the patronage of Sanefusa, the Lord Deputy, in whose fief it lay. Now Sanefusa had been entrusted by the Heike chief with the mission of arresting Prince Mochihito, and after the fight at the palace

he had returned with his troops to Rokuhara, partly because his duty summoned him thither at such a time rather than to his own castle, and partly because he desired to secure the punishment of the refractory knight who had so stoutly opposed his search for the Prince. Learning subsequently that the rebels were in force at Miidera, he had remained in Kiyoto, detained at first by the expectation of taking part in an immediate attack upon the cloisters, and afterwards by the difficulty of regaining his castle without exposing himself to almost certain disaster on the road. Of all these things Yorinasa had information and they suggested the plan he proposed to his knights and the chiefs of the esnobites at a solemn conclave in the hall of the principal fane on the fifth evening after his retreat to Miidera.

If the Lord Deputy's castle and the village in its vicinity were fired, the flames could easily be seen from Rokuhara, and whatever stratagem the Heiko chiefs were contriving, they might not sit with folded arms while the torch was set to their allies' strongholds. They would assuredly march to the assault forthwith, and Yorinasa proposed that in the meanwhile a party of six hundred picked men under his sons' leadership should make a detour so as to descend upon Rokuhara during the absence of its garrison, while the main body, falling back slowly through the defiles at the head of Lake Biwa, should suffer their pursuers to close with them at a certain place among the hills, where the ground was of such a nature that disparity of force ceased to be a serious difficulty.

The scheme was a bold one and it received the warm support of all the Seneschal's knights, for they understood that if no access of force was to be gained by waiting, their best and indeed their only chance of success lay in utilizing their friar-allies' enthusiasm before the chill of inaction overtook it.

Deeds followed fast on the footsteps of design in an age when the soldier's weapons and his harness were all the requisites for a campaign, and no complicated tactical movements interfered with those feats of individual prowess for whose achievement men were at any time content, to barter then lives. Looking eastward through the thick darkness at midnight, the Heike watchmen saw the sky redden with a lurid glow not easily misinterpreted by those dwellers in a wooden city, and in a moment the tidings were shouted from barbaric to barrack-room, "the rebels have fired the Lord Deputy's castle, and will serve all our friends alike if we hold our hands any longer." They were not too well versed in the art of self-restraint, these men of Hei, and certainly the insults they had suffered might have sufficed to stir calmer blood. Yorinasa's scheme seemed to be on the verge of success, for already the wardens were bestirring themselves to unfasten the ponderous gates and give egress to the armed multitude that surged against them, when a peasant boy, knocking hastily at the postern, handed in a letter for Munemori.

The Taira chief read the document aloud while his handmaidens huddled on his armour. "My Lord," it ran, "the flames you see in the east are intended to entice you to a battle-field where your enemies hope to make peaks and passes their allies. A troop of their best soldiers waits to assault Rokuhara in your absence, but I have succeeded in delaying their venture so long by adverse counsels, that though you never raise a sword to repulse them, the dawning will, I ween, show them still struggling among the pits and entanglements beyond your moats. With deep respect, your servant, Shinkai, Sub-prior."

Munemori laughed loud and long when he had finished the perusal of this letter. "They have sent me back a horse that many a one of them would be fain to borrow for his flight soon," he cried exultingly, "but to-night it will be sufficient if they learn that neither stratagem nor strength can bring them within striking distance without our consent. Let every man retire to his quarters. These wearers of amice and baldric need not trouble the rest of Taira soldiers; only if there be any who can find sport in aiming a shaft at tattered pates, he will do well to string his bow an hour before daylight."

The Seneschal's eldest son, Nakatsuna, commanded the force selected for the assault of Rokuhara. It was an unusually dark night, and the progress of the men-at-arms was necessarily slow, being measured by that of a company of serfs,

heavily laden with pavises, axes and mattocks, who were destined to act as pioneers. There was of course no possibility of ascertaining whether the garrison had been enticed forth by Yorimasa's device or not, but at any rate the attacking party encountered no active resistances when they set themselves to clear away the formidable barrier of obstacles that separated them from the fort, the men-at-arms holding up the huge pavises to protect their followers, who plied axe and mattock with might and main so that their own share of the perilous undertaking might be concluded before day-break.

It sometimes happens that the very absence of opposition has a more demoralizing effect than bloodshed and hard blows, for it inevitably suggests the idea of either confidence or stratagem on the enemy's side. Nakatsuna's men, toiling painfully forward foot by foot through the entanglements and pitfalls that covered every inch of ground beyond the counterescarp, and hearing nothing in the darkness save the sounds of their own labour, gradually began to picture to themselves some crushing concentration of force awaiting them beyond the fosse, or possibly a cordon of foes slowly enclosing them from behind, and so devoted perhaps more thought to precaution than was consistent with success. At any rate they were still separated by a considerable interval from the moat, when in the intervals of their toil, they heard a sound that made them pause with uplifted axe, and peer anxiously between the passes of the Nioi peaks. That sound was nothing more than the crowing of the cocks in the castle before them, but it caused them a dismay the war-cry of a thousand foes could not have produced, for it told them that the dawn was climbing the mountains, and that a shower of arrows might presently be added to the obstacles they had already found well-nigh insurmountable.

In truth the Heike men were at that very moment bending their bows behind the palisade, and promising each other rare sport so soon as there should be light enough to show them their arrow-tips and their enemies. But Nakatsuna was not one to lead his troops into hopeless peril. With bitter regret and despite the counsel of his more sanguine comrades, he gave the order to retire, and drew his men off so rapidly that those within the castle had no leisure to impede the retreat.

There were not wanting men who found many palliatives in the details of this failure. It was something to have marched unmolested into the very shadow of the Taira stronghold, and almost a triumph to have destroyed a great part of the obstacles so carefully prepared by the enemy. But Munemori's prescience proved in the end more than usually accurate. There was something grievously discouraging in the reflection that they had failed not only to disturb their foes' comfortable assurance, but even to come within striking distance of his position though no active opposition whatsoever had interfered with the exercise of their strength. Nothing could have been more subtly calculated to convince them of their utter impotence, and from that day the cenobites' enthusiasm began to be replaced by an ominous apathy. They did not understand the full extent of Shinkai, the sub-prior's treachery, but remembering the delay his frivolous objections had caused on the night of the assault, they sought to make him pay the penalty of their failure. Shinkai however escaped to Rokuhara, and after his flight the friars gave themselves less and less concern about the Prince and his prospects, so that after a few days the Lord Seneschal resolved to change his place of refuge to Nara, having received the most positive promises of aid from the priests of the principal shrines there.

The force that accompanied the imperial fugitive when he set out from Miidera consisted of some four hundred men, attached to whom in the capacity of guides were the Friars Mioju and Shishu, this the best glaivesman and that the doughtiest swordsman of all the cenobites at Miidera, and both sons of knights who had fallen at the Earl of Harima's side in his last fight. It was a sultry summer day and the Prince, wearied by the unwonted fellowship of fear no less than by the hardships of the route, fell six times from his horse before the first ten miles of their journey had been achieved. Speed was of course above all things expedient, since the only possibility of escape lay in eluding pursuit, but with such an encumbrance speed was not to be attained, and so towards mid-day the

little band were constrained to halt at the temple of Heito, in order that Mochibito might recover strength to proceed.

The Seneschal had probably by this time foreseen much of what was about to follow, for although no sound disturbed the silence of the noontide save the pleasant plashing of the river Yodo as it swept smoothly past the temple enclosure, he desired his followers to remove the planks of the bridge and posted look-outs on the watch-tower as well as on all the commanding positions in the neighbourhood.

The knights had scarcely bathed their faces and unbuckled some of the heavier pieces of their armour when one of these sentinels came running in to report that a column of armed men was just debouching from the hills that hid the eastern suburb of the city. Almost immediately after, the intelligence was received of another column marching parallel with the first, and a brief reconnaissance sufficed to show that the two were converging on the very position occupied by the fugitives.

If the handful of knights forming the prince's escort had set much store by their lives, it is probable that they might have experienced some perturbation at the prospect of encountering the overwhelming force of which they presently perceived these columns to be the van-guard; but it was afterwards related by the priests of Heito, that so far from exhibiting any alarm, their guests were careful to do ample justice to such rough fare as the cloister refectories furnished and that when they bethought themselves of leisurely refastening their harness, the enemy were already within bowshot of the river bank.

A broken bridge, and the Yodo, broad, deep and swift, were however obstacles not easily negotiated and after the Taira troops had crowded to the edge of the stream and shouted defiance to their foes on the opposite bank, there followed a momentary pause disturbed only by the twanging of bow strings, for on this side some of Yorimasa's men, themselves sheltered behind the pines in the temple grounds, discharged shafts every one of which took effect among the dense masses of their adversaries.

Then occurred an incident which with less terribly disproportionate forces might at once have turned the tide of battle in the prince's favour. Those that reached the river first, perceiving the state of the bridge, had made no attempt to cross, but it was not so with those that followed. Seeing their comrades here and there struck by arrows they had no power to return, and ignoring perhaps the true cause of the delay, they pressed forward so blindly that in a moment the bridge was covered with armed men. Now the planks forming the roadway having been removed for a space of about six yards, left exposed three balks of timber placed edge upwards, and these not being more than some four inches thick at the utmost, while the intervals that separated them were almost as many feet, offered a means of passage no man might venture to essay at such a moment. Thus then, when the leaders of the ever increasing crowd on the bridge, seeing before them this almost impassable chasm and beneath them the deep water in which an armour clad soldier might scarcely hope to live, turned and strove to win their way back to the bank, those in rear, fancying from the commotion that the battle had been joined, redoubled their efforts to advance, and it is related that in the rush which ensued some three hundred men were thrust off the roadway and swept away by the river before their comrades were made wise to their fate.

But three hundred men more or less made no appreciable difference in the many thousands that had marched from Rokuhara to annihilate the rebels, and as the Genji knights saw that sea of flashing weapons to which wave after wave was added every instant by fresh arrivals it seemed a force so ludicrously disproportionate to their own weakness that they greeted their foes with shouts of jeering laughter.

As yet the fighting had been confined to an interchange of arrows, many of which had proved fatal to the assailants, but the Heike men setting up their pavises or retiring from the exposed positions they had first occupied, presently ceased to be inconvenienced by their enemies' fire, and began to devise means of making the bridge practicable. Seeing this a band of twenty-eight men rode out from the shadow of the pines on the Genji side, and drew bridle at the bridge-head. They were clad in black armour from helmet to chausses and the housings of their horses were of sable bearskin, while at their head stood Miyoku, the champion swordsman. To many of the Taira soldiers

report had made the banners and devices of these knights familiar, and the estimation in which their prowess was held might have been easily inferred from the effect their sudden advance produced on the occupants of the bridge, but for all that the chasm on the brink of which they stood was not less formidable to them than to their foes. And since these had now taken measures to protect themselves against the Genji archers, it was difficult to see how the twenty-eight knights proposed to utilize their weapons.

But the mystery was soon resolved in a way that astonished both parties equally. Miyōju, springing from his horse and brandishing his long glaive over his head, stepped boldly on to the midmost of the three narrow timbers that had once supported the road-way of the bridge. Many of the Heike soldiers had, as we have seen, fallen headlong into the river during the early moments of their comrades' confused advance, and not a few were now clinging to the girders and buttresses below. From these, as Miyōju passed above their heads, ascended a yell of indescribable fury that might well have shaken the strong man's nerve, but for the rest his extraordinary feat was witnessed by both parties in perfect silence.

In truth it seemed much more reasonable that those in the river should concern themselves about the man's progress than those on the bridge, for so precarious was the nature of his footing that the slightest opposition must inevitably thrust him from his place and this was the issue all looked to see so soon as he should come within reach of his foes. He himself however, neither ignored his peril nor encountered it over rashly, for rapid as his advance necessarily was, he found time to disengage his glaive from the first weapon it met, launching it by the same effort with unerring aim into his opponent's gorge, and as the dead man fell backwards, Miyōju leaped into his place before the others had disencumbered themselves of their comrade's corpse.

All this was of course the affair of an instant, and though Miyōju's comrades crowding to the edge of the chasm, left no doubt of their longing to cross, not one dared trust his feet sufficiently to make the attempt. Indeed for the moment their aid seemed unnecessary. Miyōju's heavy glaive rose and fell among the multitude that surrounded him, and the bodies falling into the river as well as the blood that dripped from the bridge, showed plainly how seldom his strokes failed. No doubt such an achievement was less likely to be minimized than magnified in the memory of its witnesses, but it is certain that a goodly pile of corpses separated him from his adversaries before his glaive, wedged between the plates of a falling man's mail, broke short off above the blade.

At this moment a lad of some seventeen or eighteen summers, clad in light armour and carrying a long sword in his hand, ran at full speed from the temple enclosure shouting loudly to clear himself a passage. The Genji knights at the river's side, recognizing in the new comer, Ichirai, the favorite pupil of the man who was dealing their foes such stark blows, drew back hastily from the bridge-head; not because they had any prescience of the lad's design—that indeed was little likely—but simply in deference to his known friendship for Miyōju.

In another instant Ichirai had reached the edge of the chasm and then on this side and that of the river, from friends and foes alike, arose a tremendous shout of involuntary applause. At a single bound the boy had cleared the broken part of the bridge, and now stood by his master's side awaiting the fresh onset the Heike men were preparing.

This aid did not come a whit too soon, for though Miyōju showed no signs of exhaustion, he had been wounded by several arrows, and moreover the enemy just then executed a manœuvre to which, alone, he must have yielded from sheer inability to strike fast enough. This was nothing more than a combined attack of some twenty soldiers, who came on, shoulder to shoulder, the leaders bounding their heads and turning them to one side so that the curtains of their helmets protected their necks and faces. Such a method of advance, though practiced often enough in the teeth of heavy arrow flights, seemed almost ludicrously cautious under the circumstances and the struggle that ensued on the bridge was accompanied by loud shouts of derision from the spectators on the Genji side. Neither was it viewed with indifference by the Taira leaders. Furious that they should be thus held at bay by a broken

bridge and its two solitary defenders, they forced their horses into the stream and urged their men to attempt the passage at all hazards. The consequence was that a large number, eager to make a speedy end of Miyōju and Ichirai, rushed blindly along the bridge, while another and not less numerous party assayed to swim the river, some here, some there, but none acting with any idea of method or concert. To these Yorimasa and all his most skilled archers opposed themselves, shooting with such deadly effect that, as the priests of Heito afterwards recounted, the stream was dotted with corpses more thickly than with mere leaves after an autumn hurricane; while from those on the bridge, the two friars retreated so opportunely that the chasm once more engulfed some scores of unlucky soldiers thrust over the edge by their comrades, mad impetuosity.

After this repulse the pursuing force made no immediate attempt to renew the attack. They began to see that their previous failures were not more attributable to their opponents' address than to their own want of organization, and that since individually they might not hope to overcome such enemies, their only chance of success lay in utilizing their immensely superior numbers. To this end the leaders selected three hundred of their best mounted and most stalwart soldiers, and marshalling them at a convenient spot above the bridge, directed them to swim their horses over, making no attempt to return or avert their adversaries' missiles, but keeping their order knee to knee, and bending their heads so as to present the least possible vulnerable space to the arrows they had such good reason to dread.

Meanwhile the prince's escort, helpless witnesses of these dispositions for their destruction, essayed in various ways to renew the conflict after its former fashion. Yorimasa himself advanced to the river-bank, and waving his fan, defied the Taira men to advance. "Could Kiyomori," he asked, "find no grown men amongst all the vassals he had won by menace or bribe, that he was obliged to send such children to the fight, or was the story true that a surfeit of life's good things had begotten the distemper of cowardice in the House of Hei?" Similar but less measured taunts were shouted from the top of a pine tree by the strong-voiced friar Ikadzuchi, while others came forward to the bridge-head and offered to do battle with any of their foes on any terms they should name.

But the Taira leaders were not to be turned from their purpose by these empty words. Promising themselves a speedy and ample reward for their forbearance, they completed all their preparations with as much deliberation as they had before displayed precipitation, and when the long line of horsemen plunged into the river, leaving their places to be filled by an even greater number, the Genji men knew that neither harness nor blade could avert the end much longer.

Then the Lord Seneschal and the stoutest of the cenobites formed themselves into a body-guard for the Prince and turned their faces unwillingly towards Nara. The brave lad, Ichirai, indeed was lying senseless in the cloister at Heito, while Miyōju, well nigh crippled with arrow wounds and sword cuts, had doffed his armour and set out painfully in the van of the retreat; but of the rest few had any evidence of the fight to show, save perhaps their empty quivers. Yorimasa wore no helmet, and never at any time in his long life had men seen him look more cheerful and undaunted, but those that knew how often the old knight had proved his contempt for death, drew no over sanguine auguries from this tranquil mien.

As for the Prince, neither by word nor gesture did he display any symptom of the perturbation his previous conduct had disposed men to anticipate. Nerved in part by the imminence of peril, in part by the contact of such valour as he saw around him, he bore himself stoutly that at one time it seemed almost possible to hope for his escape. But even had he been capable of riding at a speed sufficient to baffle pursuit, it is doubtful whether his followers could have brooked anything so closely resembling a precipitate flight. At any rate the Heike men who had only delayed to assemble an ample force, soon came within bowshot of their foes, and even as the arrows rattled on the fugitives' harness, Kanetsura, the Seneschal's second son, heard a challenge shouted to him by the voice of an old enemy. The lad looked doubtfully at his father, but seeing that the old man purposely refrained from either encouraging or dissuading him, he suddenly turned his horse's head and rode straight towards the leading troop of the Taira soldiers.

Then for the first time those who were about Yorimasa



saw a shadow cross his tranquil face. Gradually, as though the vicinity of the foe exercised some irresistible attraction, he himself and nearly two hundred of his liegemen had slackened their pace until a considerable distance separated them from the main body of the fugitives, and now as Kanetsura galloped back, the desire to succour him made them unconsciously draw bridle, so that the Seneschal's signal to halt was obeyed almost by anticipation.

"Friends and liegemen," said the brave old nobleman, "I make you no excuses for this strait into which my fortune has led you. For such things you have always been ready, even as your forefathers were at my forefathers' bidding. The gods guard your lives for the good cause and make you not altogether unforgetful of your old master. And now since I, who have loyally served six Emperors, may not tarry here any longer with honour, win me, I pray you, from yonder rabble, so much leisure as may enable me to die in peace."

Just as Yorimasa began to speak, an arrow striking his knee above the links of the chausse, pierced the leg from side to side, but he scarcely even troubled himself to look at the wound, and as his followers closed round him, seeking to make their bodies a shield for his, he said the shaft was welcome since it afforded him another example of their devotion. Such men indeed were not likely to falter in their last act of obedience, and as they turned their faces once more to the foe, Yorimasa knew that not a few of them would presently travel with him to the unknown land.

Half a furlong from the road there was a little lake with sparkling waters and well wooded margin. Thither the Seneschal took his way, followed by three of his oldest liegemen. Choosing a nook sheltered from the sunshine and hidden from the pathway, the four dismounted and unbuckling the heavier pieces of their armour, concealed them among the thick bamboo grass at the edge of the mere. Yorimasa then drew his sword and sought to place it in one of his companions' hands, but it was long before any of them would consent to receive the weapon, for to this office alone the most loyal vassal might not readily reconcile himself. That difficulty, however, once overcome the rest was simple and speedy, and but a very minutes afterwards the waters of the lake closed over the bloody sword while the solitary survivor of the four men made his way back to the temple of Heito, not to seek succour or asylum but to hide his chief's head in the wall of the shrine behind the altar, and then himself to follow the example of those he had helped to die.

Meanwhile the Prince, fast losing nerve and hope alike, was scarcely enabled to continue his flight by the aid of the few faithful men that still remained with him. He seemed to understand what had befallen Yorimasa by some sympathetic perception, for though he made no comment nor asked any question, those riding at his side heard him presently pray for the Seneschal's soul as they were about to pass the portals of the God of Battle's fane. At that very moment, while Machihito's clasped hands were raised to his forehead, an arrow, shot at random, struck him in the left side. He fell from his horse without a struggle or a groan, and before his followers could replace him in the saddle, they were surrounded by their pursuers, and after a brief but desperate resistance, the ill-fated Prince's decapitated body lay side by side with the corpses of those who had been glad to die for the sake of the title he bore.

(To be continued.)

## NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 17th January, 1880.)

		Yen Satz.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
		A.M.	Noon	Clos- ing.				
1880.								
Monday.....	Jan. 12	530	531	531½	369	326	113	102
Tuesday.....	" 13	532	532	532	—	—	—	—
Wednesday.....	" 14	532	532½	534	—	—	—	—
Thursday.....	" 15	534½	538	540	—	—	—	—
Friday.....	" 16	541	540½	541½	—	—	—	—
Saturday.....	" 17	541	541	543	—	—	—	—

## DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

He's going home I hear  
So let us say "adieu!"  
Your readers all will miss him,  
And so I fear will you.

1.  
When I get a fine house on the Bluff,  
Then, I'll welcome you fast enough.

2.  
When you're aught to do,  
You must take care, I wis,  
To put the thing through,  
That you do not do this.

3.  
I'm known to every German student,  
At least I should be, were he prudent.

4.  
When I say I'm a dunce,  
Sure you'll guess it at once.

5.  
Am emblem of meekness awake or at rest,  
But hot, with green peas, I like you the best.

6.  
If you get in the hands of a Jew,  
You'll know me then, if you didn't before.  
And mind pay the Bill when it's due,  
Or each day I'mount up more and more.

7.  
A flower with little show,  
But prized every where,  
Around the place I grow,  
My sweet scent fills the air.

FELTIN.

ANSWER TO TRIPLE ACROSTIC, OF JAN. 10TH, BY "WAMBA."

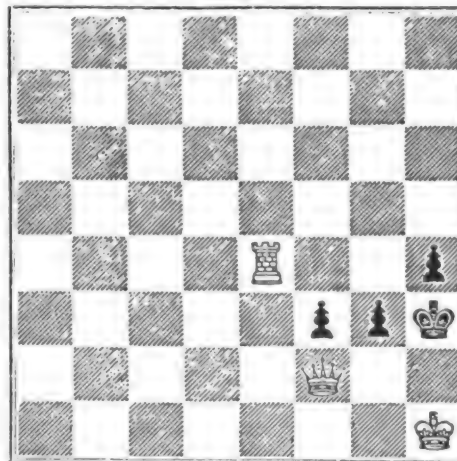
Floury Dross Dross.  
F a D e D  
A m e R i c A  
N o r w e g i a N  
C a u s t i C  
Y o u S e E

Correct answers received from 30 & 2 Bique, Zulu, and H. M. S. Answers from others have been received, which are correct with exception of last light, for which the Japanese word *gyoshie* has been tendered.

## CHESS PROBLEM.

By W. E.  
(From *American Chess Nuts*.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF JAN. 10TH, BY "J. C. WARNER."

White.  
1—K. takes P.  
2—B. Kt. 5, dis. ch.  
3—B. B. 5, mate.  
2—B. B. 4, dis. ch.  
3—Mate.  
9—B. to B. 4, dis. ch.  
3—Mate.  
2—Q. takes P. ch.  
3—Mate.

Black.  
1—Q. to Kt. 3, ch.  
2—Anything.  
1—B. K. 4, ch.  
2—Anything.  
1—Q. takes Q.  
1—P. R. 5, ch.  
2—Anything.

Correct answer received from V. d. P., only.





## NEXT MAIL DUE FROM

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Jan. 18th*
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Jan. 17th†
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Jan. 24th‡
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 19th
HONGKONG .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 11th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Jan. 20th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Jan. 22nd
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	

\* Left San Francisco, 27th December, City of Tokio.

† Left Hongkong, 9th January, Volga.

‡ Left Hongkong, 14th January, China.

## NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Feb. 14th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Jan. 24th
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	Jan. 31st
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG, .....	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 26th
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG, .....	M. M. Co.	Jan. 24th
HONGKONG, VIA KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Jan. 21st

## VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

## S AILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charlwood	LONDON	Yokohama
Nov. 5	Crossfield	"	"
" 5	Bundaleer	"	"
" 5	Escambia (s.s.)	"	"
" 19	Glenfinlas (s.s.)	"	"
Nov. 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
Aug. 2	Titan	CARDIFF	"
July 2	Fleetwing	NEW YORK	"
Aug. 2	Kate Davenport	"	"
" 9	Oakland	"	"
" 30	Hagarstown	"	"
Sept. 3	Mervia	"	"
" 3	Clydesdale	"	"
" 3	Larnaca	"	"
" 25	Merom	"	"
" 26	Clydesdale	"	"
Oct. 8	St. Charles	"	"
" 10	Columbia	"	Hio
" 25	L. J. Morse	"	Yokohama
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 7	Centennial	"	"
" 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
" 21	Manuel Llagudo	"	"
Aug. 17	Coldstream	HAMBURG	"
Nov. 5	Hesperia	"	"
Aug. 17	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Oct. 17	Glenhuntley	SUNDERLAND	"
" 26	Sea King	PHILADELPHIA	Hio

## LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Nov. 21	Flintshire (s.s.)	LONDON	Yokohama
" 21	Glenyle (s.s.)	"	"
" 21	Killarney (s.s.)	"	"
" 21	Benarty (s.s.)	"	"
" 21	Crossfield	"	"
" 27	Susan Gilman	NEW YORK	"
" 27	Paul Revere	"	"
" 21	Lydia	HAMBURG	"
" 21	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 21	Largo	"	"

## YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

## DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0 10.0

## UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0 10.0

## YOUNG JAPAN,

## YOKOHAMA AND YEDO :

A NARRATIVE OF

## THE SETTLEMENT AND THE CITY,

FROM THE

SIGNING OF THE TREATIES IN 1858,

TO

THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1879 :

With a glance at

## THE PROGRESS OF JAPAN,

DURING A PERIOD OF

TWENTY-ONE YEARS.

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THE FIRST VOLUME

Will be Published,

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KELLY &amp; CO.

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tf.

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Yokohama, December 24th, 1879.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16	Walsh, Hall & Co
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13/78	M. B. Co.
Takasago Maru	Young	Japanese steamer	1,230	Kobe	Jan. 15	M. B. Co.
Tokio Maru	Swain	Japanese steamer	1,146	Shanghai & ports	" 15	M. B. Co.
Tanaïs	De la Marcelle	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	" 3	M. B. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Clifton	Mailler	British barque	384	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Clyde	Romney	British barque	456	Newcastle, N.S.W.	" 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Lotta	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hobuholz & Co.
Mary P. Bohm	—	German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Leonard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	" 24	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Nippon	Rogers	American barque	1,095	New York	Jan. 3	J. D. Carroll & Co.
North Star	Janasen	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hobuholz & Co.
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	" 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Richard Robinson	Smith	American ship	1,652	New York	Jan. 1	C. & J. Trading Co.
Sarah Scott	Estall	British barque	666	London	Dec. 15	L. Kniffier & Co.
Sooloo	Allen	American ship	963	New York	" 21	Smith, Baker & Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH.—Hornet ...	4	584	506	Gun-vessel	Kobe	Com. J.S. Eaton
" Swinger ...	4	430	451	Gun-boat	Kobe	Lieut. Com. Tudor
FRENCH.—Champlain ...	10	1,901	—	Corvette	Chefoo	Com. Michaud
AMERICAN.—Alert ...	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
ITALIAN.—Vettor Pisani...	12	1,800	—	Corvette	Yokosuka	H.R.H. Duke of Genoa
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ...	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostock	Captain Schance
" Craysser ...	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Cruise	Captain Naimoff

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ...	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	About Jan. 18th.
Hongkong ...	Tanaïs	M. B. Co.	Jan. 26th, at 9 A.M.
Hongkong ...	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 24th, at 4 P.M.
New York via Hongkong...	R. Robinson	Edward Fischer & Co.	Quick despatch.
New York via Kobe...	Sooloo	Walsh, Hall & Co.	Quick despatch.
San Francisco ...	Gaelic	O. & O. Co.	About Jan. 24th.
Shanghai, &c. ...	Tokio Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 21st, at 4 P.M.





## MISCELLANEOUS.

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THE NEW LESTER, with LATHE, DRILL and CIRCULAR SAW.

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This Map has been compiled with the greatest care, and is correct according to the best authority.

It will be ready for delivery on Monday the 22nd instant. As the Edition is small, those desiring a copy who have not already subscribed can see an advance copy, and subscribe for same upon application to Publishers.

**PRICE:**In Sheets..... \$1.00  
Mounted under glass ready for hanging..... \$1.50*Yokohama, December 18th, 1879.***C. SEITZ,****CUSTOM HOUSE & COMMISSION AGENT***ATTENDS TO LANDING,***CLEARING & SHIPPING OF CARGO***(Office close to the Hatoba,)***NO. 41.***Yokohama, October 1st, 1879.*

tf.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.***No. 4 of the 12th Year of Meiji, (1879.)***SIRIYASAKI LIGHTHOUSE.****STEAM FOG SIREN.**

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice, that a Steam Fog Siren has been erected at Siriyasaki lighthouse.

Siriyasaki, at the entrance to the Tanguu Straits, is the extreme north-eastern point of the Province of Mutsu, in the Island of Nippon.

The Siren will be sounded during fogs, snow storms or other causes that may render the outline of the land indistinct during the day, or the light by night.

The blast from the Siren will be of six seconds' duration with intervals of one minute. During such time as may be necessary for getting up steam for the Siren, or if from any accident the Siren cannot be sounded, the Fog Bell, hung from the balcony of the Lighthouse and rung by machinery, will be sounded at the rate of fifteen strokes per minute as before notified.

YAMADA AKIYOSHI,  
*Minister of Public Works.**Tokei, 20th December, 1879.*

14d.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.****MOTOYAMA BUOY.****SUWO-NADA, INLAND SEA.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the BUOY which marked the limit of the MOTOYAMA SHOAL, in the SUWO-NADA, has broken from its moorings.

The Buoy will be re-moored in its position on an early date of which due notice will be given.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,  
Benten,  
Yokohama, 11th November, 1879.**NOTICE TO MARINERS.****BLACK BUOY****OFF HANEDA LIGHTHOUSE,  
BAY OF YEDO.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this Buoy advertised as having broken adrift from its moorings on the 8th instant, has been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,  
Benten, Yokohama,  
12th December, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

PAID-UP CAPITAL ... .. \$5,000,000.  
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,200,000.

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" " " " 6 " " 4 "  
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A. M. TOWNSEND, Acting Manager.  
Yokohama, April 13, 1878. 6mly.

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3rd class ..... { 1.00 yen per day, or  
28.00 " " month.

All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or  
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GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates,  
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Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged  
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MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

  
**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tf.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## W. & A. GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS.

W. & A. GILBEY have special facilities for carrying  
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many years in their Excise Bonded Stores, for the purpose  
of their Home Trade, a stock of not less than 12,000  
Casks of Wines and Spirits, which are equally  
available for Export. These stores are by far the largest  
private Duty Free Warehouses in the World, and are under  
the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially at-  
tached to these Warehouses.

THE EXTENT of W. & A. Gilbey's purchases enables them  
to give the best VALUE to the public, as a twentieth part of  
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## WOMEN IN JAPAN.

IT is satisfactory to see from time to time evidences of advance in the position of the female portion of this population. The late annual report of the Minister of Education shews a considerable increase in the means of culture within their reach, as well as openings for the employment of those ready to devote themselves to the task of teaching others. In addition to this, recent modifications in the laws of the country have undoubtedly added to the privileges of woman, and given her a certain amount of independence which she has not hitherto enjoyed. Great care and discernment are required in comparing the condition of ladies in Japan with that of those in Europe and America. It requires a thorough understanding of the different organizations of the countries compared, and of the different aspirations and tastes cherished by their several members. It is possible to pity people for their non-possession of advantages, which they never thought of wishing for and are happier without, than possessing. Women in all countries, leaving out of the reckoning a few agitators and discontents which no community of individuals is without, are of all people the most conservative in their retention of old customs, the most contumacious in their attachment to early prejudices and the most affectionate in their clinging to ancient faiths. Enjoyment of rights naturally supposes a capacity for appreciation of their value and advantage, and to confer at once upon the women of Japan the privileges and independent liberties that are demanded in some other countries would be to give them more than they could want or endure.

Everybody remembers the story, versified by Tennyson, of the Lady of Burleigh, and—

"How a trouble weighed upon her and perplexed her  
night and morn,  
"But the burden of an honour unto which she was not born."

The fate of this unhappy girl may be well remembered by those

who declaim loudly against the wrongs of Japanese ladies, and who think that changes in social systems are sudden and revolutionary. The lady of Japan is as incapable of desiring or using at present the independence claimed by her European sister, as the public press is still unfit to be trusted with perfect liberty of speech and action. In both cases education is the primary requisite; and it is in this matter that the greatest recent advances have wisely been made.

The fair sex, with all its simplicity of nature and humble submission to the rule and the will of the sterner half of the race, has played by no means an insignificant part in the history and romance of this country. We hear of woman as empress, poetess and heroine, and often as exercising over the destinies of men, that subtle influence through which the master turns slave. By the power of her patience, discretion and artifice she has often ruled and guided, in spite of her abject subjection to the government of father, mother, and husband. The training in youth consisted chiefly in the study of writing and a little history. Among the higher classes this would be supplemented by the study of music, poetry, and painting, and, till late years, by a certain amount of athletic training in the exercise of arms and horsemanship. So far then as concerns the former accomplishments of ladies they will compare well with those of any country. Ten years ago a young lady taken from the family of a man of rank would have been able to write letters and poetry in good style, to play tolerably well upon the koto—the chief instrument of the country—to paint a little, and to defend herself with the dagger sufficiently to make it extremely unpleasant for those who forced her to an encounter. The education of the middle classes was less complete, amounting to instruction in writing of the simplest kind, and in needlework, dancing, and the use of the samisen. With them, this training rarely lasted beyond the age of twelve or thirteen, the girl becoming too useful a member of the household for its heads to sacrifice her services to longer study. Sometimes, however, if intending to take up dancing and singing as a profession, she would devote two or three years to the acquirement of these accomplishments. Needlework, singing, dancing and serving in teahouses or mansions, represent the chief ways in which girls of the middle classes could turn their talents to pecuniary account. The lower classes applied themselves to spinning and weaving, and those agricultural pursuits at which in all countries the poor of both sexes unite together in the field to earn their daily bread by the sweat of their brow.

In addition to their accomplishments the better classes seem to have possessed an instinctive taste in toilet, dress, and the graceful arts which add so much to feminine charm. Combined with an almost childish dependence, simplicity, and ignorance of her own country and the world at large, woman in Japan has shown an amount of patience, discretion and philosophy from which western termagants might well derive lessons.



Though the life of woman has undoubtedly been dependent, and her position precarious, and though she has been bound by rules and formalities which indicate a servitude and humility opposed to our ideas; her existence was by no means without its gay side,—its pleasures and excitements. In the festivals of the year, the brilliant processions and the out-door sports and pastimes, she had, and has still, her fair share. The chief patrons of the theatres have been the women; and what would the haunts embowered in cherry and plum blossoms, or the rivers crowded with barges in the summer time, be without the graceful figures and gay dresses of the ladies of Japan?

The changes of late years, enlarging and extending the branches of study pursued by students in the country, have naturally suggested and induced improvements in the culture of women. The desire to accord as much as possible with the Western civilization in all things, brings with it a wish to place as much as possible the female portion of the population, also, on a corresponding footing. The easy grace with which many ladies have quitted their accustomed retiring life, to adorn some foreign court and to become in a few years conversant with the language and accomplishments of a foreign country, deserves its meed of praise. So does the ready way in which those who know no country but their own, accommodate themselves to new circumstances and modified customs. But we cannot help thinking that the conditions of the country may suggest to them other ways, apart from mere imitation, in which they may use their abilities and tastes, and thus excel in their own sphere. Schools are now opened in many parts of the country wherein the female scholar has educational advantages similar to those of male students. She can study, in addition to her own language, those of foreign countries, geography, history and mathematics. Besides this she learns needlework, embroidery and sometimes foreign music. Woman has moreover of late obtained more liberty as a wife and householder. It will be some time, let us hope, before she will claim for herself the right of studying sciences or of practising such professions as law and medicine; but meanwhile there are spheres of usefulness more within her reach and in which she may entertain every hope of attaining excellence. She is admirably fitted for nursing the sick, and for teaching the young; and both of these occupations are being gradually opened to her. The instinctively artistic taste which we believe the Japanese lady to possess, fits her, moreover, for far more intellectual employment. While men are engaged in scientific pursuits and political progress, might it not be part of the task of the Japanese ladies to preserve and perpetuate the arts and accomplishments which have made their country memorable in the past, just as they are said to have been instrumental in retaining the purity of the language in spite of the Chinese spoken by their partners? The woman of Japan is at the mercy of no milliner. She knows, without assistance or advice, what mode, colour, or form of dress, and what tricks of beautification best suit her own face and figure. She shows exquisite taste in the arrangement of flowers and ornaments, and in other æsthetic points upon which European ladies all claim, though few have, decided opinions. Compare for example the heartless exclamations of admiration for the puffed up pictures of fashionable painters to the neglect of the more deserving, or the unsympathetic plagiarisms upon scenery in fashionable resorts, with the beauty, enjoyment and pleasure evinced in the blossom groves or picturesque gardens of Japan. Pictorial painting, as well as the decorative arts applied to pottery, embroidery, and fabrics,

would provide a wide field for the exercise of the talents of women in this country.

## THE MILITARY POWER OF CHINA.

### I.

THE recent military and diplomatic successes of China in Central Asia, have attracted an amount of attention and discussion in political circles in Europe, which seems to increase as the European complications increase. Suggestions for alliances with this hitherto despised power have been numerous both in Germany and Russia. A short time since a leading military organ of the former country, devoted a long article to show that China was the natural ally of Germany against the incroachments of the Colossus of the north, and the possibility of such an event has been the subject of much excitement in France. Most foreign writers on the subject, however, have been compelled to acknowledge their almost complete ignorance of the military resources of the vast Chinese empire, and of the present organization of those forces that China may possess. In Japan, also, though the question is properly regarded as one of the last importance to the future welfare and independence of the country, this ignorance is almost as dense. These considerations move an evidently well-informed writer to devote a series of articles in the *Augsburg Allgemeine Zeitung* to the discussion of the military power of China, and we purpose now giving our readers a résumé of his facts and arguments.

The Chinese, it is well-known, do not give the same honour to the arts of war as western nations do; their forte is minute labour, and untiring diligence combined with rare skill. War is regarded by them as a misfortune and a disgrace to humanity. China is perhaps the only country in the world in which the military class has never played a leading part. It is the idea abroad that the war of twenty years ago, when the gigantic Empire lay at the mercy of twenty-five thousand English and French troops, and was forced to conclude a humiliating peace, awoke in the warlike Mongolian race the desire to emulate the military prowess of its conquerors; and that, during the last ten years, the advances which it has made in this respect are so astonishing that, in the issue of a contest between it and Russia, the result would be doubtful. These ideas however are far from being correct. Doubtless, efforts have been made to reorganise the Chinese army on a European basis; but these have been so superficial, and the results obtained so small, that one cannot, strictly speaking, say that an army in the usual sense of the word exists in China. What she has at present is a loose collection of badly disciplined, badly armed, badly trained, badly paid men, taken from the dregs of the people, commanded by officers not much better, and the whole in every sense lacking organisation. The few thousands of soldiers with modern arms, who are at present being drilled by European officers, do not as yet come into the scale. Even now, especially in the case of one of the great maritime powers, it would not be difficult to force a nation's will on the Government of Peking by appealing to the *ultima ratio* of war. Thus, a few years ago, that Government did not dare to oppose the comparatively small empire of Japan, contenting itself with innocuous protests, when the latter punished the inhabitants of Formosa. Notwithstanding recent improvements in her land and sea forces, China is not in a position to be a serious opponent of any European power, and her alliance, therefore, would not seem to be of much importance or use to any of them. An analysis of her military power, so far as is possible from sources perhaps

not wholly trustworthy, will show approximately the following result :—

The population has been estimated at four hundred millions, but it is doubtful whether, after the rebellions and famines of recent years, it is now more than three hundred and fifty millions. The number of Chinese troops, as given by the native authorities, is wholly unreliable. In 1828 it was said to have been 1,268,000 men; but subsequent careful inquiries reduced this to 602,000. Even that is probably too high an estimate, for it is notoriously the practice of Chinese officers to reduce their commands during eleven months of the year, drawing at the same time the full pay, and only bringing the force up to the proper standard when an inspection is feared. Coolies are then armed, and, without drill or discipline, are placed in the ranks, to be discharged again when the inspection has been held. This was the course pursued when troops were despatched to Formosa to threaten the Japanese. Many men were inveigled on board the troop-ships under false pretences; and, when they discovered the fraud and the danger which they might have to face, jumped overboard, and were drowned in Shanghai river. The habit of deception is too deeply embedded in the mind of the Chinese officer, and too profitable in itself, to be destroyed by simple regulations. But, even admitting the number of men in the army to be more than half a million, the most that can be taken into consideration as active troops is less than half that number; for it must not be forgotten that the army is scattered over an area of ten million square kilometres, and that China possesses no means of transport for troops. That this must remain the case for many years, any one who knows the strength and depth of *Feng-shui* in the Chinese mind will easily believe. The numerous rivers make up to some extent for the want of roads in certain parts of the empire, but they are navigated by means of flat-bottomed Chinese boats, which would be of small use in conveying an army. Moreover, the annual inundations, which leave only narrow paths for travelling, would cause almost insurmountable difficulties to a defending as well as to invading forces. The original germ of the Chinese Army was formed by the eight Manchu corps—*Pah-ki*—which was subdivided into two wings or divisions, of which the odd members formed the left, the even the right. These corps or banners are distinguished by white, blue, red and yellow triangular flags. They were established between 1601 and 1604, and then numbered 60,000 men. They conquered the country for the present dynasty. Subsequent Emperors added to these eight Manchu banners, eight Tartar ones, with a strength of about 16,840 men. Later on an army of Chinese was added. These had ranged themselves under the flag of the foreign conqueror; and, after the complete subjugation of the empire, were made vassals of the Tsing or Manchu dynasty. About the year 1643, eight banners, with a strength of 24,000 men, were established from their ranks; and the twenty-four banners thus formed, which exist at the present day, make up what may be called the first army corps, and, together with the garrison of Peking, of which more will be said hereafter, compose the chief support of the reigning dynasty.

All the officers and men of this army corps are supported in various parts of the land at the expense of the crown, and form the garrisons of the capitals of the twelve provinces. Their children are bound to enter the ranks; but high civil office is open to them by passing the necessary examination. The personal interests of every bannerman, Manchu, Tartar, and Chinese alike, are closely dependent on those of the present line of Emperors. Apart from the ordinary distinctions of rank, there are

also differences depending on birth among the banner-men. The aristocracy are the so called *Ukiuns*, or direct descendants of the founder of the Manchu dynasty, and the *Kiols*, or descendants of his brother and uncle. Notwithstanding the strict regulations enacted to keep the bannermen apart from the mass of the surrounding population, yet in the course of time they have adopted the manners, customs and modes of life of the conquered, and resemble their warlike forefathers in little. They are but seldom drilled, and, when called, assemble with rusty swords, spears, bows, and other ancient weapons of the most varied description. Their military pay being small, they are allowed to engage in occupations of all kinds. As soldiers they have long ceased to be of use; and until the banner corps undergo a complete and radical reorganisation, they can only be regarded in the light of superfluous pensioners of the Government.

There is only uncertain information at present as to their strength. It is believed, however, that they are as numerous now as in 1860, when their corporation was regarded as complete. At that time there were 678 Manchu, 221 Tartar, and 266 Chinese companies,—the company being, on the average, ninety men,—thus giving a total strength of 1,165 companies with about 105,000 men, including officers. In and around Peking alone, there are said to be 60,000 troops; in the province of Chihli, in which Peking is situated 40,000 more, chiefly infantry, quartered in seventy-five garrisons. But these figures are palpably wrong, because in this case there would hardly be any remaining for the other provinces. From the above description it will be seen that this portion of the Chinese army has but little military value; indeed the most that can be said of the banner corps is :—*Multi non multum*.

#### MONSEIGNEUR RIDEL IN COREA.

THE comparatively great success which has attended the labours of the French Roman Catholic Missionaries in the Far East, has been the natural reward of their energy, perseverance, courage and devotion. Their presence in these distant regions is almost contemporaneous with the first beginnings of foreign intercourse, and most of the information learned by Europe regarding the vast empire of China was, for several centuries, derived from their reports. They penetrated into all parts of the interior of China, Japan and Corea, adopting in many cases the dress, food and customs of the natives, sometimes, doubtless from necessity, but frequently also to be enabled thereby to bring themselves into closer communion with those amongst whom they laboured—to bridge over what has been called their mental parallax—and thereby render the success of their efforts more probable. Sometimes, it is true, fierce and ambitious spirits have arisen in their midst, who, not content with spiritual power over their converts, have also desired to seize upon political domination. The result of such attempts has generally been the same; namely, the martyrdom or flight of the apostles and a relentless persecution of their flocks. But the Church of Rome rarely completely relinquishes its hold on a country where it has once got a footing; and however cruel the persecution, however certain the prospect of death to the teacher, numbers are always to be found, who, at the command of the head of the order will gladly brave both, in the endeavour to rescue a country or a people from wholly falling back into its original idolatry.

These reflections arise naturally from the perusal of a small pamphlet entitled “*Relation de la captivité et de la délivrance de Monseigneur Ridel, vicaire apostolique de la Corée.*” The author was one of the few who escaped death in that furious persecution of Christians in the peninsula in 1866, wherein two bishops and seven missionaries, all

French, besides thousands of native Christians, were put to cruel death. He then returned to France, but, subsequently, in 1870, at the command of the Pope, again turned towards the scene of his former labors. Several years passed, however, before he was able, accompanied by four assistants, to pass the barriers on the China-Corean frontier. He found that the situation had in no way changed during his absence. There were still the same dangers, the same prohibitory edicts, the same hatred of Christianity. Soon after his arrival in the country Ridel wrote:—"We are truly in the hands of the good God. We are surrounded by a thousand perils, without force, without protection, expecting each instant to be arrested, and to see a new persecution break out; but up to the present, thanks to Divine Providence, all is peaceful and has gone on without accident." But this tranquillity did not last long. The couriers were arrested at the Chinese boundary; and the letters which they carried revealed to the Corean Government the presence of the five strangers, and occasioned the arrest of the Bishop, and a new persecution against the native Christians. The pamphlet which we have mentioned above, is in the form of a letter from Monseigneur Ridel to his relations in Europe, and narrates his experiences in prison up to the time of his liberation. Five months after his arrest he was conveyed to the borders of Mongolia, and there released; this unusual leniency on the part of the Corean authorities being due to the representations made by the Chinese and Japanese Governments. The remaining four priests had meantime escaped to China.

It is not our intention to dwell here on the sufferings of the prelate while in durance. They can be easily understood by any one who has read of Chinese prisons, more especially by readers of Loch's Narrative of his detention in Peking in 1860-61; and Monseigneur Ridel's description is even fuller and more appalling. Apart from this his little work possesses the value of containing much information as to the habits and customs of the Coreans and the general appearance of the country. The point worthy of chief notice is that the appearance of a vessel of war on the coast causes intense excitement throughout the whole nation, and such a visitor is invariably said to belong to Japan. The Japanese, indeed, seem to be the bugbears of the Coreans, and the Bishop remarks that the amelioration of his condition on one occasion was probably due to the appearance of a Japanese war steamer—doubtless a surveying vessel.

Regarded from a purely secular point of view, the inevitable result of each successful attempt on the part of the missionaries to enter Corea, is blood-thirsty persecutions, in which thousands of natives suffer death and untold miseries, and then silence and darkness until a new effort is made. The proselytizers themselves are sometimes gratified—any one who reads this narrative will feel that the word best expresses the idea—with the crown of martyrdom, but at the expense of widespread calamity among a peaceable people. Practically, the disciples have been led into breaking the laws of their country by instructors, who preach a religion which inculcates obedience to the powers that be. Whether any man or body of men, animated by no matter what motives, is justified in bringing such a scourge as the Corean persecutions on his fellow-creatures is a question we will not discuss.

CONSIDERABLE interest is now awakened in all parts of the world as to the possible results of Nordenskjöld's achievement of the north-east passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. An Indian paper says that already there is a brisk intercourse between Europe and the mouth of the Yenesei, and there is no reason now why steamers should not ply between Europe and the Lena. "The produce of Siberia—and vast tracts of northern Asia can be readily developed,—will be floated down the great rivers of Obi, Yene-

sei, and Lena, and be shipped every summer for Europe. Nothing would prevent the growth of a large and profitable trade but the indifference or impotence of the Russian Government. If the Russians during the next decade must concentrate such energy as they have to spend in Asia on the regions south of the Jaxartes and Oxus, the enterprise of Nordenskjöld will go for nothing. If, on the other hand, the ambition which desires an advance towards India, can be exchanged for the legitimate pursuit of commercial prosperity in the north, Russia might soon be provided with an employment which would be profitable to herself and pleasing to other nations." Nordenskjöld himself has not the least doubt of the future of the country which he has explored and been instrumental in throwing open. His own account of Siberia should dispel many illusions as to its barrenness and unfitness for human habitation and enterprise. In a description of one of his trips up the Yenesei, the explorer says that even far north of the Arctic circle he saw snow only at one place in a deep valley cleft some fathoms in breadth; and the vegetation, especially on some of the islands which are flooded at spring tides, is of a luxuriance to which he had seldom seen anything comparable. "Already had the fertility of the soil and immeasurable extent and richness in grass of the pastures drawn forth from one of our walrus-hunters, a middle-aged man, who is owner of a little patch of ground among the dells in northern Norway, a cry of envy at the splendid land our Lord had given 'the Russian,' and of astonishment that no creature pastured, no scythe mowed, the grass. Daily and hourly we heard the same cry repeated, and in even louder tones, when some weeks after we came to the grand old forests between Yeniseisk and Turuchansk, or to the nearly uninhabited plains on the other side of Kraonjarsk covered with deep *tcherno-sem* (black earth); equal without doubt in fertility to the best parts of Scania, and in extent surpassing the whole Scandinavian peninsula. This judgment formed on the spot by a genuine though an illiterate agriculturist is not without interest in forming an idea of the future importance of Siberia." Nordenskjöld tells us of wild grapes and currants larger than any he had seen in European gardens. Siberia is said by him to possess a belt of land in most places more than six hundred miles broad, and stretching from the Ural to the shores of the Pacific. The most remarkable feature, perhaps, of the Swedish savant's discoveries is that they have been made in voyages, which, as the *Saturday Review* remarks "have cost less than a Lord Mayor's dinner or the maintenance of a pack of hounds."

WITH the closure of the British Post Office in Yokohama the staff was removed to other appointments. The French Post Office is to transfer its business shortly to the Imperial Japanese establishment, and with it the services of the present director, who, apparently at the request of his minister, is to be guaranteed for a short period a handsome monthly salary, for the equivalent of which sundry duties, more or less nominal, will be discharged. It is not too much to say that the post to be thus created is neither a necessary nor a popular one, even with the French community. The *Courrier du Japon* protests against it, saying that the republic is rich enough to recompense faithful servants out of its own funds, and that the postal department, in France or her colonies, has still places or promotion to give away. To doubt this, it is added, would be puerile and unpatriotic. The writer continues:—"If our representatives, in return for the abandonment of the French postal establishment, should impose upon Japan a formal condition to engage, at high salary, the present *Receveur des Postes*, or no matter what other employé of that administration, we could only understand the proceeding, to a certain point, if there were ground for mistrust or suspicion in regard to the manner in which the func-



tions of the Japanese bureaux are fulfilled. The obligation would only be admissible in such case, and to ensure the proper execution of the service. But the Japanese organization is perfectly arranged: it works with extreme regularity and to every body's satisfaction; and the annual statements of the chief of the department show that the proportion of lost or stolen letters is much less than that of those which miscarry in most European countries. Besides even these accidents only affect domestic service. The transport of mails to places abroad has never been a cause of complaint. Hence," continues the *Courrier*, "it cannot be admissible under existing conditions to burden the Japanese administration with a French officer. We cannot believe that means are thus employed to force the Japanese Government to pay the present titular a heavy indemnity in the form of a lengthened engagement: the time has disappeared, for Japan, for such compromises. Again, if we are sometimes regretfully compelled to admit that certain representatives of France in the east scarcely disguise their preference for the old order of things, and display their partiality for the friends of that régime, we are pleased to acknowledge that, in spite of these sentiments with which we do not sympathize, they do not remain in the rear, when it is a question of defending French interests, and their patriotism. This is one more reason why we find it impossible to suppose that, in this postal question, people have for an instant thought of placing the interest of an individual above that of two nations in particular, France and Japan, and in general of all the nations which constitute the Postal Union." The critic enumerates several reasons why the public would gain in the relinquishment of the French postal agency to Japanese hands. Among others is the evident advantage of having only one post office service. The Japanese office will deliver all letters at the houses to which they are addressed—a convenience that was not afforded by the foreign dépôts. Then payments will be made only in one kind. At the French establishment the accounts are kept in francs, which have no local currency; and mistakes are said to have occurred, not unnaturally, through the conversion of kinsatsu into dollars, and these again into francs. Given a single service, and that Japanese, stamps will be bought for yen, and the simplification thus promoted will cause the avoidance of error. The article terminates with the deduction that there is no advantage to be gained by maintaining the French post office. On the contrary, such a course can only result in inconvenience, apart from the vexation which it causes to the Japanese Government. "Why then not suppress the institution? Why be the only power to refuse to Japan the rights which her admission into the universal postal union confers upon her?" The establishment in question will, no doubt, be closed very soon. It is a great pity that its cessation should, in any way, have been made conditional on the employment in Japanese service of any member of its staff.

A PARAGRAPH of President Hayes's message to Congress refers to the Shimonoseki indemnity fund. After stating that "the treaty recently made between Japan and the United States, in regard to the revision of former treaties, it is now believed, will be followed by similar action on the part of other treaty Powers," the President says:—"The attention of Congress is again invited to the subject of indemnity funds received some years since from Japan and China, which, with their accumulated interest, now amount to considerable sums. If any part of these funds is justly due to American citizens, they should receive it promptly, and whatever may have been received by the Government in excess of strictly just demands should in some form be returned to the nation to whom it equitably belongs." After a few words on the relations between his cabinet and China on

the emigration question, Mr. Hayes refers authoritatively to the fact of the United States Government having taken measures to inform the Courts of Tokio and Peking "of its readiness to extend its good offices, for the maintenance of peace, if they shall mutually deem it desirable, and find it practicable to avail themselves of the proffer."

WE have received, from the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, a list of the Chinese light-houses, light-vessels, buoys and beacons for 1880 (corrected to December 1st, 1879.) The present is the eighth issue of this work, and is printed by order of the Inspector General of Customs. The get up of the pamphlet is distinguished by that detailed care and neatness which characterize the work of the printing office of the department; and the compilation will be indispensable to masters of vessels navigating the coasts of China. We observe that the number of lights is sixty-five: buoys forty-seven: beacons forty-five. The foreign staff of light-keepers consists of forty-five employés.

SOME of the London papers seem very gratuitously to take for granted that Russia is not alive to the advantages which the possession of the smiling and fertile regions, well tapped by large and navigable streams, which Professor Nordenskjöld describes, can confer upon her. There is no sufficient reason for this supposition. On the contrary, the Government appears to be making very thorough investigations into the rivers and districts referred to. The mouth of the Oli has been surveyed by an officer appointed by the Russian Minister of Finance; and the *Yenesei Gazette* publishes some particulars of interest from his report. It has been established that former charts of the gulf are incorrect, and that the approach from the sea is rendered difficult for steamers, as the shallowness of the water prevents large craft going up stream as far as Nadim, the port where the river and ocean vessels should exchange cargoes.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made by the *Temps* that a probability exists of a French protectorate being established over "Tonquin, and eventually over the neighbouring populations of Laos, Annam, and the Indo-Chinese peninsula, thus comprising the entire territory between the Gulf of Siam, British Burmah, Thibet, and Szechuen, with about 80,000,000 or 100,000,000 inhabitants. The Annamites have not performed their engagements of 1874 as to the free navigation of the Red River from the sea to Yunnan, a means of communication discovered by M. Dupuis, a French merchant, and they are about to be summoned to do so. In the event of their refusal a single battalion would easily effect the conquest of Tonquin, for the inhabitants, though deserted by France in 1874, would eagerly make common cause with it." However true this rumour may be, there can be no doubt that the number of the inhabitants of the district in question is enormously overstated. The *Hongkong Daily Press* asserts that of the Laotian nationality nothing remains but the name, and of its former capital, some stupendous ruins in the midst of a forest alone testify to its bygone barbaric splendour and importance. Since the conquest of the Laos by the Siamese in 1827, the country has lapsed into a state of utter decay. The population has woefully decreased, and vast districts formerly cultivated are covered with almost impenetrable forests. The same authority states that the eighty or a hundred millions mentioned by the *Temps* could certainly not be found in Indo-China, nor could the number be nearly made up, even with the addition of Yunnan, Szechuen, and Kwei-chow. As a matter of fact, the population of the whole of Cochinchina cannot exceed ten or twelve millions, while that of Laos is probably not more than one million. The writer



sums up the situation thus:—"Any attempt to interfere with Laos would be sure to excite the jealousy of Siam, to which kingdom most of the Laotian provinces are now subject. The possession of that country, moreover, would not be worth the cost of acquiring it. The French Government have a good field for their energies in Cochinchina, however, where a good deal remains to be done, if they desire to make their present possessions really valuable. At present the French trade with Cochinchina is but small, and so long as the apathetic policy hitherto pursued by the French authorities at Saigon is adhered to, it is not likely to expand. The bright dreams of future empire and commercial greatness conjured up by Mm. Lagr  e, De Carne, Garnier, and Dupuis are, we fear, likely to be long delayed in their fulfilment by the want of vigour shown by the French Government in consolidating their power and extending their influence since they obtained their footing in Cochinchina."

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, January 23rd, 1880.

The First Lord of the Admiralty, in a speech, disavowed the annexation of Afghanistan.

Parliament is expected to be opened by the Queen in person.

Russia.—The *Invalide Russe* announces that pacific measures are being adopted in Russia.

The Council of the Empire are discussing the introduction of Municipalities.

(From *Straits Times*.)

London, 29th December.—The Shah has started on a pilgrimage to Meshid, with 10,000 troops.

Calcutta, 30th December.—Reinforcements have reached General Roberts who has re-occupied Cabul.

The enemy has been defeated and dispersed on all sides.

London, 31st December.—The number of persons drowned by the Tay bridge accident was 90, not 200 as at first estimated.

Calcutta, 31st December.—The country is quiet.

London, 2nd January.—Sir Garnet Wolseley returns to England in January.

London, 3rd January.—Diplomatic relations with the Porte will probably be resumed to-day. The dispute has been arranged.

London, 10th January.—There are renewed rumours of a concentration of Russian troops on the German Frontier.

The former President of the Transvaal has been arrested for treason.

### The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 24TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 1ST MONTH, 24TH DAY, DO-YO-NI.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On Sunday last, the 18th instant, the P. M. Steamer *City of Peking* came into port from San Francisco, and was followed by the M. M. steamer *Volga* and P. & O. steamer *China*, from Hongkong, on the 18th and 23rd respectively. This morning the O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* also arrived from the last named port, and is circulated to leave for San Francisco, on Monday evening next, at four o'clock.

The *Glengyle* left Singapore for Hongkong on the 5th instant.

The O. & O. Steamer *Gaelic* arrived this morning from Hongkong. While at the southern port, the *Gaelic* went over to the Cosmopolitan Docks and had a new propeller and shaft fitted in, and was also cleaned and repainted.

Letters from officers of the *Vega* announce the arrival of the Nordenfj  ld expedition in Ceylon, en route for Europe.

Ten students of the Dai Gakko will leave Japan early in February for Europe, there to complete their education. These gentlemen have been four years studying engineering in the college, of which two were passed in practical work. They will remain in England for three years, working at their respective branches. At the Dai Gakko, six technical subjects are taught; namely, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Mining, Chemistry, Architecture, and Telegraphy. Six of the above mentioned students were taught in one of each of the above branches of science.

Mr. Yegi having been appointed Secretary of the Japanese Legation in Washington, whither he will shortly proceed, some of his friends, members of a society to which he belongs, gave on Tuesday last a very pleasant farewell entertainment in his honour, in the Nakamura Tea-house, Muko R  goku, Tokio. Several foreigners were among the guests.

Unostentatiously conscientious in the discharge of his parochial duties, the Reverend W. F. H. Garratt has also been a benefactor to the church where he has now long ministered. The edifice owes what internal beauty it may possess principally to the decorations which he has made at his own expense; and his parting gift is a bell and belfry. Not content with this outlay, he makes a donation of \$400 to the fund for the renovation or repair of the parsonage house which, during his incumbency, must have been a most comfortable residence. He hereby shows that he thinks more of the ease of his successor than he has thought of his own. We are happy to hear that the esteem in which the outgoing Chaplain is held by his congregation will be practically manifested, before his departure, in the presentation to him, by the ladies of his flock, of a handsome and suitable testimonial. Many poor Japanese families, when Mr. Garratt has left Yokohama, will have occasion to mourn the absence of a kind and generous patron. His successor, the Reverend E. Champneys Irwine, and Mrs. Irwine arrived by the P. and O. steamer *China*. Mr. Garratt preached his farewell sermon on Sunday morning last to a full congregation.

Among the passengers for Europe by the outgoing French mail is Dr. W. Anderson, F. R. C. S., medical adviser to the British Legation in Tokio. Mr. J. M. Dixon, President of the Tokio Christian Association, leaves for home in the same vessel.

The Freemasons of Hongkong gave a brilliant ball on the evening of the 16th instant. The number [of guests] was very large, and included His Excellency Major General and Mrs. Donovan, Lady Smale, and other notables of the colony.

A little skating has been possible recently in Tokio as well as the vicinity of Yokohama. In the former city a portion of the week has been available for the graceful exercise, and a few ladies and gentlemen have availed themselves of the opportunity. We regretted the other day to observe that some of the soldiery of the garrison, who were looking on at the sport, conducted themselves with considerable rudeness, behaviour which, were it known to their officers, would certainly entail rebuke if not punishment.

Mail intelligence confirms the statement which we published a week ago, to the effect that the shipowners' combination did not outlast the end of 1879. On the 5th of January the following notice was sent round to the mercantile houses in Hongkong:—"Notice to Shippers per Conference Steamers to London and America.—In consequence of intructions from England, the Conference rules as regards this Port are cancelled on and after this date.—A. McIver, Agent, P. & O. S. N. Co.; G. de Champeaux, Agent, M. M. Co.; Butterfield & Swire, Agents, O. S. S. Co.; Jardine Matheson & Co., Agents, Glen line; per pro. Adamson, Bell & Co., T. G. Williamson, Agents, Castle line."

We have received from Mr. N. McLeod—who has been so long before the public as a writer on the Japanese and Koreans and their identity with the lost tribes of Israel—a very excellent

album containing twenty-four pictures on Japanese subjects, painted by native artists, and mounted on thick paper. The album comprises a good variety of landscapes, birds, flowers, &c., and will make a pleasing *souvenir* of the country for visitors to take away with them, and is well adapted for residents to send to their friends in other places. The album, which is strongly bound, may be procured Mr. McLeod's Curio Mart, No. 28, Settlement.

On the evening of Thursday, the 22nd instant, the large audience gathered in the hall at No. 12 Sanchome, Ginza, enjoyed an unusually excellent entertainment, given under the auspices of the Tokio Christian Association. An uncommon feature of the meeting was the instrumental music. A piano had been kindly lent for the occasion, and the piano-forte music was furnished by some of the ladies, one of whom began the musical part of the entertainment with a pleasing piece, which was followed, later in the evening, by the Overture to Martha, arranged for four hands, and played with much taste and skill. A professional musician kindly consented to aid in making the reunion an interesting one, and performed two pieces on the violoncello, which were finely rendered and thoroughly enjoyed. The singing consisted of two solos, by ladies who have before assisted to make these entertainments enjoyable, a chorus for mixed voices, repeated by request, and a solo and chorus which was sung with much feeling and spirit. During the evening three readings were given, two prose pieces, which were well rendered although one of them was much too long for such an occasion, and a piece of poetry, very effectively given. At the close of the entertainment, Mr. G. W. Dixon, who has been the president of the association since its organization, two years ago, and who is to leave Japan in a few days, delivered a most excellent and feeling farewell address. The association will lose, in Mr. Dixon, an earnest Christian man, an active laborer for the good of the association and the objects for which it was organized, and an efficient presiding officer. He will carry with him the heartfelt well wishes, and the kindest regards of all of its members.—*Communicated.*

We hear with regret of the death of Mr. G. Stanig, the interpreter at the Italian Legation in Tokio, who accidentally shot himself when returning from a shooting excursion. The deceased gentleman was riding with a loaded gun in a jinrikisha, when the arm exploded, the charge entering his left side, and killing him instantly. The funeral took place on Thursday morning from the Catholic Church, in Yokohama. His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa, the Italian Minister and Consul, officers and men from the *Vettor Pisani*, and a number of private persons, followed the remains of the deceased to the burying-ground.

The Rev. Edward Champneys Irwine, M.A., who has just been appointed to the chaplaincy of the English Church at Yokohama, was born at Richmond, in Yorkshire, and began his education at its ancient grammar-school. He is the son of a well known Yorkshire clergyman, the Rev. A. P. Irwine, M.A., Vicar of Bingley, and rural dean. In 1874 he graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, taking a place in the first-class at the final examination. In the same year he was ordained to the curacy of Monkwearmouth by Bishop Anderson, for the late lamented Bishop of Durham. The parish of Monkwearmouth contained 12,000 people, mostly sailors, colliers, and iron-workers. The vicar is the Rev. Canon Miles, a man of distinguished literary attainments, and a most active and able administrator. Mr. Irwine found in him a generous and sympathising friend, and an admirable guide and example in the first years of his ministry. On leaving this arduous post in December, 1876, for lighter duty in Yorkshire, the parish workers presented Mr. Irwine with a valuable gold watch, and the Sunday-school boys added their loving testimonial. In 1878, while curate of Roundhay, near Leeds, he was presented by Sir George Meyrick, Bart., to the vicarage of Hinton-Admiral, Hampshire, on the recommendation of the Bishop of Ripon. On Mr. Irwine's marriage last year Sir George and his family expressed their sympathy in most useful and valuable gifts, and his poorer parishioners united their contributions to give him an excellent timepiece. Mr. Irwine has always taken a deep interest in the work of foreign missions, and has been for some time an honorary district secretary of the Church Missionary Society.—*L. & C. Express.*

The Japanese and Chinese seem to be devoting great attention to legitimate kite-flying just at present. The swamp recently has been quite lively with the pursuers of the innocent amuse-

ment, and two kites in particular, one about three feet long representing a butterfly, and another some sixteen feet in length in imitation of a centipede, attracted much attention.

In the *Mainichi Shimbun* we read that Le Hang Chang, Sa So To, and other Chinese Generals, are diligently engaged in bringing the military system of the empire into a complete state, but that their progress is very slow, and there are as yet only 35,000 men fairly trained in the European military style and equipped with proper arms. About one-third of the efficient force is at present stationed in the northern part of the empire.

Mr. Shand, the agent of the Staffordshire Fire Insurance Company, had an interview with the Governor of Tokio on the 17th instant, and gave him full information on the system of fire insurance as practised in western nations.—*Nichi Nichi Shimbun.*

A Tokio correspondent informs us that the amount received through General Stahl, in aid of the sufferers by the recent great fire, is:—From Kobe 1,140 yen, and from Osaka 188 yen. These handsome contributions were placed at the disposal of the Reverend Mr. Piper; but as that gentleman has closed his relief arrangements the sum has been handed to the Tokio Fu authorities for distribution.

The ship *Paul Herve* cleared from New York for Yokohama on the 1st of December, with the following cargo:—39,900 cases kerosene, 125 tons coal, 200 lbs. tobacco, 40 boxes acid. The following vessels have sailed from New York to Anjer for orders:—December 3rd, *Frank Penulten*, 47,722 cases kerosene, 100 tons coal, 1 case tobacco; 6th, *Charles G. Rice*, 22,111 cases kerosene; 6th, *Hants County*, 21,216 cases kerosene; 6th, *Electra*, 32,295 cases kerosene; 18th, *Clarissa B. Carter*, 33,700 cases kerosene, 34 pkgs trunks, 9 bales domestics, 2bbis. twine, 1 case oil cloths.

We are informed that the protests against the withdrawal of the P. & O. postal service to Yokohama, and the new Telegraph Regulations, (which have already been generally circulated for signature) were left at the Chamber of Commerce Rooms, on Friday and Saturday this week, for the convenience of any of the mercantile community who had not seen the documents and might wish to sign them.

The sale of the Spring Valley Brewery took place on Tuesday last, when it was bought by Mr. Copeland for \$12,000. As some time has elapsed since judgment was given, we reproduce so much of it as refers to the application of the proceeds of sale. Our readers will therefore be able to form some idea of the relative position, to each other, of the parties in the suit of Weigand vs. Copeland.

It is therefore ordered that the property of the partnership of Copeland and Wiegand consisting of lands, buildings, plant, furniture, stock in trade and property of whatever description be sold at public auction, under the supervision of the U. S. Marshal upon full public notice of not less than thirty days, and the proceeds thereof paid into Court, that the debts due the partnership be collected as far as possible by the parties or their book-keeper up to the time of the sale of the property, after which the balance of said accounts shall be placed in the hands of and collected by the U. S. Marshal, and that the proceeds of all of such collections if any, after paying the running expenses of the partnership business, and the \$150 per month which each of the partners is entitled to draw out of the profits, shall also be paid into Court.

That out of such aggregate amount so paid into Court, there shall be paid:

First.—The expenses of the sale and collections.

Second.—The court costs, including the fees of assessors and witnesses.

Third.—The fees of the accountant, Mr. C. H. Dallas.

Fourth.—The fees of Mr. George E. Rice, accountant, for account made previous to suit by request of both parties.

Fifth.—The debts due by the partnership. The second, third and fourth of these payments shall be charged to the plaintiff, the others shall be charged to each party equally.

If after such various payments it shall be found that the amount remaining in the hands of the Court is less than sufficient to pay over to the parties the sums adjudged as due to them to wit; to the defendant (Mr. Copeland) \$26,287.19 and to the plaintiff (Mr. Weigand) \$6,250.04 (after deducting from the latter amount the costs and fees made payable by the plaintiff) then, of the deficit one-half thereof shall be deducted from the sum due each, and the respective balances paid over. But if said sum shall be found to exceed the amount so found due each, as aforesaid, one-half of said excess shall be added to

said respective sums after the deductions aforesaid, and the said sums be respectively paid over.

No costs, as such, are allowed either party.

It is permitted that either party may bid at the sale of the property, in his own name.

A fire occurred on Thursday afternoon, at about half-past two o'clock, in the premises on the Bluff occupied by M. Pernet, of the French Consulate. The place was entirely destroyed before any assistance could be rendered, as a very strong wind was blowing. The building was insured: but a similar precaution had not been taken with regard to M. Pernet's effects, who has had the misfortune to lose, together with his furniture, a valuable library and many manuscripts which cannot be replaced.

The mail which arrived on Thursday, was altogether forestalled by the American mail by the *City of Tokio* which brought dates to the 26th of December. Some of the telegrams are very misleading. Anyone would think there had been a fresh outbreak of bushranging in Australia, to judge from the telegram in the *Hongkong Daily Press*. Such, however, is not the case; and to shew the extreme novelty of the item now heralded as a "telegram" we may mention that, on the 7th instant, we reproduced in our daily, from the *Sydney Mail*, a full account of the fight between the police and bushrangers, in which the latter were either killed or captured, and also the chief incidents at the coroner's inquest held subsequently.

#### PARIS LETTER.

(On Scientific Subjects.)

PARIS, December 22nd, 1879.

It has been recently demonstrated that rabbits, when bitten by a mad dog, become attacked with hydrophobia. They exhibit also the peculiarity that, once inoculated with the virus, the disease manifests itself in three or four days, so that if a person be bitten by a dog presumed to have rabies, it is only necessary to communicate a little of the saliva to a rabbit; and the fears of the person wounded can be either dissipated or confirmed, as it has just been demonstrated by Dr. Raynaud, that the saliva of a man suffering from hydrophobia is contagious and can be communicated to a rabbit. In October last, a man was admitted into the hospital, La Ribosière, suffering from hydrophobia; during an interval of calm between the paroxysms, he consented to allow a little of his blood to be drawn; a rabbit was inoculated and three days later died from madness. When the man succumbed a portion of his saliva was communicated to a rabbit which expired in the course of four days. Hence the importance of observing great care when dealing with the salivary organs or their secretions, of individuals suffering from hydrophobia. The deceased in question had been bitten in the lip; two hours afterwards he burned the wound with lunar caustic, but this evidently did not destroy the virus. Indeed it is now certain that nothing but immediate burning with a red hot iron, or blazing charcoal can be depended upon. Those who travel much carry with them phials of carbolic acid or ammonia, to neutralize the stings of insects. The Moser pencil is manufactured for a similar end—for mad dog bites; it is a stick of carbon, that a common match will set on fire and it will continue blazing when in contact with the wound.

Professor Peter, in his *Cliniques* just published, treats exhaustively the important subject of phthisis. For him, as for Laennec, as well as for the modern French school, there is but one form of consumption—the tubercular. Invalids suffering from tubercles are not consequently phthisical. In neither case is there a specific. But a great number of affected persons can be saved by curing the organism and treating the lung with revulsive remedies. Professor Peter demonstrates that the tubercle can become fibrous, just as well as purulent. The object is to place the lung in a condition to effect the fibrous state—and chiefly by avoiding all causes of inflammation of that organ. It is not inflammation which is the cause of the tubercle, the latter is only an affection in process of termination. The first can arrive to persons of robust health and without morbid hereditary tendency; the second—tubercle, manifests itself in constitutions worn out by themselves, or by the intermediary of diabetic, gouty, or scrofulous ancestors. Note the families distinguished or humble, which die out: they will be seen hovering during some generations between affections of the head, the heart, the kidneys, gout and rheumatism, finally disappearing after a struggle more or less long, between scrofula and phthisis. It has been said, that birds of prey have for duty, the cleansing of a battle field; phthisis seems to be charged with the task of scouring humanity, by extirpating the sickly, the degenerated and the feeble, who cannot struggle successfully for existence. Prudence

counsels to protect the robust first from becoming phthisical, and which can be largely effected by preventing all over-crowding in barracks, schools, workshops—those for females especially—offices, cafés and clubs. Every place of reunion is a fire-side of infection, where air respired by a hundred persons becomes impure and hence deleterious. It is through this agglomeration of people, that the peasant when he comes to reside in a city so soon loses his health. Laennec attributed to passions, sad, deep and of long duration, the most predisposing cause of tubercle, and he accounts for the prevalence of phthisis in cities to the inhabitants having reasons for chagrin more frequent and more profound; to the greater corruption of manners, and to the feverish, anxious life, divided between business and pleasure. However, sadness and melancholy have an important influence on consumption: these diminish appetite, compromise digestion, and interrupt the work of assimilation. "Melancholy is composed of bad blood," says a proverb, and bad blood produces tubercles. Dr. Bergonier has shown that melancholy madness finishes, in thirty-six cases out of a hundred, in consumption; the poor afflicted do not eat, they waste away; the body becomes cold; respiration becomes less frequent and more feeble; organic combustion slackens, and the bed being thus prepared, the seed tubercle arrives and does its work. If phthisis sometimes be the termination of madness, the latter is often the termination of phthisis. Professor Peter urges that studious attention be paid to the commencement of consumption; the respiration ought to be minutely noted, and the chest sounded with extreme precision. He has discovered, by diagnosis, that the temperature of the skin at the level of the summit of the lungs, is abnormally high and further, more elevated on one side than the other; he resorts to revulsive treatment to reduce this exceptional temperature. The selection of a climate, not only during winter but summer, is important; cold induces inflammation and obstructs the healing of the lung; excessive heat weakens the strength, and of course the action of the organs of nutrition. The *sauatoria* he recommends are Italy, Spain, and Southern France. He does not approve of a wintering in the Upper Engadine, or at Davos. The sick cannot live there in the open air, and are obliged to be housed sixteen hours out of the twenty-four, sometimes for days, when the snow falls thickly. Now living in balmy air, and indulging in fresh appetizing food, are essential for invalids on the road to convalescence; the stomach is the great auxiliary in the process of cure, and ought to be watched like the apple of the eye. Dry friction of the skin, cold or tepid baths, ought to be resorted to wherever practicable.

While the problems of cheap illumination and practical motive power, by means of electricity, are being studied, Professor Marey received from Para a present of a *gymnote* (a name meaning "new skin") or electric eel; it measured over twenty-eight inches, was black, with stripes still blacker. If a five franc silver piece be thrown into a basin full of water, having a wire in connection with an electric pile, and a person holds the other wire in his hand, the moment he plunges his fingers into the basin to pick up the coin, that instant he receives a shock—more or less severe. The *gymnote* acted—it has died within the last few days from cold—similarly; it gave a shock to exhibit its displeasure; but if touched with silk, glass, or any other non-conductor, no sensation was experienced. Humboldt has described a mortal battle in Central America between electric eels and wild mules; two of the latter were killed, and others paralysed. The fishermen of Italy and ancient Greece were aware of the nature of this animal—called *torpedo*; it was cited as possessing the power to cure gout and rheumatism—hence perhaps, why the latter disease is now treated by electricity. The *gymnote* produces the shocks by its own will, and if its fins be pinched, the shocks arrive in quick succession; but these discharges end by weakening the animal, and a long rest is essential for the recovery of its virtue. The electric fish have no scales, and the *gymnote* had a veritable electric apparatus, consisting of a series of tubes, or prisms, in juxtaposition, like the orifices of a honey-comb, it charged these by a nervous action, in a manner that science cannot explain. The *gymnote* ate gudgeon freely, and before doing so indulged in a "discharge" on its prey.

Réaumur, the inventor of the thermometer, described in 1847 a plan for obtaining heat without fire. It consisted in collecting the heat generated during the decomposition of organic substances;—stable manure for example. In America, the principle has been applied to hatching eggs; in France to heating water for soldiers' baths. In the cavalry barracks, some old puncheons, tarred inside, are surrounded with layers of stable refuse above and below, a hole in the top being free to draw off the heated water. In the space of six days the temperature of the water rises from 28 to 152 degrees. Several dragoon regiments have thus their daily supply of 1,000 quarts of hot water, and the fitting up of the barrels and piping does not cost more than fr. 60 per regiment.

Heat and light are necessary for the continuance, as well as for the enjoyment, of life. Now the streets of our cities appear to have been constructed, in respect to their width and the height of the houses, to exclude both light and heat. In Paris, houses



in point of altitude must be in proportion to the width of the street. M. Vogt of Berne draws attention to the neglect of securing as much of the sun's light as possible, in the construction of our houses, and more especially for the winter months, when a few hours of the merry sunshine means health. M. Vogt asserts that a street deprived of sunshine for two consecutive months is insalubrious. Further, instead of making the streets run north and south, so as to receive the largest share of sunshine, they are inclined eastwards and westwards, or north-east, and south-west. Sombrely situated houses are humid, and devoid of ventilation, provoking serious alteration in the health of the occupants. Vogt adduces statistics showing that in Berne there was an augmented death-rate of 13 per cent in the case of a side of a street in the shade as compared with that exposed to the sun.

A copper wire can be covered with a thin coating of gold or silver, and thus converted into "lace." Attention has been devoted for some years to the problem of coating vegetable fibre with silk. No substance in point of fineness, resistance, elasticity and brilliancy, can be compared with silk. It has no rival; but then it is very dear. No machinery can turn out a thread as fine as that spun by the silk worm. Five and a quarter millions of yards weigh but thirty-five ounces avoirdupois; it is costly in proportion, and it is calculated that one-third of that produced by the worm is "waste." Since a thread of silk can no more be divided than that of a spider's web, this "waste" has been chemically dissolved, and then employed to coat cotton thread. The result is a silky material, but where all brilliancy has disappeared, and the thread is so coarse that it has been confined to China grass and coarse flax, representing 110,000 yards per thirty-five ounces, or fifty-one times coarser than silk thread.

Meteoritic stones are dangerous; one has just been laid before the Academy of Science, weighing 7 lbs. that fell last January, in La Becasse, at noon, beside a laborer at work in a field. It sank into the soil to the depth of twelve inches, scattering up the earth like a bomb-shell: the noise of its descent resembled the discharge of a battery of artillery or the rolling of a railway train. The noise was heard "100 miles east and west." (?) The stone has the form of a pyramid with a quadrangular base.

#### ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

##### TOKIYO MEETING.

A General Meeting of the above Society was held at the Shōheikuwan, Seidō, Tōkiyō, on Tuesday, January 13th; Dr. Divers, President, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The election of Mr. J. Morris and Mr. J. M. Dixon as ordinary members was announced. The librarian reported the receipt of various exchanges and donations, amongst others a copy of Bancroft's "Native Races of the Pacific Coast," in five volumes, presented by the late President, the Rev. Dr. Syle. The Society voted its thanks.

The introduction to a "Catalogue of the Birds of Japan," by Capt. Blakiston, and W. Pryer, Esq., was read by the corresponding secretary, in the absence of the authors, and the "Catalogue" was laid on the table. The introduction was as follows:—

#### CATALOGUE OF THE BIRDS OF JAPAN.

##### INTRODUCTION.

Since the publication of Temminck and Schlegel's *Fauna Japonica*, the materials for which were mostly supplied by Dr. Franz von Siebold, who may be fairly styled the father of Natural History in Japan—no comprehensive treatise on the ornithology of this country has been written, although various papers have been published in scientific journals on collections made; notably:—"Cassin's Report on Commodore Perry's U. S. Expedition";—"Blakiston, 'On the Ornithology of Northern Japan,' published in the *Ibis* of October 1862; Mr. H. Whitely, "On Birds collected near Hakodate," *Ibis* 1867, p. 193; and several contributions by the late Mr. R. Swinhoe on the birds of Yezo, to the *Ibis*, from April 1874 to April 1877; as well as a preliminary catalogue furnished by the present compilers to the *Ibis*, and published therein in July 1878.

Few persons living in Japan, unless specially interested in ornithology, have probably seen any of the above, and the nomenclature having been only scientific, it has been suggested to the authors of this paper, that a contribution to the "Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan," which has so large a local circulation, might, if not made too scientific, be of assistance to persons interested in the ornithology of Japan, as well as of interest to sportsmen and others who incidentally obtain specimens of birds and who may frequently be able to contribute information of much value. Consequently the following catalogue has been compiled, which however must not be taken as in any way complete, the authors trusting only that its publication will elicit fuller information on the range of known species, as well as tend to the discovery of the existence of others; so that they, or some more competent persons, may at a future time be able to revise it with a view to republication. They

will therefore be happy to receive specimens, either skinned or fresh, of any birds whatever, and will undertake to furnish the senders with the names, when known, or any other information in their power; specially recommending collectors to pick up birds of unattractive appearance, as it is usually among such that rarities are to be found. They will also undertake to make public the names of the finders, and to return the specimens if so desired after comparison. In this way it is hoped that very considerable additions may be made to the knowledge of the avi-fauna of Japan, which has a special interest among ornithologists owing to the situation of these islands off the extreme east of the continent of Asia.

As an sample of what may be done by very limited research, the compilers may mention that the "*Fauna Japonica*" list, which included many very doubtful species, and others on the sole authority of Japanese drawings, did not number two hundred distinct species, whereas the present catalogue extends beyond three hundred, and, as has been mentioned before, is probably very far from being a complete one.

The compilers have examined and compared most of the specimens of birds existing in the government museums at Tōkiō, namely in the 'Yamashita Hakurankai' of the Naimashō, in the 'Kujōku Hakubutsukan' of the Mombushō, and in the 'Kaitakushi' at Shiba; besides the museum of the 'Kaitakushi' at Sapporo, in Yezo. They have moreover a number of specimens in their private collections, and the Hakodate Museum—which is open to public inspection—contains most of the specimens collected principally in Yezo and the Kurile Islands by Mr. N. Fukushima—Chief of the Survey Department of the Hokkaidō—and one of the authors.

The compilers' thanks are due to several persons who have supplied them with specimens, and to Mr. Tanaka, director of the "Hakurankai," who allowed them to examine a collection of drawings by native artists; while Mr. Ota's intimate knowledge of the birds of his own country has been of much assistance.

The arrangement of this catalogue is that of Dr. Carl Claus in his *Grundsätze der Zoologie*, a perhaps rather unusual classification; but the best ornithological authorities so differ on this matter, that it is of very little consequence what system is followed.

All species included in the following list, have the authorities on which they rest stated; and duplicates have in most instances been sent to Europe for comparison to the late Mr. R. Swinhoe—the greatest authority on the birds of Eastern Asia, Dr. P. L. Selater, Secretary of the Zoological Society of London, and Mr. H. Seebohn, whom the compilers are still in correspondence with. Such identifications are enumerated under each species, and the volume and page of the *Ibis*, the best ornithological magazine in Europe, referred to.

At the conclusion of the paper, and after a few remarks by the President, Dr. Faull said that he thought the paper would prove to be a valuable addition to the 'Transactions,' not only in itself but as a stimulus to many more contributions in the same field of observations. In reference to the sharp line of demarcation which had been shown to exist between Yezo and Nippon similar facts had been observed elsewhere, notably so in the Malay Archipelago between Borneo and Celebes. These were supposed to depend on past geological relations which had impressed habits on birds, and these habits remained with great persistency even after the condition which originated them had ceased to be. The migration of birds, in many respects so utterly mysterious and difficult, were now seen to depend to a certain extent on the same causes. On this point much knowledge might be obtained by utilizing the lighthouses which are now numerous in Japan. This had been done with extraordinary care in the West and the exactness of the observations when first heard of usually excited the most perfect incredulity, the sexes and numbers of birds being noted with scientific accuracy. The practical benefits of such observations persistently carried on, would almost certainly be of immense benefit to agriculturists, sportsmen and others, and their scientific interest would be very great.

Mr. Dallas then read a paper by the Rev. Dr. Edkins of Peking, "On the Japanese letters *chi* and *tsu*;" and Mr. Satow read a reply to Dr. Edkins' paper. Both of these communications were of a highly technical character. Some discussion ensued as to the desirability of allowing any member who might desire it an opportunity of seeing the manuscript of a paper about to be read before the Society, in order that he might come prepared to make critical observations, and the President intimated that the Secretaries would be glad to allow any member of the Society this facility if he chose to request it. Owing to the lateness of the hour the reading of a paper by Mr. F. V. Dickinson "On the Kana Transliteration system" which formed part of the programme, was postponed to a future meeting.

#### TOKIO CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

##### LECTURE ON MATTER.

On the evening of January 15th, Professor Ewing, of the Tokio University, delivered a lecture entitled "What is Matter?" in the rooms of the Tokio Christian Association, before



a large audience. Mr. Dixon, president of the Association, was in the chair.

The lecturer began by pointing out the meaning of the question "what is matter?" We might consider the question answered if we could frame a theory of the intimate nature of matter from which all the observed properties of matter could be deduced as direct consequences of Newton's Laws of Motion. The enquiry was by no means new. Democritus and Epicurus had attempted a solution of the question and their views are to be found in the well known poem of Lucretius *De Naturæ rerum*. According to Lucretius matter is composed of atoms, that is, of pieces which are incapable of being divided, and this property of the atom was, in his view, due to their being infinitely hard. The lecturer observed that it was still a doubtful point whether or no there were such things as atoms, but it has recently been shown that we can have true atoms without crediting them with the almost inconceivable property of perfect hardness. He then proceeded to speak of molecules, which he defined as the smallest possible pieces into which a given kind of matter could be cut, and still retain the properties belonging to that particular kind of matter. According to the modern scientific theory, matter is built up of an enormous aggregation of moving molecules, to the movement of which its observed properties are due. In solid and liquid bodies the molecules are probably continually in contact with each other or nearly so, but in a gas they are, on the average, separated by comparatively long distances. They are however all moving with enormous velocities and one never travels far without coming into contact with another. Being perfectly elastic they rebound along new paths, in which they continue until another encounter takes place. The hotter the gas, the greater is the velocity of the molecules. The pressure which a gas exerts against any surface in contact with it is due to the impacts of the molecules, and is therefore increased when we increase the density of the gas, or its temperature. So many of the known properties of gases have been already shown to be necessary deductions from this theory that we are justified in assuming its truth. We are even able to estimate the size and number of the molecules and their rates of motion, but the magnitudes involved are such that the mind is wholly unable to grasp them. If a single drop of water were to be magnified until it equalled the earth in size, each molecule would be about as big as a Japanese orange. The number of molecules in one cubic inch of the air in the room is about 300,000,000,000,000,000,000, and they are flying about in all directions, at an average rate of about 20 miles per minute, and the average distance through which any one of them travels before it comes into collision with another is only about  $\frac{1}{1000}$  of an inch.

The lecturer showed a number of experiments in illustration of the theory, and then went on to explain Sir William Thomson's theory of vortex atoms, according to which each atom of matter is a vortex ring in a frictionless, incompressible fluid, filling all space, and having no property except inertia. Sir W. Thomson has proved that such vortex rings, if once set in motion, could not possibly be brought to rest, cut, or in any way destroyed by natural means, and they are therefore true atoms, although not, like the Lucretian atom, perfectly hard. They are also incapable of being produced by natural means. Mr. Ewing showed some of the properties of vortex rings by producing them in air, rendering them visible by means of dense smoke. It is possible to produce them in air because it is not, like Sir W. Thomson's imaginary fluid, frictionless. At the conclusion of these experiments the lecturer continued as follows:—

Before I close I wish to say a few words about the light thrown by the scientific theories and scientific facts which we have been dealing with to-night upon questions which have interested man from the beginning of time, and which will interest him to the end far more than purely scientific questions can ever be expected to do. Does the knowledge we now have of the nature of matter help us at all to a knowledge of the origin of matter: does it help us to trace the history of the universe backwards till we come to some point of contact between the visible and the invisible; does it shadow forth however dimly the action of a creative hand? These are questions which crowd in upon us, and by all of us, whatever our belief or unbelief may be, they are reckoned as of transcendent interest and importance. I do not hesitate for a moment to say that our modern knowledge of the nature of matter does help us to answer these questions, and in saying this I am not advancing speculations of my own, but am only repeating views which have been advanced by some of the most distinguished and clear-sighted modern physicists.

First then let us see what the theory of Sir William Thomson has to tell us as to the origin of the atoms. If the atoms consist of vortex ring movements in a perfect, that is a frictionless, fluid, we have seen that they are indestructible—no action such as we have at our command can destroy one of them. But not only this: they are also incapable of being produced except by an act of creative power. You cannot stop the motion when once begun, but also you cannot institute the motion. To produce the vortex motion which constitutes a single atom of matter would be an act of requiring the creative power of a

supreme being, even if all the raw material so to speak was ready to hand.

But you may perhaps object and say, "granted that the atoms are unproduced by natural means, are we not at liberty to suppose that matter is eternal and that the present universe has existed for ever under its present laws?" To that again the student of physical science must answer, no. I will not trouble you now with the steps of the argument, but only say that we know, with scientific certitude, that the universe as it now exists has had its origin in time and will have its end in time, at least so far as the possibility of living existence is concerned. The visible universe is in the position of a wound up clock, gradually, but surely running down. We are able to look forward and say, a few more turns of the wheels, a few more ticks of the pendulum, a few more strokes of the bell, and then all will be silence and rest and death. And so looking backwards too we can see a time when a hand must have interposed to wind up the weights and start the machinery, and set all the parts to move in the orderly paths they pursue in working out the designer's will.

Now whether we accept Sir W. Thomson's theory of vortex atoms, or not, and remember it is still only a theory, we do know that there are molecules, and we know that these molecules have certain properties, one of which is that all the molecules of any one kind of matter are exactly alike. Let us see whether this fact helps us to a knowledge of the origin of the molecules.

There is a certain class of speculations now much in vogue, according to which various things as we now find them are to be accounted for by saying that they are the result of spontaneous evolution or development. I dare say that you are all tolerably familiar with the doctrine of evolution, and with the phraseology of its advocates. If you are not it is surely your own fault, and cannot be ascribed to the unwillingness of the disciples of evolution to make their opinions known. Far as we are from home, we in Japan have not been wholly out of reach of the sound of the voice of this "Goliath of modern thought."

The doctrine of development is far from new, but it has of late obtained remarkable prominence, chiefly through the support which Darwin has shown that it receives in the department of biology. I think we must all recognise that Mr. Darwin has done good service to science in showing how important a factor the principle of "Natural Selection" and the survival of the fittest is in the history of species, and we may do this whatever be our view with regard to the full application of his doctrines in relation to the origin of man. To my mind the scientific objection of want of time is insuperable, but we cannot dwell on that here. It would be fortunate if all Mr. Darwin's followers had half the scientific temperateness and care to avoid overstatement that exhibit themselves in the writings of their master. The reverse of this has been the case. Principles shown to be applicable in one special branch of science, and no doubt, if carefully handled valuable in their application to Sociology too, have been applied with the most reckless generality. We hear of evolution of man, evolution of conscience, evolution of morals, evolution of religion, evolution of life, evolution of the idea of God. The very name of evolution seems to be regarded by some as a kind of *open Sesame* at which the bars and bolts of all the mysteries of the universe are to fly back. And worst of all, this goes on under the name of science, especially of that quasi science, which is, I hope, mis-called popular. It is consoling to think that, if the survival of the fittest implies the extinction of the least fit, this evolution mania ought soon to come to an end, so that the important basis of truth which the doctrine of development includes may be able to take its proper place and be recognised without exaggeration or detraction. Now there is one thing I want especially to draw your attention to in connection with the origin of matter. It is an essential characteristic of evolution wherever it occurs that its products are characterised by minute differences. We do not find that they are exactly alike; they differ more or less, and it is because of these very differences that development is possible. The products of evolution are not like bullets cast in a mould or sovereigns coined in a mint—they are rather like the sons of one family, or the sheep of one flock, alike in some things, but markedly different in others. It is quite otherwise with the molecules.

We can procure specimens of any particular kind of matter, such as oxygen, say, from very different sources—from the air, from the sea, from rock formations deep down in the earth and from meteoric stones. The circumstances of these specimens have for thousands of years been very different, but the most delicate tests which can be applied to them fail to show any difference in any of their properties. They all have exactly the same mass, they all unite with exactly the same quantity of hydrogen to form water; and they all vibrate when struck to precisely the same note of light. Nay more, we can detect the same identity of properties, revealed to us by the spectroscopic, between the particles of any one kind of matter in the most distant star, and those close to our hand.

But this identity can only be the result of absolute identity in form. The molecules of one kind of matter, wherever they are taken from, must be exactly alike:—alike with a degree

of exactness which not even mints produce in sovereigns. Now such an identity can never be produced by any process of evolution. Evolution implies continual change—gradual variation of form and of properties: and variety is always one of the characteristics of its results. But the molecules are absolutely alike. There are no slight differences—no intermediate sorts amongst them. They bear as Sir John Herschell has well said the stamp of *manufactured articles*. They are all as it were cut to the same gauge, all cast in the same mould. Hence we are inevitably led to the conclusion that the molecules have not been produced by any process of spontaneous evolution, a conclusion to which we are led on other grounds if we accept Sir W. Thomson's theory of vortex atoms.

There is a special but melancholy interest at this time in the subject we are considering. A fortnight ago the mail brought us news from home of the death of that physical philosopher to whom credit for a very large share of the molecular theory is due. I mean Prof. Clerk Maxwell of Cambridge, who has just passed away in the prime of a life of splendid performance. It is to him that we are indebted not only for the greater part of the development of the molecular theory of gases, as well as for discoveries of the first importance in other branches of physics, but also for the extremely acute and philosophic suggestion that the molecules bear internal evidence that they cannot have been produced by natural development. In Maxwell we have lost a mathematical physicist who had few if any equals, and to his transcendent powers in this respect he added the charm of a brilliant imagination and poetic fancy, a rich humour, and unrivalled clearness as an exponent of scientific truth. In the death of such a man science and the world suffer an incalculable loss, which every student of physics must feel almost as a personal bereavement. But it is pleasing to be assured, on the testimony of one who knew him well, that he died as he had lived, a simple-hearted Christian, a living and dying protest against the popular fallacy that there is a natural antagonism in the claims of science and religion. "Two or three weeks before his death, Clerk Maxwell said that he had examined every system of atheism he could lay hands on, and had found, quite independently of any previous knowledge he had of the wants of men, that each system implied a God at the bottom to make it workable. He went on to say that he had been occupied in trying to gain truth, that it is but little of truth that man can acquire, but it is something to 'know in whom we have believed.'" I refer to this not because the Christian faith of a true man of science is at all a rare or wonderful phenomenon, I believe it is quite the reverse, but because there is a good deal of error prevalent on this point which a concrete example may help to dissipate.

We have been led to-night to a point at which science is compelled to stop. We have traced the path backwards until we have come to the footprints of a creator, and there we must pause or seek other guidance. One lesson nature may perhaps yield us. Unbeheading alike the individual and the system.

"She cries 'A thousand types are gone;  
I care for nothing, all shall go.'"

We can trace her destroying hand in the slow but sure change even now going on in the earth's own orbit. We may predict certain destruction to our planet and final extinction of our central luminary. But whether we turn to the fires of dying suns, or to the nebular mists of yet undeveloped universes, this we find that strong through all catastrophe, constant in all change, the molecules remain unbroken and unworn. "They continue (says Clerk Maxwell) this day as they were created, perfect in number and measure and weight, and from the ineffaceable characters impressed on them we may learn that those aspirations after accuracy in measurement, truth in statement, and justice in action, which we reckon amongst our noblest attributes as men, are ours because they are essential constituents of the image of Him, who in the beginning created not only the heaven and earth, but the materials of which heaven and earth consist."

## ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

### TELEGRAMS.

London, December 20th.—Steps for procuring a writ of error in the case of Arthur Orton, the Tichborne claimant, were taken by Lord Rivers and Guildford Onslow, under advice of Dr. Kenealy, who applied for a similar writ in 1874, but it was then refused, that the case will be taken to the House of Lords for final decision, and Dr. Kenealy will exercise his right as a member of the Irish Bar to appear for Orton before that tribunal.

Alexandria, December 20th.—All the Powers which are concerned in the Present Judicial system in Egypt have sanctioned a decree making the Rothschild mortgage the first charge on the surrendered Khedival estates. This removes the last obstacle to Anglo-French control in Egypt.

\* See an obituary notice of Prof. Maxwell, by his assistant, Mr. Garnett, in *Nature*, of November 13th, 1879.

London, December 20th.—The Duchess of Marlborough has written to the Lord Mayor of London, asking his aid to inducing wealthy citizens of London to contribute to the relief of the starving poor in Ireland. She expresses fear that distress will be terrible, unless private benevolence comes to the assistance of the sufferers. The Lord Mayor has announced his readiness to cooperate with the Duchess.

Berlin, December 20th.—Requisite measures have been taken to prevent any dangerous extension of the prevailing famine and disease in Silesia. Its ravages have hitherto not been extensive, and the authorities have voted 1,500,000 marks, for directly mitigating the hunger of the sufferers, and 880,000 marks for the construction of roads and other relief works. The Emperor has placed at the unconditional disposal of the Poor Law officers 400,000 marks, which had been contributed in commemoration of his golden wedding. Generous sums have likewise been given by the Empress, the Crown Prince, and other members of the Royal family, and by the public.

Berlin, December 20th.—Bismarck is again severely ailing of rheumatism.

Vienna, December 20th.—The *Press* was confiscated by the Police for reproducing an article of the *Paris Figaro* insulting to Gaubetta.

London, December 20th.—A despatch from Bombay says: It was reported on Thursday that Gen. Gough would probably retire upon Peizeran, three miles west of the Surkub River, but it is now believed that he will remain at Jagdallak, and shortly clear away the Ghilzees in his front.

General Arbuthnot's brigade is distributed along the road between Gundamak and Jagdallak. Contrary to expectation, the tribes below Jellallabad continue quiet. Had Gen. Bright advanced with his whole force, Mohmunda and Afreedia would have risen, but the system of forwarding troops from Jellallabad only as reinforcements arrived from Peshawur, affords them no opening. Great efforts are making for speedy concentration at Peshawur. Many native Princes have given their assistance.

Constantinople, December 20th.—The British Ambassador has authorized the British Consul in Eastern Roumelia to use the remainder of the Relief Fund in aid of the starving Mussulman refugees, and has telegraphed to Miss Burdett-Coutts for assistance.

General Roberts' statements of his ability to hold his position and take the offensive on a favorable opportunity have been so positive, that the anxiety at first felt on behalf of the garrison in the Shirpur cantonments is much abated.

The Russian press is very violent in its criticisms on affairs in Afghanistan. The *Gazette de St. Petersburg* says: "we must candidly confess that Russia would not break her heart in the probable event of General Roberts' column sharing the fate of Cavagnari's Embassy."

An official despatch from Gen. Bright, dated December 18th, informed the Viceroy of India that if Gen. Gough was unable to force his way to Cabul with his brigade, Bright proposed, as soon as arrangements could be made to hold posts from India to Gundamak and advance on Cabul with a division numbering 8,000 men.

A telegram from Peizeran, dated to-day, says: "There is no serious fighting. All is well."

The Governor of India publishes an explanation of the military situation in Afghanistan, stating that General Roberts has ample transportation and ammunition. Besides his force, he has many captured cannon, many of which are rifled. His intrenchments can easily be held by 2,500 men, leaving 6,000 free for offensive operations. General Bright has 1,200 men between Jamrood and Jagdallak, with thirty cannon, two months' supplies, and a complete divisional and brigade transport. Including the forces at Candahar and in Kurum Valley, the total field force is 45,000 men, with 160 guns, which is considered ample for present requirements.

Paris, December 20th.—The Senate passed the Public Worship estimates, after rejecting a motion to restore the salaries of Archbishops and Bishops to the figures from which the Chamber of Deputies had reduced them. Premier Waddington then read a decree closing the session.

In the Chamber of Deputies, Raynol accused General Grealy, Minister of War, of not taking disciplinary measures against Senator Carayon Latour, who, though a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Territorial Army, attended the Legitimist demonstration.

Grealy replied that he had acted in conformity with the advice of a Commission of Inquiry. Grealy then quitted the Chamber, and, it is reported, went immediately to the Elysée and tendered his resignation.

All of the newspapers announce that the Cabinet will resign in January, and that DeFreycinet will form a new Ministry, but that they will first hold a meeting to-morrow at Waddington's residence.

Vienna, December 20th.—The Lower House of the Reichsrath has adopted the Government's Army bill by a vote of 223 to 105.

Berlin, December 20th.—Intelligence from St. Petersburg represents that several officers of Artillery and Engineers have been arrested, charged with complicity in the recent Nihilist attempt

on the Czar's life at Moscow. The Winter Palace is now illuminated all night with electric light, as a precaution.

St. Petersburg, December 20th.—An official bulletin from Cannes states that the Empress of Russia, on the 19th, felt severe pains in the right side, caused by inflammation of the lung membrane. The symptoms of pleurisy have ceased since the 17th instant, but the Czarina's general health causes anxiety.

Rome, December 20th.—The Vatican has authorized the Papal Nuncio at Vienna to receive proposals made on behalf of the German Government for the settlement of minor questions, so as to establish a *modus vivendi* pending the settlement of large questions. It asserted that Monsignor Jacobini, Papal Nuncio, will again visit Bismarck.

London, December 20th.—A despatch from Rome says that negotiations between Germany and the Vatican are about to take a new departure. As the abrogation of the May laws seems to form an insuperable difficulty, it is now proposed to drop all mention of these laws, while agreement may be come to that the Prussian Government should present a new project of law regulating the relationship of Church and State. The Vatican considers that the Church would thus protect her rights and would obtain what she has been demanding ever since the enactment of the May laws.

Berlin, December 20th.—The Bavarian Chamber of Deputies have rejected the proposal to abolish embassies.

Cairo, December 20th.—The Government continues military preparations, though little doubt is felt as to the favorable issue of the negotiations with the Government of Abyssinia.

Rome, December 20th.—The Vatican has congratulated the Irish clergy on their attitude with reference to the political agitation in Ireland.

London, December 20th.—Sir Stafford Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer, delivered an address to-day at a great Conservative demonstration at Leeds. He made a detailed reply to the recent speeches of members of the Liberal party, and complained that Gladstone's comparison of the expenditures of the Liberal and Conservative Governments was fallacious, as he made no allowance for the extraordinary war expenditure made necessary by Eastern complications. The tone of John Bright's recent speech, at the Potter banquet, was remarkable. Bright had gone as near as possible towards recommending a Republic in England, and in comparing the United States with the British Empire, he has pointed out that the wide extent of the latter was merely cause of weakness.

The Chancellor asserted that the policy of the Government in Afghanistan was one of defence, not one of annexation. They still adhered to the main to the policy set forth in the Treaty of Gundamak, but wished Afghanistan to receive a Government suitable to its population, so that the country might form a barrier between India and any Power that might encroach upon it. He assured his auditors that the Government were concealing nothing relative to the situation in Afghanistan.

The Government, he said, would take measures to alleviate the distress in Ireland without pauperizing the population, but while careful of the material prosperity of Ireland, would, above all, insist upon the maintenance of law and order, and would never coquette with any demands for Home Rule, which responsible statesmen of all parties knew to be impossible.

Paris, December 20th.—In the Senate, to-day, Lepère, Minister of the Interior replying to a member of the Right, said the Municipal Council, in abolishing the annual charge of 12,500,000 francs in the Municipality of Paris for the repairs of the churches and the maintenance of the clergy, had exceeded its powers, and that he had annulled their decision.

London, December 21st.—The popular demand of the Liberals for the leadership of Mr. Gladstone is temporarily denied. Officialism triumphs, and the Whigs retain control. Mr. Gladstone declined personally to second his friends' efforts. Earl Granville and Lord Hartington continue the nominal chiefs. Private Liberal advice expresses much apprehension in regard to the Sheffield contest. The whole Catholic influence—the Duke of Norfolk leading—supports the Tories, and nearly all pseudo-Liberals, formerly supporting Mr. Roebuck, oppose Mr. Waddy, the Liberal candidate. Mark Smith, a leading local benefactor, supports actively Mr. Wortley, the Tory candidate. The Irish vote is divided. The priests support the Tory candidate, while leading Irish members of Parliament advocate the cause of the Liberal candidates. Mr. Mundella, the Liberal member for Sheffield, yesterday pledged himself ready to prove that the Government had resolved to annex Afghanistan, and had ordered 7,050 miles of railway to be constructed there. Mr. Miller, who was nominally a Republican candidate, has withdrawn. Jewish efforts are being made for the Tory candidate, but Mr. Cohen, Baron Rothschild's nephew, advises the Liberal Jews to support Mr. Waddy.

John Bright's fine eulogy of America at the free trade meeting at Rochdale elicits numerous acrid comments. The Tory journals castigate Mr. Bright and America equally. Mr. Bright partly excuses American protection on the ground of the necessities of war. His declaration of the impossibility of making an American visit only re-affirms the resolve he has

often privately expressed. Doubts respecting his health are the sole reasons.

The Duchess of Marlborough's letter, soliciting aid for Ireland, is considered an official admission of the severity of the distress in the western districts. The Irish of all parties welcome her proposals. The Duchess writes also to the Lord Mayor of London, who promises to help. It is believed that her appeal foreshadows the purpose of the Government to give substantial relief. The Government papers now say that the distress, while confined to a limited area, is undoubtedly severe, and urge employing the Irish Church surplus in relief.

The national memorial to Prince Napoleon is abandoned. The Westminster Abbey statue, it is believed, is also relinquished.

Private friends applied to the Duke of Sutherland for permission to erect a statue outside of Stafford House, which was granted, provided the statue is approved. This apparently ends the national Napoleonic demonstrations.

Professional opinion is divided in regard to the application to reduce the Tichborne claimant's imprisonment to seven years, which it is reported is based on the American precedent in Tweed's and other cases. The granting of the fiat by the Attorney-General does not prevent his opposing the application. The papers profess horror at re-opening the case, but the question is purely legal. The argument is expected to take place in February.

The Afghan dispatches excite general alarm and Tory consternation. The Queen is reported to be greatly distressed, and the public blames Lord Lytton for suppressing and distorting information. There are many demonstrations of public indignation at the official disingenuousness. The Press, long patient, now denounces the infatuated, insolent restrictions imposed on correspondents. The result is perilous for the Government. The private remonstrances are numerous and emphatic. The best authorities on Indian affairs say that General Roberts was utterly ignorant of the enemy's preparations, and was obliged to fight his way around Cabul to the Shipur cantonment, where he is completely surrounded.

The Behmarao hills command the position from the west. General Roberts' position is extremely critical, but he may hold out, provided the reported supplies exist. It is doubtful if the supply of water is secure. Fuel is abundant, but forage is scarce. The number of effective troops is now reported at 6,000 with an equal number of camp followers. It is expected that General Roberts will be compelled within a month to fight his way through the enemy. There is no possibility of reinforcements advancing before January, the transport service being deficient.

The German staff derides the imbecility of the Indian Commissariat Department and regards General Roberts' position as most critical.

The English papers, while admitting the seriousness of the situation since General Roberts' communications were cut, assert ostentatiously that there is no cause for anxiety; but profound anxiety, nevertheless, exists. Liberals and Tories equally admit the necessity to reconquer Cabul; nobody knows what next. The evidence is irresistible that all Afghanistan is in arms. Every assurance which Lord Beaconsfield gave has been falsified by events. The "scientific frontier" has vanished and a friendly Afghanistan is impossible.

Queenstown, December 21st.—A deputation composed of tenant farmers, leading citizens and Town Commissioners of Queenstown, bade Parnell "God speed" to-day on his embarkation for America. A large crowd assembled to witness his departure, and a band played a number of Irish airs at the parting.

London, December 21st.—The Princess Louise sails for Canada, January 22nd.

Ryde, December 21st.—Right Rev. John Sutton Ullerton, Bishop of Guilford, is dead.

Calcutta, December 21st.—A dispatch from General Roberts, dated the 18th inst., urges General Gough's immediate advance in light order without tents, and only taking ammunition and supplies for five or six days. General Roberts states there is no enemy between Jagdallak and Cabul to oppose General Gough's advance, and adds that he shall be able to settle affairs in Cabul when General Gough joins him. General Gough will leave Jagdallak to-day with 1,400 men and four guns, picking up 700 men and two guns at Lataband.

London, December 21st.—A dispatch from Bombay, dated yesterday, says: General Roberts reports, under date of the 18th instant, that he has learned that General Gough has not yet advanced beyond Jagdallak.

Paris, December 21st.—All the Ministers were at Waddington's residence to-day and signed their resignations, which were transmitted to President Grévy. De Freycinet has been entrusted with the formation of a new Cabinet.

London, December 21st.—A Paris correspondent thinks the formation of the new Cabinet must not be expected until the end of this or the beginning of next week. Waddington will retain the Foreign Portfolio. Farre is likely to succeed General Greley in the War Office. After General Greley's departure from the Chamber yesterday, Fierraro tried to smooth matters and demanded the order of the day pure and simple, which was carried by a vote of 244 to 168; but 117 members of the Right



figured in this majority, and reckoning the Republican vote alone, the Cabinet were outvoted by 158 to 125.

London, December 21st.—A Paris dispatch says: The incident in the Chamber of Deputies yesterday, before General Gresley took his departure therefrom, after replying to Kaynol, created an exciting scene. General Gresley was very much excited and protested against civilians interfering in military matters.

London, December 21st.—Telegrams from Sophia state that sixty Mohammedan refugees, whom the Bulgarian Government had refused to admit to their former homes, died of cold and starvation in the open fields.

London, December 21st.—The Montenegro representative in Constantinople has demanded his recall in consequence of the difficulty of his position in regard to the Gursinje question.

London, December 21st.—A Calcutta dispatch says: Executions continue in the Palace at Mandalay. Five princes were recently murdered. The Burmese Ambassadors are still at Thotmyo.

Vienna, December 21st.—The Austrian Army bill was passed from patriotic motives, but its passage should not be regarded as a vote of confidence in the Ministry.

Rome, December 21st.—The Chamber of Deputies has passed bills authorizing the Government to take steps for the immediate prosecution of public works in order to relieve distress among the working classes.

London, December 21st.—The famine in Silesia is gradually increasing.

Madrid, December 21st.—The Senate will not adjourn for the Christmas holidays until the Cuban Slavery Abolition bill is voted upon. The Chamber of Deputies will adjourn the 23rd, first appointing a committee on the bill.

London, December 21st.—A dispatch from Madrid says: The polemic tone of the press becomes more bitter daily, and the Government continues its prosecutions against newspapers. In the past ten days the Government has prosecuted seventeen journals of every shade of opposition. Numerous arrests of noted Federals have been made.

London, December 21st.—Dispatches from Madrid state there have been several riotous demonstrations during the past week. After the funeral of Gen. Al Jaquero, a riot occurred between the mob and the police, in which shots were fired and seventeen persons arrested.

Capetown, December 2nd, via London, December 21st.—Secocoeni's town was captured by British forces November 28th. Two of Secocoeni's Captains were killed, and two Lieutenants wounded. Secocoeni lost heavily. Total British loss, 25.

Sheffield, December 22nd.—The election for member of the House of Commons, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Right Hon. John Arthur Roebuck, an ardent supporter of the foreign policy of Lord Beaconsfield, took place to-day. Samuel Danks Waddy, member for Barnstaple, who obtained the Chiltern Hundreds in order to contest the seat for Sheffield, was the Liberal candidate, and Charles Stewart Wortley, barrister, a cousin of the Earl of Warcliffe, the Conservative candidate. The polls closed at four o'clock this evening. The public excitement has seldom been equalled. It is believed that 80,000 out of the 39,000 electors on the register, voted. Aged and infirm voters were carried from their beds to the polling places. There are large crowds of people in the streets, and it is evident that when it becomes dark a small provocation will create a disturbance. The respectable inhabitants desire the Mayor to postpone the declaration of the result of the election till morning.

The total vote polled was 27,646; Waddy (Liberal) received 14,062 votes, and Wortley (Conservative) 13,584.

London, December 22nd.—The Lord Mayor's Mansion House Fund for the relief of distress in Ireland, amounted last night to nearly \$5,000.

Paris, December 22nd.—De Freycinet having declined to form a Cabinet, President Grévy has requested Waddington to retain the Presidency of the Council and reorganize the Ministry. Waddington has asked for twenty-four hours' delay, and has, in the meantime, urged President Grévy to entrust the duty to Leon Say. It is believed that if the Premier finally refuses to act, Leon Say will be charged with the formation of a new Cabinet.

London, December 22nd.—A Paris correspondent gives the following as the sole reason why De Freycinet declined to form a Cabinet; he does not care to set himself in opposition to Gambetta; he is disinclined to take office on sufferance, and many leading politicians to whom he applied, who would willingly serve under Gambetta would not do so under him.

London, December 22nd.—The Paris *Temps*, discussing John Bright's speech at the Potter banquet, says: Bright's ideal is a State without an Army, and the American Republic, with many of its soldiers reduced to police duties, is his example of it. He seems to entirely forget that the United States have no dangerous neighbors.

Berlin, December 22nd.—Intelligence from Cannes indicates the Czarina's condition so critical that there is little hope of her survival more than a few days.

St. Petersburg, December 22nd.—The first meeting of the Council of Ministers has been convoked for the 26th instant.

Berlin, December 22nd.—Russian Ambassadors abroad have received a circular purporting to issue from the Revolutionary Committee threatening that if Ambassadors do not represent to the Czar that the country wants a Constitution, the Czar will be removed from the throne.

London, December 22nd.—The St. Petersburg *Gazette* says the Afghan revolt is due to the cruelty of the English victors. It charges General Roberts with gross cruelty towards the Afghans.

Berlin, December 22nd.—The Russian Government has imperatively demanded that Slavophile associations discontinue political agitation.

Madrid, December 22nd.—General Martinez Campos was one of the speakers in the Senate yesterday who censured the Government for the dismissal of Generals who had withdrawn their resignations, but was not himself, as stated, one of those dismissed.

Madrid, December 22nd.—An official dispatch was read in the Cabinet Council to-day, announcing that the most important insurgent leader and two of his Lieutenants had been killed, and that the insurgent leader of the District of Cienfuegos and eight of his followers surrendered.

Berlin, December 22nd.—There being no restriction in the number of Russian troops in Poland and Lithuania, Austria, acting probably with an understanding with Germany deems it necessary to prepare to increase her forces in Eastern Galicia.

Berlin, December 22nd.—A Commission will meet after the New Year holidays to draft measures for the prevention of carrying yellow fever infection on board ships.

Bucharest, December 22nd.—Roumanian journals state that John A. Kasson, United States Minister to Vienna, has been ordered by his Government to negotiate a commercial treaty between the United States and Roumania.

London, December 23rd.—The Viceroy of India telegraphs to-day as follows:

Dispatches from General Roberts of the 16th, 17th and 18th instant, have just been received, as follows:

The defences of the Shipur Cantonments have been completed. The enemy occupies the heights over the city, but does not descend into the plains, which are patrolled by our cavalry. General Roberts was waiting the arrival of General Gough to make an attack, as he would then be strong enough to hold all important positions; but he will attack the enemy before the arrival of General Gough if a favorable opportunity offers.

Our loss on the 14th was sixteen killed and ninety-nine wounded, of whom eight have since died. The enemy's loss was very heavy. Osman Khan and other Afghan leaders were killed.

On the 17th instant, the enemy appeared on Siabann, but they were quickly dislodged without loss on our side. The enemy's numbers are diminishing.

Mahomed Janardak, the real Afghan leader, has proclaimed ex-Ameer Yakoub Khan's eldest son Ameer.

General Roberts writes on the 25th instant that a considerable quantity of grain had reached Lataband safely, showing that the road is open so far.

On the 19th instant, the British lost nineteen wounded, and Major Cook, who obtained the "Victoria Cross" for gallant services, died of wounds received in a previous engagement. Two officers are ill from small-pox. Pneumonia is increasing, owing to the cold weather and exposure of the men. Otherwise the health of the troops is good. The number of sick among the Europeans only amounts to four per cent.

Cabul, December 17th.—To-day the enemy assembled on Siabann ridge, lining it in thousands. We shelled and dispersed them. The engineers are making an inner line of defences.

London, December 23rd.—A Cabul correspondent reports that the British force has doubtless a religious war to face, but the fervor of Afghans will subside as reinforcements arrive. In the operations on the heights, on the 14th inst., two mountain guns were lost.

Odessa, December 23rd.—A court-martial having sentenced two political offenders to be hanged, they were executed on the 9th instant. Four others were condemned to imprisonment for terms ranging from ten to fifteen years in the mines.

London, December 23rd.—The *Standard's* Vienna special says: The police of Kiev recently surprised a secret Nihilist meeting, and captured ninety-eight men.

Paris, December 23rd.—President Grévy did not approve of the policy of De Freycinet, or persons whom he proposed as members of the Cabinet. De Freycinet consequently declined the task of forming a Ministry. President Grévy then urgently requested Waddington to provide for vacancies caused by the resignations of Leroyer and General Gresley. Waddington replied that he preferred that Leon Say be intrusted with the task, but as Say has not yet accepted the Presidency of the Council, Waddington is now fixing upon the elements of a new ministerial combination. He has called upon Chalemel Lacour, to whom he wishes to confide the Ministry of the Interior. Lacour will arrive in Paris on the 24th inst, to confer with



Waddington. Further action in the matter will be suspended until after this interview.

London, December 23rd.—A Paris dispatch, dated midnight, says: Leroyer has gone to Egypt for the benefit of his health.

A correspondent has just learned from an authoritative source that President Grévy has again summoned De Freycinet and that an arrangement has been definitely arrived at as follows: De Freycinet becomes Premier and Minister of Works; Waddington, Foreign Minister; Chaumel Lacour, Minister of Interior and Public Worship; Herald, Minister of Justice; Leon Say, Minister of Finance; Jules Ferry, Minister of Public Instruction; Turard, Minister of Commerce; Gen. Farre, Minister of War; Admiral Jaurequiberry, Minister of Marine, and M. Cockeney, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs.

London, December 23rd.—The *Standard's* Paris correspondent reports that local journals unanimously assert no Ministry not possessing the support of the Republican Left and the Republican Union can live.

Constantinople, December 23rd.—The American Consul-General has instituted a clothing society in his house for the benefit of sufferers from the severe distress now prevailing in Turkey.

Berlin, December 23rd.—Weber was elected in Magdeburg as a member of the German Parliament, defeating Vierick, Social Democrat, by 1,000 majority.

Madrid, December 23rd.—In the Senate, to-day, the debate on the Abolition bill was continued, and all clauses as far as article 7 were adopted. It is considered probable that the bill will be adopted in its entirety.

London, December 24th.—There is much dissatisfaction among Irish people because the Government has not applied the surplus of the Irish Church fund for the relief of popular distress, which they are empowered to do by the Disestablishment Act. The Directors and members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul publish a declaration that eleemosynary systems are a mockery and a delusion, if not intended adequately to meet the deep and dreadful famine now approaching.

Archbishop McCabe, of Dublin, has issued a circular to the clergy of his diocese asking them to appoint a day for a collection in the churches, and to urge their parishioners to contribute.

London, December 24th.—The agents at Liverpool of the lost steamer *Borussia*, state that there were one cabin and sixty-four steerage passengers from Liverpool for New Orleans, and eighty steerage passengers from Corunna for Havana.

Liverpool, December 24th.—A steam tug just arrived reports speaking an inward bound barque having on board five more of the survivors of the steamer *Borussia* disaster.

London, December 24th.—The owners of the steamship *Borussia* allege that they believe the vessel is still afloat, as she is built with water-tight compartments, and that she is still in the track of American vessels. They also allege that they are hopeful concerning the crew and passengers. The third officer's boat was the last to leave the ship. Among the other boats was a large boat containing 20 Spaniards, and the mate's boat, containing 13 persons. These, when last seen by the officer's boat were doing well. The third officer made an unsuccessful attempt to tow another boat, containing two men. The crew of the steamer, when the boats left, were building rafts. The wind was then blowing a gale. It is asserted at the office of the agents that the Captain did his duty manfully.

In his statement the third officer of the *Borussia* says that after the large boat, containing twenty Spaniards, and the mate's boat, containing thirteen persons, had left the *Borussia*, a life boat containing two of the stewards of the steamer got adrift. He was sent after this boat by the Captain and took charge of it, taking his own boat in which five men were left, in tow, but the boat was swamped and all on board were drowned. The third officer again endeavoured to reach the *Borussia* which was fast sinking, but was unable to make headway against the wind. He was ultimately compelled to abandon the attempt and run before the wind.

London, December 24th.—A dispatch from Larnica, Cyprus, says: The cattle plague is spreading, and no horned cattle are allowed to leave or enter Larnica by sea or land.

Berlin, December 24th.—The *North German Gazette* publishes a letter from St. Petersburg, contradicting recent reports of difficulties between the Czar and Czarowitch. It says the latter goes to the Winter Palace daily, and attends the conferences between the Czar and his Ministers.

Rome, Dec. 24th.—A Russian Mayor domo and his Secretary have arrived at Catania, Sicily, to select apartments for the Czarina.

Calcutta, December 24th.—A telegram from Jagdalluk to-day says: Heavy firing has been heard in the direction of Cabul the past forty-eight hours. General Gough is close to Lataband, and it is expected he will reach Cabul.

London, December 24th.—The latest advices from Cabul, dated December 22nd, state that insurgents plundered the principal bazaar in the city, and it is said large numbers are leaving with their booty.

Paris, December 24th.—The Municipal Council has rejected three items of the city's obligatory expenses for public worship,

and the Prefect of the Seine has requested the Minister of the Interior to officially inscribe these items in the municipal budget.

London, December 24th.—The latest bulletin from Cannes, dated the 24th, says: The condition of the Empress of Russia is unimproved.

London, December 24th.—A dispatch from Pera says: The Montenegrin Ambassador at Constantinople, who demanded his recall in consequence of the difficulty of his position in regard to the Guisings question, will leave on Friday next.

London, December 24th.—A dispatch from Constantinople says: The Greek Boundary Commissioners have sent a note to the Porte demanding the resumption of the conference regarding frontier question.

Constantinople, December, 24th.—The Porte has granted 4,000,000 piastres for the relief of destitute persons in Constantinople during the winter.

London, December 24th.—A despatch from Cairo says: At the Council of Egyptian Ministers, at which European Controllers were present, the Khedive submitted a dispatch from Gordon Pasha, stating that taxes amounting to £250,000 remained to be collected. The Ministers expressed great surprise, and the Khedive demanded an explanation from Gordon Pasha. In another dispatch Gordon Pasha desires that Egypt should cede to Italy a port in the Red Sea, in order to produce complications between Abyssinia and Italy. The Ministers unanimously rejected the proposal. Other dispatches were submitted to the Council from Gordon Pasha, showing his inconsistency.

London, December 25th.—Three thousand Ghilzaia attacked Colonel Norman at Jagdallak, on the afternoon of the 23d inst., but were beaten off, with loss, and dispersed. Major Thackeray was badly wounded. One Sepoy killed and one wounded.

Bombay, December 24th.—A small column of infantry cleared the close country between Sherpur and Cabul. This action has restored confidence in the city, where the most influential people are with us. Were it necessary to save them, General Roberts says he would attack the enemy immediately. If no opportunity to strike a blow offers before General Gough arrives, General Roberts will make an attack the day following his arrival.

London, December 25th.—A dispatch from Cabul says: The first move of General Roberts will be to eject the enemy from Bala Hissar and the city. This effected, troops may be spared for defensive efforts during the winter. It is possible that the combination against us, which is not national but feebly religious, will collapse from irresolution. The combination has within the last few days apparently lost much strength.

Lahore, December 24th.—General Roberts reports his troops suffering from overwork, cold and exposure.

London, December 25th.—A Lahore dispatch to-day announced that General Gough has joined General Roberts without opposition.

London, December 25th.—The bark *Felda* has arrived at Liverpool with five Spaniards who were saved from the *Borussia*. Owing to their inability to speak English, it is difficult to get from them a connected narrative of the terrible hardships they have undergone. Their boat, before it left the *Borussia* contained, besides the Spaniards, the mate and three women; but no sooner was the boat lowered than it was partly stove by knocking against the steamer. The mate and women accordingly returned to the wreck, but the Spaniards partly staunch the hole in the boat with some clothes, and their rope breaking, they were cast off from the steamer. They had some provisions, but none of them knew anything of seamanship. For five days and six nights they were tossed about, suffering terribly, when they were observed by the barque. They know nothing of the fate of the *Borussia*.

London, December 25th.—The Board of Trade has ordered an inquiry into the loss of the *Borussia*.

London, December 25th.—Queen Victoria has contributed £500 to the Duchess of Marlborough's Irish Relief Fund.

London, December 25th.—The Lord Mayor's Irish Relief Fund reached nearly £2,000 last night.

London, December 25th.—In Gas shares there was yesterday a continuance of speculative sales by the American division.

London, December 25th.—The solicitor of Arthur Orton, the Tichborne claimant, writes to the newspapers denying that a writ of error in the claimant's case was applied for under Dr. Kenaley's advice and asserting the Doctor will not and cannot be employed as counsel in the case. He says there is no authority for the statement that the case will be taken to the House of Lords, as the argument cannot last longer than one day.

London, December 25th.—A colliery explosion yesterday, near Bolton, seriously injured eleven men, one fatally. Several others are not expected to survive.

London, December 25th.—The iron-masters of North Staffordshire have issued circulars, declining to receive further orders, except subject to prices current at the time of delivery. The trade is in a most flourishing condition, and additional furnaces are being blown in.

London, December 25th.—A heavy fog overhung London suburbs all Christmas day.

Paris, December 25th.—The *Republique Francaise* and the

*Pays* have articles which are calculated to cause serious concern, as they can only be regarded as giving evidence of the existence of serious differences between the friends of President Grévy and those of Gambetta. The article of the *Republique Française* is regarded as a plain intimation that Gambetta is ready to take office. The *Pays* states that there is no crisis at all; that there is nothing to do but to appoint a successor to Leroyer. The *Pays* is President Grévy's organ.

London, December 25th.—A Paris dispatch says: Several members of the old Cabinet met yesterday, and unanimously resolved upon presenting a proposal to Waddington, that as the maintenance or reconstruction of the old Cabinet is impossible, and Waddington or Say taking the Premiership being out of the question, De Freycinet should form a Cabinet. Waddington was deputed to acquaint President Grévy with this decision.

Paris, December 25th.—Waddington told President Grévy last night that himself and De Freycinet had agreed upon a programme and list of Ministers and Under-Secretaries. Waddington himself declined to form a Ministry, and recommended the task be entrusted to De Freycinet. The latter had an interview this morning with President Grévy, who requested him to reorganize the Cabinet. De Freycinet accepted the charge.

Paris, December 25th.—The *France* contains a letter from Emile de Girardin, stating he wishes to quit the sphere of militant politics.

Berlin, Dec. 25th.—In well informed circles in St. Petersburg, it is rumored that if the Czar visits Berlin and Cannes, the Czarowitch will be appointed Regent.

St. Petersburg, December 25th.—The *Vedomosti* announces that Prince Dolgorouki, Governor-General of Moscow, intends to resign, on account of ill health. General Ignatieff and Count Schouvaloff are mentioned as possible candidates for the post.

St. Petersburg, December 25th.—A Polish journal is to be established here.

London, December 25th.—A St. Petersburg correspondent thinks there is a prospect of an understanding regarding European peace and the settlement of difficulties in Asia between Russia and England.

It is also understood that favorable administrative measures regarding the Press may be looked for before the end of the Russian year.

Constantinople, December 25th.—Several hundred Musselman refugees have arrived here utterly destitute.

London, December 25th.—Telegrams from Adrianople report that the sufferings of refugees become worse daily and that the mortality among them is increasing frightfully. There are no resources for their relief.

London, December 25th.—A Vienna correspondent asserts a compromise has been unofficially suggested by France by which the line of frontier proposed by Turkey would be accepted in Epirus, while that proposed by the Greeks would be accepted in Thessaly.

Madrid, December 25th.—The Senate passed the bill for the abolition of slavery in Cuba by a vote of 134 to 14. Generals Riguelsma and Prendergast and eight Cuban Senators voted with the minority. Martinez Campos, General Jovellar, Count Valmasoda, General Concha and the remainder of the West Indian members abstained from voting. No Cuban Senator voted with the majority.

London, December 25th.—A Pesth correspondent hears from good authority that Count Sudolof, Austrian Minister at Madrid, will succeed Count Zichy at Constantinople, and that Count Kalnoky, Austrian Ambassador at Copenhagen, will succeed Baron Langonau at St. Petersburg. Both these appointments are said to have special significance.

London, December 25th.—A Berlin dispatch reports that 164,525 marks have been collected there in aid of the famine sufferers in Silesia. A thaw has set in, and the sufferings are less intense.

Rome, December 25th.—General Auezana, one of Garibaldi's most famous companions in the army, is dead. He was President of the Italia Irredenta Committee.

London, Dec. 25th.—The *Daily News* has been requested by the Peruvian Minister to state that there is no foundation for the report that a revolution had broken out in Moquega.

New York, December 25th.—News from Valparaiso, Chili, says: The Allies, after their defeat at Dalores, concentrated at Darapaca, where they were attacked by the Chilians and driven from their position with heavy loss.

New York, December 25th.—News from Buenos Ayres says: The prevailing opinion here is that the war on the west coast is practically over, the Allies being reported in a state of complete disintegration.

London, December 25th.—A correspondent at Lahore reports that a suspicious movement is noticed proceeding from the Afghanistan frontier. The Afghans, in small parties, are travelling to different parts of India. Every train for the interior takes from twenty to forty Afghans. The authorities are on the alert and will watch travellers. Another curious circumstance is the fact that large numbers of Arabs are con-

stantly arriving at Bombay, and, although they are stopped at railway stations whenever there is any ground for suspicion, they make their way to various cities of the interior by byroads. The matter is attracting the earnest attention of Government.

Cape Town, December 24th, via London, December 25th.—Secoceni is on his way to Cape Town, a prisoner.

London, December 26th.—A private letter from a British soldier in Cabul states that one of Yakob Khan's Generals told Sir Frederick Roberts that Yakob Khan himself signed the death warrants of the Embassy, and ordered the bodies of the murdered men to be dragged through the streets of Cabul.

The same letter reiterates the statement that £80,000 of Russian gold was found in Cabul.

Lahore, Friday night, December 26th.—Since General Gough passed Lulaband, no news has been received from him. The rumors of his arrival at Cabul were premature. The wire to-day was working as far as Gundamuk, but at night was interrupted between Peshawur and Jellalabad.

Candahar, Friday, December 26th.—To-day being a Mahomedan festival day, the fanatical portion of the population is much excited. Some mounted Ghazis ran amuck through the British camp. General Tytler was wounded and four of the fanatics killed.

Paris, December 26th.—Leon Say held a long interview with President Grévy on Christmas Day.

The *Temps* says: De Freycinet's Cabinet will be gazetted on Saturday. It is also said that President Grévy, having officially commissioned De Freycinet to form a Cabinet, De Freycinet is solely responsible. He will have to submit first the names of persons and later his programme. Should his selection of persons not meet with Grévy's approval, De Freycinet will have to definitely resign his commission.

If President Grévy rejects De Freycinet's Cabinet or programme, his only possible alternative is to summon Jules Simon and dissolve the Chamber of Deputies.

It is expected that De Freycinet will on Saturday submit to President Grévy the list of new Ministers, which will appear in the *Official Journal* on Sunday.

All the newspapers recommend Gambetta for the Cabinet. De Freycinet interviewed Gambetta, Wilson, Spuller, Deves, Allain, Targe and Lepère, and subsequently Waddington and Say, and they have again expressed to De Freycinet their determination not to form part of the new combination.

Constantinople, December 26th.—Following are some of the particulars in regard in the case of the priest, who was sentenced to death for translating the Bible into the Turkish tongue. In September the police arrested a missionary for distributing religious tracts, but he was soon discharged, the police retaining a book in the Turkish language, printed in London, containing a passage contrary to Islamism, and two manuscript pamphlets of the same character. On the day after the release of the missionary, the priest who is now under sentence, was arrested on the charge of being the author of the above mentioned pamphlets, and was remanded for trial. Sir Austin Layard has for the last three months pressed his demand for a restitution of the missionary's papers. The notes presented by Minister Layard remaining unanswered, he again renewed his request Monday last, but still receiving no answer, he sent a communication to the Porte giving them three days in which to restore the missionary's papers, release the priest, dismiss the Chief of Police of Angora, who ordered the arrest of the priest, and the military commandant of Van, who, as well as the Chief of Police of Angora, had used insulting language toward, England and the British Consuls in Turkey. Minister Layard announced that if his demands were not complied with, he would ask Lord Salisbury for instructions, and would suspend diplomatic communications with the Porte. The latter replied, stating that the missionary is not a British, but a German subject, and that it is untrue the priest has been condemned to death, as he has only had a preliminary examination.

Vienna, December 26th.—Notwithstanding Mukhtar Pasha's proclamation, the Albanians are not submitting quietly to the cession of Montenegro. They have created great disturbances at Prizrend, where they plundered and set fire to two Greek churches and several houses belonging to Christians.

Rome, December 26th.—Tuesday last King Humbert was going on a hunting expedition, when the gendarmes who proceeded him encountered a crowd, who refused to disperse, and fired on the gendarmes. The latter returned the fire. An active search for the culprits is in progress.

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 25th.—On the 17th Carr defeated the forces of Truj, at Salta, headed by Jaureno Sarria, near Humhuaca. A great many were killed on both sides. Torino came from Salta, escorted by armed troops of that Province.

London, December 26th.—Advices from Valparaiso to the 3d instant are that Iquique, Peru, is re-opened to commerce, the only restriction being in respect to arms and ammunition; that the President of Peru is marching with a force upon Lima, expecting a Chilian attack upon Callao and the Capital; and that the Bolivians sacked Tacna, and threatened Arica.

## JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

## COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The representatives charged with the presentation of the petition of the people of Chikuzen, asking for the establishment of a National Assembly and a revision of the treaties, arrived in Tokio, and handed in the document, on the 16th instant. The Chief Secretary of the Senate received it.

The Foreign Affairs and Household Departments entertained the Foreign Representatives, His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa, and several of the leading foreign residents, in the Enriokwan, on the 22nd instant.

In the Genro-in (Senate), a discussion has taken place on the advisability of amending the law of libel as far as it affects newspapers.

Mr. Makimura, Governor of Kioto, is on his way thence to the capital.

His Excellency Ito, Minister for the Interior, is expected in Tokio from Atami in a day or two.

His Majesty the Emperor visited the Empress-Dowager at the Awoyama Palace on the 16th instant, and Her Majesty the Empress also called there the following day.

Their Majesties the Empress and Empress Dowager, have visited the Princess Tenshoju, the mother of the late Shōgun, Tokugawa Iyeshige.

His Majesty the Emperor dined with the Daijin and Sangi on the 17th instant.

Prince Nagaoka, an attaché in the Foreign Affairs Department, entertained all the foreign representatives for the new year's festival, at his mansion at Oyuwamachi, the day on Thursday.

Governor Narasaki of Nagano *ken*, left for Tokio on the 17th instant, Governor Takasaki of Okayama *ken* and Governor Yamayoshi of Fukushima *ken* on the 18th instant, and Governor Iwamura of Ehime *ken* on the 19th instant. They will attend the forthcoming Local Governor's Assembly.

Mr. Yoshikawa, chief superintendent of the Telegraph Department, was honored with an audience by His Majesty the Emperor, on the 19th instant.

His Excellency Sanjo and General Yamagata, are to leave Atami for Tokio, about the 25th instant.

We learn from the *Choya Shimbun* that Supreme Courts are to be established in Nagoya, Hiroshima, and Niigata.

His Excellency Tokudaiji, Minister of the Imperial Household Department, has issued a notification, that the 23rd instant, being the birthday of Her Majesty the Empress Dowager, the Princes of the Blood, the Daijin, the Sangi, and the *Chokunin* officials should proceed to the Awoyama Palace to offer their congratulations.

His Excellency Shishido, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of China, having lately returned home, a *Chargé d'Affaires* is to be despatched to Peking in his place.

Prince Naga-oka, an attaché in the Foreign Affairs Department will, it is said, be shortly appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Rome.

His Excellency Inouye, Minister of Foreign Affairs, entertained the *Chokunin* and the *Sonin* officers of his Department, at the Enriokwan on Thursday.

The police sergeants and men, in all about three hundred, who formed the escort of His Majesty the Emperor at Kioto and Osaka during the last rebellion, are shortly to be rewarded.

Mr. Yasuda, the Governor of Aichi *ken*, left his prefecture for Tokio on the 20th instant, to attend the local Governors' assembly, and Mr. Kitagaki, the Governor of Kochi *ken*, and Mr. Mori, the Under Secretary of Fukuoka *ken*, representing his Governor, arrived in Tokio for the same purpose the day before yesterday. Mr. Shishido, the Chief Secretary of Osaka *fu*, will represent the Governor of that district at the meeting.

It is currently reported that the sum of 1,800,000 yen is to be added to the ordinary grant to the Department of Justice, which is 1,200,000 yen, and that sixty provincial Courts are to be established in different provinces.

Mr. Ishini, the Vice-Assistant Police Inspector, was

appointed a member of the Committee of the Central Board of Health, on the 20th instant.

The subjects to be discussed at the special meeting of the local Assembly in Tokio are; the means to be adopted for raising a municipal loan, and the question of protection against fire.

## NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that there will be a meeting, early next March, in Tokio, of all the General officers in the Japanese Army.

It is said that a Commissariat service will be added to the garrisons at Sendai, Hiroshima and Nagoya, during the present year.

Lieutenant Nagamine who has been abroad, returned to Tokio on Sunday last by the French mail steamer *Volga*.

The different fortifications in Japan were all built by the late Shogunate Government and the Princes of the different provinces, for coast protection. The majority of them are at present in a ruined state, and even those that are in pretty good repair, are not strong fortifications. It is now rumoured that a fort is about to be constructed on Kwanonsaki point, on the coast of Soshu, and will be armed with twelve, thirty centimetre, rifled cannon.

Fourteen Japanese naval cadets have been appointed midshipmen, and are to be distributed among the different men-of-war.

We, (*Mainichi Shimbun*) learn that several Generals and Lieut.-Generals, in command of different detachments in the Army, are about to visit Vladivostock.

The *Kongo Kan* is shortly going on a cruise in Chinese waters.

## INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

A native contemporary informs us that one million kin of rice has been ordered for export to America.

We, (*Choya Shimbun*) have now received information respecting the progress of the Shin Shiu Sha, (Progressive Company) formed by Mr. Iwasaki Hide-o about four years ago, for the exportation of timber to China. The Company began to fell trees last year in the district of Hiroshima, and it has also received a great accession to its members from among the people of Osaka and the different provinces, who have subscribed altogether the sum of 400,000 yen. Out of this large sum, 200,000 yen were raised in Hagi, 50,000 yen in Kuma-no-gori in the prefecture of Yamaguchi, 20,000 yen at Kokura in the province of Buzen, 50,000 yen at Matsuyama in the province of Un-shiu, 15,000 yen at Fukuyama in the province of Bingo, and 20,000 yen in Osaka. The head office of the company will shortly be moved either to Osaka, or Amagasaki, and the managers propose to purchase ships, and load them with timber for China.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

There was a small fire in the native portion of the town on Monday morning. The efforts of the fire brigade were successful in speedily extinguishing it.

The *Hochi Shimbun* states that small pox is rumoured to have made its appearance in the prefectures of Nagawo and Niigata. A hospital is to be established in Shitaya, Tokio.

A native paper states that four spies have been arrested at Osaka, and their confessions telegraphed to Tokio in cypher. It appears that the Court in which they are being tried is held with closed doors, and no particulars are known as to what they were spying or who employed them.

Prince Yama-no-uchi, ex-daimio of Tosa, entertained about one hundred and fifty of the Shizoku of Kōchi Ken, in Tokio, on Sunday last. The greater number were military officers who had taken part in the suppression of the last rebellion.

Prince Tori-i Tadabumi, a junior noble of the 5th rank who has been in America since 1871 for the purpose of study, returned home on the 18th instant.

The *Teito Shinshi*, a journal formerly published in the prefecture of Fukuoka, has been suspended for some time, but is now permitted to re-appear.

A fire took place at Matsugayecho, Kanda, Tokio, at midnight on the 18th instant, and soon spread over several streets, in consequence of the strong wind blowing. The fire was not extinguished until 2.40 a.m., when it had destroyed three hun-



dred and fifty-eight houses and one godown, and damaged thirty-six other dwellings.

A branch telegraph station is about to be established at Yoneko, in the prefecture of Shimane. The new stations at Daishoji, Toyama, and Tokebu, Ishikawa, will be open about the middle of next month. Telegraph stations have also been lately opened at Shibata, in the prefecture of Niigata, and at Kama-ishi and Miako, in the prefecture of Iwate.

Mr. Senator Sano entertained Dr. Anderson, one of the Committee of the Central Board of Health at a farewell dinner on Wednesday. The other members of the Committee were also present.

The *Hochi Shimbun* states that Mr. Nakano Goichi is going to bring an action against the Police Bureau, to recover damages for their recent proceedings with reference to himself and Mr. Fujita. Mr. Numa Moriichi has been employed as counsel for Mr. Nakano.

The lady of the Chinese Minister in Tokio has lately arrived here.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* says it is rumoured that His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa is going to Kobe in a French man-of-war, which is shortly to leave Yokohama.

The total funds subscribed on behalf of the sufferers from the fire at Hakodate amounted to 12,100 yen, up to the 21st of December last.

Small pox has made its appearance at Atagocho, in the prefecture of Gumba. There were two fatal cases on the 17th instant, and it is reported to be spreading rapidly.

A new journal, called the *Tokio Jiyu Shimbun*, made its first appearance on the 18th inst., and a new periodical called the *Chugai Iji Shimpō*, on the 21st instant.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 18th January, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 7,544.68
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 907.57
Total .....	\$ 8,452.25
Miles open, 18.	

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 6,841.51
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 734.51
Total .....	\$ 7,576.02
Miles open, 18.	

##### KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 18th January, 1880.

Mails Open 55.

Passengers, Parcels, &c. ....	\$13,509.54
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 2,007.64
Total .....	\$15,517.18
Miles Open 47.	

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, Parcels, &c. ....	\$ 9,700.63
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,520.13
Total .....	\$11,220.76

#### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

##### TREATY REVISION.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

WE have frequently expressed ourselves so fully on the subject of the revision of the existing treaties with foreign powers, that little now remains to be added. Careful consideration of the signs of the times has convinced us that public opinion imperatively demands the Government to require, during the present year, the restitution of the independent sovereign rights of Japan. The grievances of the nation are almost endless; we wish to recover political, judicial, social and commercial rights of which we have been unjustly deprived, but the main object of our imme-

diate desire is the abolition; 1st, of extra-territoriality, and 2ndly, of the impediments to Japan framing a tariff to suit her own commercial and financial requirements, without let or hindrance from any foreign authority whatsoever.

An important question like that of treaty revision cannot be dealt with lightly. For ourselves, we believe we have thoroughly gauged public opinion on this matter; and as the negotiations are on the eve of being recommenced, we feel no apology is due to our readers for again taking up the subject with a view of placing the whole matter before the officials engaged in it, and strengthening their hands by acquainting them with the wishes and opinions of their countrymen.

In demonstrating the injustice and inconvenience of the treaties, it is necessary in the first place, in order to gain a proper knowledge of the position, to carefully consider the circumstances under which these agreements were entered into, and how the internal difficulties of this nation were taken advantage of by foreign powers, to wrest from it the rights invariably possessed by an independent sovereign state.

We shall pass over the treaty entered into with the United States of America through Commodore Perry, as so many years have since elapsed, and commence with the present treaties. We find that in 1858, when Mr. Townsend Harris, Consul-General for the United States, requested permission from the Shōgunate Government to visit Yedo for the purpose of interchanging treaties of peace and commerce, the Government found itself in a great dilemma, being pressed by the anti-foreign faction on the one hand, and on the other confronted by the unanswerable fact that, as one treaty had been entered into, it could never afterwards shut up the country to foreign intercourse. At last, on the 27th of July, 1858, the Government, in order to preserve peace and being afraid of foreign influence, concluded the treaty with Mr. Harris; thus arose what we may call "the present American treaty." When this compact was entered into, the officials of the Shōgunate Government knew as little of foreign trade, and what they were doing, as if they had been groping about in the dark. Indeed the prevalent ignorance is evidenced by the orders given by one of the Councillors of State to Higo-no-Kami, when he said, "foreign intercourse cannot now be put an end to, but you must arrange matters so that the export of rice will not be allowed!" For this short-sighted policy the Councillor was very highly applauded at the time! Fortunately, however, the Shōgunate Government comprised some able men, such as Iwase-Higo-no-Kami, Miyano Chikugo-no-Kami, Nagari Gamba-no-Kami, Hori Oribe-no-sho, &c., who realized the fact that the matter of the treaty could not be neglected. They then came to the conclusion to repose confidence in the probity of Mr. Harris and intrust the terms of the treaty entirely to his superior knowledge of the requirements of the situation. Mr. Harris accepted the task. Being a just and upright man, anxious not to take advantage of the ignorance of the Shōgunate officials, he drafted a treaty similar in most respects to those already in force in other eastern countries. After the document was signed Mr. Harris observed, "I am aware this treaty is not as perfect as might be desired, but this is unavoidable in the case of a country which is opened for the first time to foreign intercourse. As regards the provisions respecting extra-territoriality, not only are they irksome to Japan, but they are also inconvenient for the United States; and I earnestly trust that they will be abolished when the time comes for the revision of the treaty. Your Government has now an opportunity of deriving advantage from its customs' duties, and at the same time not crushing foreign trade by excessive imposts. The import duties are 35 per cent on wines and spirits, and 20 per cent on other articles; the duty on exports 5 per cent. An opportunity for a revision of this tariff will be afforded five years after the opening of Kanagawa to foreign trade. In the meantime, you will have had considerable experience, and will no doubt be able to devise a tariff which will be both profitable to your Government and beneficial for your people. The revision of this treaty can take place anytime after the 4th of July, 1872; and although the ten years or so which must necessarily elapse between this and then is a good deal in the life of a man, it is a very short period indeed in the history of a nation. I hope you will strive diligently to grasp the advantages of foreign intercourse and,



when the time for treaty revision arrives, I trust to see you stand firm for the rights of Japan." These remarks of Mr. Harris were freely repeated at the time they were uttered, and were mentioned in his official correspondence and several American newspapers. There can therefore be no doubt of their authenticity, and it is very evident that Mr. Harris was a sincere well-wisher of this country.

When it became known that a treaty had been made with America, ambassadors and emissaries arrived from Great Britain, Holland, France and Russia, one after the other. Each of these representatives signed a separate treaty, but the American treaty was a model for all the others, which were framed in accordance with it. Thus, then, the five treaties were entered into, and in conformity therewith the ports of Kanagawa, Nagasaki and Hakodate were opened to foreign trade on the 4th of July, 1859.

(To be continued.)

### THE LATEST ASPECT OF THE LOOCHOO QUESTION.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

IT has frequently been rumoured that the Tsu-ri-Yamen of China addressed menacing letters to our Government on several occasions, respecting the conversion of Loochoo into an integral portion of the Japanese Empire. We have now received from a reliable source, information which may throw some light upon these rumours and explain the recent altered attitude of the Government of China. We learn that this important question has already assumed very different phases at various times. In the first place, a Chinaman resident in Japan, thinking he was aggrieved by the action adopted in Loochoo, wrote to the Chinese Governor-General Chin Ho Tei, stating falsely that, "many among the Japanese themselves were opposed to the step taken by their Government, and as to the Japanese fleet and army, they are too weak to deserve consideration," and a great deal more in the same strain, equally silly and misleading. The Governor-General to whom this precious epistle was addressed, ruled over the important district extending from Yangtze to Shanghai, and ranked among the Ministers of the second class. Chin Ho Tei was a man of the most extraordinary obstinacy, and strongly imbued with a hatred to Japan, of which he always spoke in the most contemptuous terms. He was also on bad terms with Li Hung Chang who took opposite views, and therefore when he received the letter we have referred to, he was exceedingly pleased as it suited his intrigue; although he admitted to his familiars that it emanated chiefly from the disordered brain of the writer. This letter and his own great influence enabled Chin Ho Tei to bring such pressure upon the Chinese Government that they addressed to the Japanese Government several very menacing letters on the Loochoo Question, which gave rise to the rumours current from time to time. Now, however, the position is entirely altered; the obstinate old mischief-maker died on the 6th of November\* and his clique is broken up. Moreover, the two spies from China who recently visited Japan, have recently returned home and by their report on the state of public opinion here, and the condition of our naval and military forces, have entirely disabused the minds of the Tsu-ri-Yamen of the false impression left by the letter sent to Chin Ho Tei, and convinced them that Japan was not a petty group of islands surrounded by Chinese waters and eyed by the "Middle Kingdom." Then peaceful counsels resumed their sway in the neighbouring Empire to the great joy of all. Oh! how fortunate for both countries was the death of old Ching Ho Tei!

### THE DEMAND FOR A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

(Translated from the *Akebono Shimbun*.)

NOTHING can withstand the force of water rushing down hill to find its level. Every impediment placed in its way is swept aside, and all attempts to restrain it are overcome after great damage has been occasioned to the surrounding country. This we learn from hydrostatics, and it is equally true that something very similar may be observed in the affairs of nations. How often do we find a

ruler attempt to curb the feelings of his people until at last they break from all restraint and he finds when too late, that making concessions will not avail him anything, and the country is thrown into disorder and revolution.

Japan is governed by able men and the work of administration travels with the exigencies of the times, as true as the needle to the pole and is equally in unison with the wishes of the nation. How would our rulers act if a great question arose which carried public opinion with it as the current of a river? Would they attempt to restrain it and thus lay the foundation of future discord? The reason we make these remarks is because of the rapidly growing feeling in favour of the establishment of a National Assembly in Japan. The "Patriotic" Society of Osaka determined last year at a general meeting, to memorialize the Emperor next March for a National Assembly, and circulars on the subject have already been drawn up for distribution among the people. This energetic society has also its emissaries actively working in all directions in furtherance of its objects. Then again, we see the "San-yodo" (central Japan) Society has also resolved to petition the Emperor for an Assembly, and a similar step is about to be taken by the "United," and "Familiar" Societies. Now these Societies are all very influential, members of the "Patriotic" Society in particular, being numerous all over Japan.

This question of a National Assembly has been gradually assuming larger proportions year after year, and has now taken deep root in the minds of the people. Although the influence of the people be not as strong as the power of a river-current, still at the same time is not as weak as that of a small rivulet which can be dried up. The petitions now presented by the associated Societies may not indeed threaten the employment of physical force in case of refusal as was the case when Messrs. Okubo, Komatsu, Goto, Fukuoka, &c., addressed the ex-Shōgun towards the end of the year 1867 requesting him to resign the executive power to the Emperor, but it is very evident that their demands cannot be lightly treated. Will the Government, confident in their power, refuse the wish of the people for a National Assembly. Nothing can be said against the reasonableness of the demand, and if the Government oppose the scheme, we cannot say if the force of public opinion may not prove like a mighty river in flood, sweeping away all obstacles in its course and carrying destruction even the adjacent land.

Public opinion in Japan has now attained such power and influence that the frowns of officials are of no avail against it; and whether or not the establishment of a National Assembly would prove prejudicial to official interests is now a matter of no moment whatever. A question of this kind cannot be settled by a Government resorting to violence; sooner or later the current of water must prevail. Is it not wiser to give it vent before it overflows the banks and destroys the cultivated ground?

Some people who are blind to the signs of the times say that, "the Societies are composed of a mere crowd of visionary students and political agitators, and to treat them as representing the people of Japan would be like regarding a cat as a tiger, or a needle as a great beam of timber, it is therefore evident that the time is not yet ripe for a National Assembly." Let us again resort to our simile of a river in reply to this objection. How does a flood begin? Is it not by continued rain the water rises, first gradually and then suddenly, perhaps several feet at once? The demand for a National Assembly has grown slowly also. No violence has as yet been threatened; but who can foretell what may happen in the future?

The agitators for a Constituent Assembly cannot be charged with any desire to obtain the reins of power, and it seems as if they are actuated simply by patriotic motives and a wish to advance the prosperity of the country. The course they have adopted, is similar to that of the patriots before the Shōgunate was violently overturned in 1858, when an attempt was made to arrange matters peaceably, an attempt which was however unfortunately not successful.

Some people affirm that it is only of those who are in opposition to the Government that join in the demand for a National Assembly. Suppose that this is true? Then the granting of their request would leave them nothing to complain about and turn them into peaceful and contented members of the community. But on the other hand, if the charge made is not true, how can it be disproved? and is a

\* According to the Chinese calendar.

bald accusation of this description to be constantly made use of successfully, and justify the refusal to Japan of Constitutional Government? Objections of the kind are mere hollow pretenses and may lead to very serious measures being adopted.

A writer who has formed a very decided opinion adverse to the establishment of a National Assembly in Japan states, "that no one individual can lead public opinion unless he be some very learned person who has rendered himself conspicuous by his public career, and thus attracts popularity and induces confidence in the wisdom and purity of his projects. How do the clamors for a National Assembly fulfil these conditions? We find that they are without exception newspaper editors and other writers striving for notoriety, visionary students or professional political agitators without any legitimate occupation. If the authorities should yield to the wishes of these parties in the vain idea of benefiting future generations, they will only incur the odium of knowing nothing of the true feeling of the mass of the people. It would therefore be better to postpone the establishment of an Assembly until some really influential leader makes his appearance."

Now this line of argument might, perhaps, have been well enough some years ago; but it is most decidedly inapplicable at present. No doubt, if any one man wishes to accomplish a great enterprise, popularity will be absolutely necessary before he can draw the people with him; witness the case of Saigo Takamori, people joined in the rebellion because he was the leader, when they would have declined to cast in their lot with either Yeto or Maibara. But then no man is great (in this sense) from his birth, nor a mighty warrior from his infancy. These things are the product of experience. Look at Napoleon I. When he was a poor subaltern of artillery, could anyone have foretold that he would become the conqueror of Europe, the mighty monarch at the rustle of whose banners the nations trembled, the proud possessor of the haughty title "Emperor of Emperors"? But then again the example of this great man is rather wide of the mark. Japan, unfortunately, possesses no such hero as Napoleon and the question of a National Assembly is very prosaic, and may be quietly discussed by commoners with kings and princes; its inherent justice will prevent suppression by violence. No scheming is necessary to procure the ultimate success of the movement, let all quietly use their influence, small though it may be, towards forming a correct public opinion on the subject.

Another very inconsistent writer has thought proper to place on record that, "the agitators for a National Assembly, are few in number, without popularity, and certainly not conspicuous for any remarkable amount of experience." We would ask this sneering gentleman to recall to mind Jean-Jacques Rousseau, of France, and our own patriots who lived and suffered before the Restoration. Could the rulers of France have thought that the needy dreamer Rousseau would inculcate theories, which when reduced into practice overturned the dynasty? Who imagined that a single sworder would dislodge from their proud preëminence the Shōgunate Government, which had ruled Japan for over three hundred years? The exigencies of a country invariably produce some man to fill its requirements; and who can say that the necessities of Japan have not impelled the memorialists to demand the establishment of Constitutional Government?

#### LAW REPORTS.

##### IN THE IMPERIAL GERMAN CONSULAR COURT.

Before E. ZAPPE, Esq., Consul.

Wednesday, January 21st, 1880.

KURATA MASAKICHI vs. H. W. HOHNHOLZ.

(Adjourned from the 20th inst.)

This was a claim of yen 72.46, due for provisions sold by plaintiff to one Kamingi, for the payment of which it was contended that defendant had made himself responsible.

Defendant denied liability.

The parties appeared in person.

The plaintiff called as witness

A Japanese named Asano, who said that he was plaintiff's *banto*. As to the question before the Court, he de-

posed that Kamingi, on the 13th of March last year, came to his master's shop and bought a quantity of ship's provisions, which were sent on board the same day by a servant of the shop, who was to receive payment on delivery. The money was not paid, Kamingi telling the messenger that he would come and pay the next day. He came on the 15th, accompanied by defendant, handed plaintiff a paper,—the same that was attached to plaintiff's petition, and said that defendant would pay the bill, a statement which defendant confirmed on the spot.

Another Japanese servant of plaintiff's deposed that he, on the 15th March, carried provisions on board Kamingi's ship, and was to receive yen 72.46 in payment. He did not receive the money, but was told that the bill would be paid at No. 55 (at that time defendant's place of business). The witness, who repeatedly contradicted himself, added that already, before the provisions were taken on board, defendant had been to plaintiff's place and promised to pay for the goods. Plaintiff was not present when that promise was made, only Asano and witness.

Defendant denied the truth of the evidence, he said the plaintiff had been to his place asking him when the *Tori* was coming back, and as the original intention was that she should return within two months, he had answered: "in a few days; any moment."

The Court finding that the evidence, produced by plaintiff, was not satisfactory proof of defendant having undertaken to pay the bill against Kamingi, dismissed plaintiff's claim, and ordered him to pay costs.

Friday, January 23rd, 1880.

T. H. TRIPLER, M. D., vs. C. SEITZ.

(Adjourned from the 16th instant.)

This was a claim of \$179 for medical services rendered between May and November last year, including 43 visits at \$3 each and \$50 for attending a birth, with subsequent visits to the person confined.

Defendant declared himself ready to pay \$65, which he contended was all that he owed, namely, \$50 on account of the confinement, and \$15 for five visits at \$3 each. He asserted that what other visits plaintiff had made to his house had been unnecessary and not asked for.

Mr. M. Kirkwood appeared for plaintiff; defendant appeared personally.

The assistant of the druggists, Messrs. North, Thompson & Co., was in Court with the book in which were entered the prescriptions made up by the firm, and Mr. Kirkwood handed in a list of 10 prescriptions, written by his client for defendant and defendant's household, during the period in question.

The correspondence between the parties, which was read in Court, is as follows:—

"November 14th, 1879.

"My dear Seitz,

"I enclose your account as requested, and as the amount is larger than I expected before going over it, I have also sent a statement of the number of visits booked during each month.

"Yours faithfully,

"T. H. TRIPLER, M.D.

"Captain SEITZ."

This note was returned to the sender with the words in pencil: "All right, attend to-morrow."

"December 8th, 1879.

"Dr. Tripler.

"Dear Sir,

"I beg to inform you, that I have done my best to satisfy you on Saturday, but failed in doing so. I am sorry for it; all the money I could scrape up did not do to pay up my men.

"I try my best to-day, and may by the time this steamer is finished; there is plenty of work. Had I not the trouble with the Custom House, this would not have happened.

"Yours truly,

"C. SEITZ."

The Court now delivered the following

#### JUDGMENT.

##### The Facts of the Case.

Plaintiff has alleged that defendant owes him \$179 for 43 professional visits, paid to defendant and defendant's

household during the period May to November 1879, and for accoucheur services to Louise Wherum, who lives with defendant, and plaintiff has demanded that defendant be ordered to pay him the above amount. Defendant, however, is only willing to pay \$50 for the accoucheur-services, and \$15 for 5 other visits, total \$65, because he contends that the remainder of the visits were neither necessary nor asked for by him, and he demands that the balance of plaintiff's claim be rejected. The plaintiff replies hereto, that defendant by keeping the bill sent to him on the 14th of November 1879 has tacitly admitted its correctness, and that he had further confirmed that admission by his letter dated the 8th of December. Defendant admits that the copy of the said bill, which has been produced in Court, and in which \$129 are charged for 43 professional visits and \$50 for accoucheur-services, is conform with the original bill, received by him on the 4th of November, and he also admits having written the letter dated the 8th of December. But he denies that he by his conduct implicitly admitted plaintiff's claim, and contends that he never has considered himself to owe more than \$65, and that this was also the amount, which his letter of the 8th of December was meant to admit.

#### *Reasons for the Decision.*

It is admitted that there was an agreement between the parties that the plaintiff for a remuneration of \$50 should attend Louise Wehrum, who lives in defendant's house, during her delivery on the 14th of October, and this item in plaintiff's bill is consequently not in litigation.

The dispute is about plaintiff's claim of \$129 for 43 professional visits, which plaintiff alleges to have paid as medical adviser to defendant and his household during the period May to November 1879, while defendant is only willing to pay for 5 of those visits. He does not pretend that the remaining 38 visits were not made, but he pretends that he did not ask for them, and that they were unnecessary.

Without entering into the question how far the professional visits in dispute were either necessary or asked for, it has in the first place to be decided, whether defendant—as contended by plaintiff—by keeping the bill sent him on the 14th of November, admitted the correctness of the same. Defendant denies that his tacit keeping of the bill implies any such admission. And there certainly exists no law to compel a person on receiving a bill to make known at once or within a short time his objection, or at all events to notify his reservations, or else to be considered as having admitted the bill to be correct.

Whether a bill that has been received without reservation is to be considered as acknowledged as correct is, according to precedents established by decisions formerly given in superior courts, a mere question of fact, the answer to which is governed by the general rules, by which it is decided what meaning is to be attributed to a person's actions. The tacit receiving of a bill is merely a criterion, the force of which varies according to the attending circumstances, and to the shorter or longer time that is afterwards allowed to pass; but the attending circumstances may also invest it with the force of undoubted certitude.

(*Römer*: Collection of judgments rendered in the Supreme Court of Appeal, at Frankfort.)

Considered as a question of fact, the Court must in the present case assume that certitude to exist. Not only has the defendant on the 14th of November received and kept plaintiff's bill, but the accompanying letter from the Doctor, in which the latter expresses his own surprise at the large number of visits, he returned with the annotation: "all right, attend to-morrow." These words rather convey the impression that defendant intended to pay on the next day, than that defendant intended only to admit 5 out of the 43 visits charged in the bill.

This view is further confirmed by the letter, which defendant on the 8th of December, that is 3 weeks afterwards, wrote to plaintiff, in which he says: "I beg to inform you that I have done my best to satisfy you by Saturday, but failed in doing so, I am sorry for it; all the money, I could scrape up, did not do to pay up my men."

Thus writes a hard pressed debtor to his creditor but not the man, who is conscious of being able to strike \$114 off from his doctor's bill for \$179.

When defendant nevertheless has not hesitated now to

deny his former admission of the bill and to dispute the medical services, which he has received, then his conduct deserves to be characterized as objectionable and frivolous.

For these reasons, the Court gives the following

#### *Decision.*

Defendant has to pay to plaintiff the \$179 claimed, and to indemnify plaintiff for costs.

#### IN THE FRENCH CONSULAR COURT.

Before H. PIERRET, Esq., Consul,

Messrs. JUBIN and REYNAUD Assessors.

Thursday, January 22nd, 1880.

SCHINNE & FRANCKE vs. MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.

This was a claim of \$119.71 damages on account of five bales of pilot cloth, arrived in the *Volga* on the 10th Sept., 1879.

Mr. Kirkwood appeared for plaintiffs; Mr. Couil for the defendant company.

The Court to-day, in the presence of the parties, delivered the following

#### *JUDGMENT.*

##### *The Facts of the Case.*

On the 11th of September, 1879, the plaintiffs took delivery of their goods under a protest, which was accepted by the Messageries Maritimes Company; on the 29th of the same month they had a survey of the said goods by experts appointed by the Consul for France; on the 14th of October they demanded from the Messageries Maritimes payment of the damage declared by the experts, and on the 8th of January, 1880, brought this action against the company.

There has, consequently, elapsed more than thirty days from the date of the protest until the date of bringing the action.

The principal agent of the Messageries Maritimes Company has, in his conclusions, subsidiarily and jointly with his other exceptions, quoted Art. 436 of the Code of Commerce, which forbids taking cognizance of any protest or reclamation which is not followed up in a court of law within a month.

##### *The Law of the Case.*

Considering that the prohibition in Arts. 435 and 436 of the Code of Commerce is formal, and that plaintiffs are wrong when they contend that those articles apply only to the captain, and not to the owners of the ship, inasmuch as the company has always assumed the responsibilities of its captains, and that, consequently, the Messageries Maritimes Company is justified in availing itself of that objection;

Considering further that, although according to Articles 173 and 186 of the Code of Civil Procedure, all objections with regard to the formality ought to be brought forward before any other, this rule does not obtain where it is objected that the right of suing has been lost through limitation; that the Court, consequently, is both entitled and bound to receive that objection, although it was only brought forward simultaneously with the defence as reality, and that it is not necessary for the Court to enter into the question whether the Messageries Maritimes Company is responsible or not for the damage done by fresh water to plaintiffs' five bales of pilot cloth.

After full deliberation, according to law,

The Court dismisses the claim of Schinne & Francke against the Messageries Maritimes Company for payment of \$119.71, and orders plaintiffs to pay costs.

#### LADY MIZZLE'S JEWEL ROBBERY

There was a dinner-party at Redden Hall on the evening when Lady Mizzle's jewels were stolen; and it was her ladyship herself who was the first to discover the theft towards nine o'clock. The ladies had retired to the drawing-room, leaving the gentlemen sitting over their wine, and the conversation had turned on the setting of precious stones. Lady Mizzle, the young wife of Sir Richard Mizzle (a middle-aged and very wealthy squire, who had amassed his money in Australia), was known to have remarkably fine jewels, and, in particular, a "cat's-eye" set in yellow diamonds of peculiar brilliancy. At the request of her friend, Mrs. Harptree, the rector's wife, Lady Mizzle went upstairs to fetch this gem, in order to show it to the other ladies, who had all heard tell of its



beauty. She had scarcely been away five minutes when piercing shrieks were heard on the first floor, and her ladyship ran down stairs with a haggard face, screaming that she had been robbed. The echoes carried her voice all over the house, and while the servants came scrambling up in a fright from the kitchen, the ladies hurried out of the drawing-room, and the gentlemen left their wine. There were four gentlemen besides Sir Richard: Mr. Harptree, the rector; Colonel Deverill, the Chief Constable of the county; Mr. Nookes, a magistrate; and Percy Deverill, a young fellow in the Laurels, nephew of the Colonel. Into this group of five, Lady Mizzle ran trembling for protection; and pointing to the staircase faltered, in terrified accents: "Thieves! thieves! they've taken everything! Oh, oh!" After which she sank into a chair, and looked as if she were going to swoon.

While the ladies bustled in alarm and compassion round their hostess, the gentlemen bestirred themselves. Throwing down their napkins, they marched upstairs under the conduct of Sir Richard, half expecting to be confronted on the landing by some robbers with bludgeons and masks. But no such excitement was in store for them; and they simply found the usual traces of an easily executed burglary. The window of Lady Mizzle's dressing-room was wide open, and a number of jewel-cases were lying open and empty on the floor. Nothing seemed to have been taken except jewellery however, for on the dressing-table lay Lady Mizzle's tortoiseshell purse, which Sir Richard at once explored, and found to contain several sovereigns and a banknote. This curious fact excited wonder, and led to the conjecture that the burglars must be persons in very good practice indeed, since they could afford to despise gold.

"No, it is not that, they were afraid of the bank-note," said Colonel Deverill, luminously. He was a long, thin man, who generally spoke like an oracle.

"Well, but they might have taken the gold and left the note," opined Mr. Harptree, a little, round-faced parson of plain sense.

"I say, though," cried Sir Richard, interrupting them, "I see no ladder under the window; how on earth can the thieves have got off?" The worthy knight was craning out of the window, and all the others clustered round him. Staring into the night, they could see no sign of a ladder, and yet the ledge was so high from the ground that it was doubtful whether any burglar, however nimble in gymnastics, would have cared to drop off it on to the gravel path below. Again Colonel Deverill proffered the others his view of this matter, and seized the opportunity for showing his acumen by stating that it was only the novices in the burglar's art who left ladders under windows. "The knowing ones carry them to some distance off," added he.

"But why should they do that?" asked the parson.

"They know well enough," responded the Chief Constable, with a shake of the head; and he would vouchsafe no further explanation, not liking, apparently, that his remarks should be subjected to criticism.

By this time Lady Mizzle had somewhat recovered from her fainting fit, and came upstairs leaning on the arm of her friend, Mrs. Harptree. Her face was sorrowful, her step was unsteady, and at the sight of her empty jewel boxes she began to weep. The gentlemen tried in vain to offer consolation. Nothing they said could avail against the fact their fair hostess had lost property worth several thousands of pounds, and notably a "cat's-eye" that was quite unique. She kept alluding to this jewel as if she prized it above all the other things; so that at last poor Sir Richard was moved, and exclaimed: "Well, my dear, there are as good jewels in the shops as ever came out of them. If we don't find your own you must have new ones"—a sentiment which the ladies present thought most chivalrous, though it only drew from my lady a doleful whine.

While Sir Richard was speaking, young Percy Deverill, who stood near the open window, and had been attentively peering into the garden, suddenly exclaimed. "Why, look, there's Tiger prowling about the walk; and now I remember, he's been there all the time we were at dinner!"

"Well, what of that?" asked the Colonel, like an oracle who is not swift at seeing clues.

"Why, if anybody had gone out of this room through the window the dog would have barked like mad," answered Percy. "Egad, he'd have done more; he would have pinned at least one of them."

"What do you know about it?" ejaculated Lady Mizzle in irritation. She rose from her seat as she said this, shot an angry glance at the officer, and complained that it was bad enough to lose one's jewels without having nonsense talked about them. The company looked somewhat surprised at this outbreak.

"I did not mean to talk nonsense," stammered Percy reddening. "I only thought that by watching small signs we might be able to solve the mystery."

"I've lost my jewels; there's no mystery about that, and you had better leave the police to find out who took them," said Lady Mizzle sharply.

"Yes, quite right, leave it all to the police," assented the Chief Constable, and he led the way out. The other guests followed him, but Lady Mizzle tarried behind, and just as Percy was leaving the room she drew him back, pinched his arm severely, and whispered in his ear: "You fool!"

When all the guests had retired, Sir Richard, who was quite as much troubled about the robbery as his wife, begged her to make out a list of her jewels, that it might be sent to the police in London. My lady promised to have the list ready on the morrow, but begged her husband not to make her head split by alluding any more to the matter that night. This she said, because Sir Richard was beginning to mander some timid complaints as to her careless-

ness in leaving her jewels lying about. Like a prudent husband however, he now held his peace, for he disliked storms.

On the morrow a detective arrived at Redden Hall, sent by Colonel Deverill. He was a tall, sandy-haired, rosyfaced young man of about twenty-five, who had belonged to the county constabulary, but had been promoted to plain clothes duty on account of his great acuteness. He had the brightest blue eyes imaginable, and was altogether a most pleasant young man, whose deferential manners and smiling expression at once put him into the good graces of Lady Mizzle. Her ladyship had been rather nervous before his arrival, but on seeing him her brow cleared, and she proceeded, with great affability, to give him her account of the burglary. When her husband sought to interpose with some remarks of his own, she cut him short, saying: "No, Richard; let me explain things to Mr. Simpson. He will only get confused if he hears a dozen different versions. Isn't my version enough, Mr. Simpson?"

"Quite so, my lady," smiled that obliging young man.

"You say—h'm—that the jewels were of great value?"

"Oh, yes; worth ten thousand pounds at least," said Lady Mizzle with a sigh; "but I—I don't quite know how to describe all of them. I was about to propose that I should go up to London to see my jeweller and ask him for a detailed description of them."

"But the police will lose a whole day if you don't give them your list at once," demurred Sir Richard.

"Oh, no, Sir Richard; better let her ladyship get the correct list from the jeweller," rejoined the polite detective.

"You quite approve of my going to London, then Mr. Simpson?" inquired Lady Mizzle, affably. "If so, I will set off by the twelve o'clock train."

"You could not do better, my lady," answered the detective, bowing.

He was decidedly the nicest young man who had ever been employed in the dirty work of thief-hunting. He rose to hold the door open for Lady Mizzle as she left the room, and afterwards went out into the garden with Sir Richard, and talked about pheasants and field-mice. Only once did he allude to the subject of the burglary, and then it was to ask in a casual way:—

"There was a dog, I think you said, in the garden yesterday evening?"

"Yes, a big dog, called Tiger—very ferocious."

"And he never barked?"

"Not once."

"Ah! What a pretty maple-tree that is yonder, Sir Richard," said the detective, breaking off from the subject. "I think I will be off now to make my report to the Chief Constable."

"But may I ask, have you any suspicion as to who the offender can be?" asked Sir Richard, much puzzled by the officer's apparent lukewarmness.

"Oh, yes, I think I know who did it, sir," replied the detective. "And I think my lady won't be long getting her jewels back. Good morning, sir."

He lifted his hat, smiled sweetly at Lady Mizzle's husband, and strolled off at a leisurely pace through Redden park. But as soon as he was out of Sir Richard's sight, he ran like a hare across the fields towards the railway-station. There he whispered a few words to a porter, walked into the oil-lamp room, and presently emerged with a false beard and moustache on. Presently Lady Mizzle passed him on the platform without recognising him, and the pair travelled to London in the same train.

Lady Mizzle was accompanied by her maid; but, on arriving at Paddington, she took leave of her servant on the platform, and walked alone towards the cab-stand, where she hailed a four-wheeler. She carried a reticule in her hand and wore a thick veil. Mr. Simpson forthwith jumped into a hansom behind, and ordered the driver to follow the four-wheeler.

Lady Mizzle was driven to the establishment of a great jeweller and pawnbroker in the Strand—not her own jeweller, as Mr. Simpson knew. She remained inside half-an-hour, then came out much flushed, and, re-entering her cab, was taken to some chambers in St. James's-street. Of course Mr. Simpson followed, and this time he was made to wait an hour before he saw Lady Mizzle again. In the meantime he discharged his hansom, and employed his leisure in questioning the porter at the chambers, whose tongue he loosened with a half-sovereign. From this man he learned that Captain Percy Deverill lodged in the house.

So by-and-by, when Lady Mizzle came out alone, she was confronted by Mr. Simpson (without his false beard), who affably said: "Pardon me, Lady Mizzle, I am going upstairs to arrest Captain Deverill for stealing your jewels."

"Who told you that?" gasped her ladyship, who had turned deadly pale and trembled. "Whoever did—did so, told you a lie; he didn't steal them."

"You stole your own jewels, though, if I may use the expression and the Captain is an accessory by sharing in the proceeds of the affair, and as the jewels were in law your husband's, he is guilty of robbery."

"Captain Deverill was in want, he owed thousands of pounds, and he would have been dishonoured had he not paid," stammered Lady Mizzle, in violent emotion. "Mr. Simpson, don't expose me; how much will you take to hold your tongue?"

The detective cocked his head and cogitated for half-a-minute.

"You see, my lady, my professional reputation is at stake. If I expose you I shall have done a brilliant thing; if I fail to detect the robber of your jewels, I may pass for a duffer. So I want five hundred pounds, and as there is a police inspectorship vacant in our county, you must use your influence to get me appointed to it."

"Come down a side street with me," faltered Lady Mizzle, fumbling at her reticule; "but, I say, Mr. Simpson, not a word of this to Captain Deverill. He has no idea of how I got the money."

"By Jove, then, my lady, he is a lucky man to have such a friend as you," was the detective's admiring answer.

Mr. Simpson is now an inspector, and Lady Mizzle has a new set of jewels.—*Truth*.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XXXIII.

#### YORITOMO.

It was an evil omen for the Genji cause, this complete collapse of its supporters' first effort. In point of numbers indeed the victors had suffered far more than the vanquished, but this was scanty compensation for the loss of such men as the Lord Seneschal and the renowned knight Takeguchi. For the latter too had fallen, winning with infinite pains the death that came so easily to his comrades. To the very last the Heike men, remembering their chief's instructions and not unwilling themselves to assist the terrible revenge he had promised his insolent foe, exerted all their efforts to take the knight prisoner, but Takeguchi well understood what was in store for him should he fall alive into their hands. Fighting only with the object of selling life dearly, he and his son performed prodigies which were destined long to be recounted to breathless audiences beside the Taira camp-fires, and when their bodies were found on the river's bank after the fight, men fancied that the stream must have yielded up its dead to keep them company, so thickly were the corpses of their enemies strewn about the place where they lay.

Neither did any one of Yoritomo's sons survive their father. The youngest fell in the charge that rolled the wave of pursuit back from the place where the old nobleman kneeled down to die, and the eldest, cutting his way through and through his foes, reached the temple of Heito just as the knight who had carried thither the Lord Seneschal's head expired by his own hand before the chancel. Many days afterwards when the friars opened the cenotaph of their saint, some dark stains on the base of the pedestal attracted their attention, and searching behind the wainscot they found two heads, with difficulty identified as those of Yoritomo and his first-born. As for Kanetsura, who had ridden back alone to meet a clamorous enemy, he did no less valiantly than his brothers, for after a long and stubborn combat he carried off his challenger's head through a crowd of infuriated foes. But when, coming to the side of the lake, he found there his father's body, and knew that the old man waited for him on the road to the Happy Mountains, he made his way with one follower to the banks of the Yodo, trusting the deep river to grant him a grave his enemies might not disturb. There, not a moment too soon, for the tramp of pursuing feet was already audible, the man cut off his master's head, tied a heavy stone to the hair, and then stabbing himself, leaped into the water with his ghastly burden.

All tidings fly fast, and before Yoshitsune reached Oshiu the story of his uncle's suicide and the Prince's death was known in every province of Japan. The Lord Seneschal had been one of those that only need an opportunity to win affection, and Hidehira was not by any means the least warm of his admirers, so that the news of his miscarriage, following almost immediately upon the receipt of the Imperial Commission, prepared for Yoshitsune a welcome full of promise. Now for the first time there seemed to be hope of resolute action, and the old Earl declared himself ready to raise the white standard so soon as he received reliable assurance of coöperation from the provinces beyond his marches. In those days indeed, military chiefs found it more difficult to move their forces through a neutral country than an enemy's. Such a thing as an organized commissariat did not exist, and troops were obliged to depend on forced requisitions for the chief part of their supplies. Even within the boundaries of his own earldom, Hidehira had often experienced this embarrassment, and knowing famine to be stronger than either discipline or valour, it was not wonderful that he paused on the eve of an affair demanding such unimpaired strength as a struggle with the Taira supremacy.

So once more Yoshitsune was constrained to wait in-

active, and though his hope, finding often no sustenance save in the strength of his own purpose, waxed somewhat feeble as the summer months drifted by and brought the end no nearer, he was at any rate free from the doubts that had once caused him so much pain.

With the month of October, however, came tidings too glad to be at first altogether credible. His brother Yoritomo, they said, was encamped at Ichikawa on the borders of Shimotsuke with a force of from three to four score thousand men. Vague rumours of Yoritomo's doings had already reached Oshiu from time to time, but since they seemed to indicate a condition even more helpless than his own, they had only made Yoshitsune all the more anxious to obtain Hidehira's assistance. Now, however, his course was plain. Hastening to the Earl, he declared his intention of immediately going to join his brother and sharing whatever chances fortune might have in store for him. Hidehira warmly applauded this resolution and would have issued orders for the assembly of an ample force to follow his guests' pennoncelle, but Yoshitsune could no longer brook even an hour's delay. That same afternoon he set out from Oshiu with Benkei and Saburo riding at his side, and behind him three hundred knights and men-at-arms, most of whom bore names known beyond the borders of the northern provinces.

Some twenty years had elapsed since the sentence of death passed upon the Earl of Harima's eldest son had been commuted to one of banishment, ostensibly at the instance of Kiyomori's step-mother, Ikeno Ama. With the secret influences that really awayed the Heike chief the reader is already acquainted, but this action of Ikeno Ama's is not the less remarkable as an early instance of the strange attraction Yoritomo exercised upon all with whom he came in contact. The very man that took him prisoner and who, as a devoted liegeman of the House of Hei might have been expected to desire his death, was transformed, by a few days intercourse with his youthful captive, from a bitter enemy into a staunch friend. It was by his contrivance not only that Ikeno Ama's commiseration was excited, but also that the province of Idzu was subsequently chosen as Yoritomo's place of banishment; a selection which proved—as its instigator cannot but have foreseen—a most powerful factor in the result, since it established the exile in that part of Japan where of all others the friends and adherents of his clan were most numerous.

The rigours of political banishment in those days depended almost entirely on the disposition of the man to whose charge the exile was committed. There was absolutely no limit to the amount of restraint exercised, and if from its excess or any other similar cause the prisoner ceased to be a trouble to his enemies and a care to his keeper, the latter could be quite sure of immunity from all embarrassing investigation. Thus had Yoritomo been handed over to some warden who, besides being a staunch liegeman of the Taira clan, resided in a province where the Genji cause had few supporters, his name would probably be recorded by history only as another victim to the destructive might of the dominant faction. But neither of these conditions was fulfilled in his case, for the nobleman appointed to be his Governor was predisposed in his favour both by the memory of former benefits received at his father's hands and by the promptings of an allegiance which though abandoned was not forgotten. Thus it is not surprising to find that the restraint to which he was at first necessarily subjected gradually became of a most perfunctory character, and that before long nothing prolonged his exile but the absence of a useful occasion to terminate it.

At the time when the course of our story first brings him prominently before us, he was a man of medium stature, strongly built and well-favoured, but above all remarkable for a self-command so imperturbable that it was often mistaken for complete insensibility. That it was the outcome, however, of deliberate effort rather than of dispassion, not a few incidents in his most eventful career amply prove, though at the same time we may scarcely escape the conviction that one whom experience had often made intimate with the sternest forms of peril and grief, must in the end have acquired an almost unconscious mastery over the range of minor emotions.

Amongst those whom common interest and hereditary fealty attached to Yoritomo in the place of his exile, was one Ito Sukechika, a knight of considerable local influence

and holding a command in the Imperial Guards at Kiyoto. Sukechika had four daughters, of whom two were married but the third and most beautiful was still unbetrothed. Coming home one day from a residence of nearly three years in the capital where he had gone to perform his accustomed routine of duty at the palace, he observed in the garden of his house a lusty lad, whose age might have been measured by the same number of days as those of his own absence. Rendered suspicious by the evident anxiety of the child's nurse to conceal her charge, Sukechika made immediate inquiries, and found that the boy was his own daughter's offspring and that its father was no other than the exile, Yoritomo. There had been a time when the knight would have regarded such an event as the acme of honour and good fortune, but now, blinded by long contact with the unparalleled mastery and magnificence of the Heike, he was overtaken by a paroxysm of unreasoning wrath, and calling five of his vassals ordered them to carry the child to the 'White Waterfall' and throw it into the whirlpool of the cataract. The unhappy boy was just old enough to add his half incoherent supplications to those of the men who received this terrible commission, but without avail. The barbarity was perpetrated before sunset on the same day, and when the news reached Yoritomo that his child had been murdered and his wife given to another, an anguish so poignant may well have strained his hearts' chords beyond the possibility of easy vibration in the future. Yet even then he was able to separate his private sorrows from the interests of his cause and to postpone his revenge until its accomplishment might be undertaken without any sacrifice of the larger purpose that ruled his life. This subservience of passion and sentiment alike to one undeviating design affords the best possible index to the character of the iron-hearted man whose unhappy prejudice operated so sadly in the sequel.

Sukechika, however, did not credit the murdered child's father with so much forbearance. Deeming that impunity could only be purchased by Yoritomo's death, he set himself to compass that too, and would no doubt have succeeded, had not his son warned Yoritomo of his danger. That night the threatened man made his escape. To avoid attracting attention he took with him but one servant, who related afterwards that much of the time they could ill afford to waste, was spent by his master in prayer at the temple of the 'God of Battles,' and that he entreated the God again and again to strike him dead where he stood if he was destined neither to rebuild the fortunes of his house nor to be avenged on the murderer of his boy.

For many years after this Yoritomo's life was that of a defenceless outlaw. Now we find him winning the love of a noble lady; now dependent on the protection of a fraternity of friars, and though at no time in his career was he completely destitute of loyal followers, it is doubtful whether he could have commanded a score of swords for any enterprise when Prince Mochihito's commission reached him. Neither did the news of the Lord Seneschal's death and the complete failure of that first rebellion against the Heike rule by any means increase the enthusiasm of the Genji throughout the provinces. The Prince's warrant was of course rendered comparatively useless by his death, but an intrigue, into the particulars of which we need not enter here, had procured for the exile another document under the sign manual of the ex-emperor, authorizing him to assemble troops and drive the Taira nobles from their places of power at Kioto. Such a mandate seemed in truth a very mockery. As men said at the time, it was like giving the moth leave to beat out its life against the bronze lantern, but the astute old statesman, Kiyomori, knew better than to encourage that precursor of downfall, the confidence of unassailed strength. He declared that there could be no permanent peace in Japan until every Minamoto noble not yet attached to the Heike cause should have met with the fate a mistaken clemency had too long deferred, and the unfortunate ex-emperor, a very puppet in the hands of his uncompromising autocrat, actually signed a warrant for Yoritomo's death to be executed by the same power he had just authorized Yoritomo to overthrow!

It was the intelligence of this peril, intelligence conveyed by one who afterwards proved a wellnigh fatal foe, that decided Yoritomo to take the field at once. The muster-roll of those on whom he could certainly count contained only eighty-four names in all, neither might he look for

any accession of strength unless his first essay was crowned with signal success. Under these circumstances he resolved to open the campaign by a night attack on the castle of Kagetaka, vice-governor of Idzu, a staunch supporter of the Heike cause.

On the evening of the seventeenth of September, some three months after the events related in the preceding chapter, the little band assembled stealthily at their chief's house, and set out towards midnight on their perilous undertaking. Yoritomo did not accompany the party himself. A *mêlée* by moonlight needed nothing but stout hearts and tough sinews, and failure could only become disgraceful did the head of the Minamoto leader fall into his enemy's hands. The command was therefore given to a loyal knight, Tokimasa, Baron of Hojo, and it was arranged that the signal of success should be the firing of the Governor's castle, while in the event of failure, a messenger should be despatched to Yoritomo, who would thus have time to commit suicide before any active steps were taken to seize him.

Sympathy disposes us to linger beside the solitary watcher looking across the tranquil moonlight towards the woodland where Kagetaka's stronghold lies, rather than to follow the men on whose deeds his destiny depends. The strength of will that enables him to stand patient, importunate, until the flame shall leap up to inaugurate success, or the messenger of death come through the darkness, needs surely an exercise of courage in nothing inferior to the valour of those who so persistently renew their fruitless assaults upon the strong castle and its untiring garrison. Three hours have passed and there can no longer be any doubt that the attempt has proved unexpectedly difficult, if indeed it has not altogether miscarried, yet still Yoritomo preserves the same impassive mien, only now he has ceased to gaze across the valley, and sits with quiet eyes fixed upon a part of the road where the moon-beams fall unobstructed. It is there the messenger of ill tidings will first come into view, and before his shadow darkens the threshold, there will be ample time to complete all preparations for the deed his errand will necessitate.

And so indeed there would have been had Tokimasa's envoy been a foot soldier, but these two men riding furiously down the valley suggest a strange degree of precipitation. Yoritomo has hardly time to speculate on the purpose of their haste before they are kneeling at his feet and seeing that they are none of the eighty-four, but the brothers, Kotoda and Katoji, when an uncertain rumour had obliged him reluctantly to exclude from that night's enterprise, but of whose prowess none might suggest a doubt, he welcomes them with a warmth largely in excess of his wont.

The two men explain that they have divined something of the design on foot from their comrades' preparations, but that they cannot credit the misfortune of their own exclusion. If they have seemed to merit this mistrust, is it too late to reestablish their loyalty? To this Yoritomo replies, deliberately indeed but with his eyes still fixed on the moonlit road; that if their good faith has been for a moment in question, their coming at such a time completely removes all doubt. The white pennon has been unfurled to-night for better or for worse, and even now their comrades are engaged in an assault on Kagetaka's castle; an assault which has been continued so long without the signal of success that little remains but to prepare for the worst. Yet none the less will they merit his gratitude who have come in time to help their chief to die.

The brothers spring to their feet with a strength of energy that kindles even Yoritomo's dispassion. Whether friend or foe has failed, all is not lost so long as two blades remain unblunted, and though their arms may be weaker than many of those that have hitherto been numbered that night by the Heike arrows, they swear to bring back Kagetaka's head before dawn or leave their own in his hands.

With this they are hastening out when Yoritomo calls them back, laughing at their impetuosity. A sword he says is a bad weapon at night, for darkness often makes accident stronger than skill at too close quarters. Here is a glaive that belonged to his father and which has never hitherto failed in either point or parry. If any truncheon of steel be worthy to win the Genji cause its first victory, it is surely this; and as Katoji stretches out an arm in which the mountains of muscle are plainly discernible through the chain brassart, Yoritomo is possibly disposed



to add that if any man be worthy to wield the precious weapon it is surely the clear-eyed soldier who grasps it as proudly.

At the castle, however, the weariness of failure repeated and wounds unavenged, is beginning to daunt the assailants. They have retired behind a hill and are hoping against hope that their leaders may presently devise some means of bringing them within striking distance of their foes, when the two brothers gallop up. These, briefly describing their interview with Yoritomo and showing the well known glaive as a proof of his restored favour, ask permission to strike a blow while those who have hitherto borne the burthen of the fight are gathering strength for a fresh attempt. Tokimasa, the captain of the troop, is right willing to sanction this request, and would gladly give his old friends some information to lighten the peril they are about to encounter, but he has learned nothing himself in his five assaults, except that there is a deep fosse with a barbican and a raised drawbridge, and that at one of the tourelles stands an archer who names himself Sekiya Hachiro each time he shoots, and whose shafts have never once missed their mark.

"So be it," says Katoji. "You have made the way ready for us, and it will be a small thing to fall where you have not yet altogether succeeded. Give us, I pray you, a pair of stout shield-bearers, and half a dozen pavises to form a bridge. At the worst we shall help to expend the arrows in the castle armoury."

Many a victory has been on the verge of attainment when the battle seemed most hopeless. Arrived at the fosse, the brothers launch their bridge and gain a footing in the gateway unopposed, not knowing that the shower of shafts before which their comrades have been fain to retire for the fifth time, were the last in the quivers of the besieged. The gate is prized open, and some stark blows are struck at the foot of the barbican, for the few that still fight within are men that prefer death to flight, but castles are seldom garrisoned by soldiers that may match such swordsmen as Katodo and Katoji. The clash of arms has been exchanged for the groans of the dying, when there steps from the vestibule a man of huge stature carrying a mighty bow across his shoulder. "I am Sekiya Hachiro," he says, "If your leader be not a craven, I challenge him to come forward, for I have but one arrow left and it shall not be wasted on any common soldier."

The unerring archer's name had so often proved the prelude of death that at its mention the assailants involuntarily retire to the shelter of the gateway, and there this extraordinary dialogue is presently carried on.

"You have heard yonder knight's words, Susaki," says Katoji, addressing a man who has kept at his side through all the chances of the fight. "He will make good his promise, and there is neither corselet nor camail that can turn his last shaft aside."

"His aim may be shrewd, master," replies the other wonderingly, "but methinks I serve one who takes small note of such threats."

"Yet it is even as I say, Susaki. That arrow carries certain death and if I fall, the promise I have made our chief must remain unfulfilled. Can you do me a last service in this matter?"

"Speak on, master. My life is yours if it can be of any avail."

"And it is your life I ask you to give me. Take my helmet and pass within the portals calling yourself by my name. It may not be that Sekiya's aim will fail, but come what will, you shall be amply avenged."

"Nay, master, for am I not sufficiently rewarded by your confidence? Give me your helmet and let me begone quickly, lest I lose the occasion of so welcome an errand."

Katoji's fingers falter strangely as he unties his helmet, but the other lends him impatient aid. The details of the disguise are of small moment, for the moon is just sinking through a bank of heavy clouds, and the archer will have barely light to see his arrow tip. Susaki is turning to enter the court-yard when Katoji draws him back and says in a husky voice:—"Do you leave nothing behind you that will enable me to show my gratitude for this service?"

The eyes of the two men meet and neither speaks for a moment. At last Susaki replies with a light laugh: "I am not formed for winning hearts, master, and few, I trow, will be much the sorer for my loss. I might perhaps com-

mend my old mother to your care, but she was your own nurse, and my heart were less glad now did I not know that your memory is as unfailling as your sword."

With that he breaks away from the other's reluctant grasp and is immediately lost in the darkness. Katoji kneels down and listens with bated breath, great drops of anguish starting on his forehead. He hears the sound of raised voices within the court-yard, after which there is a moment of silence, then the twanging of a bow-string, and then a man staggers towards the gateway, groping his way with out-stretched hands like one stricken by sudden blindness. Katoji catches him in his arms and laying him down gently, sees that an arrow full fifteen hands long and twice as thick as an ordinary shaft has pierced his throat from side to side. He unlaces the dying man's helmet and closing his sightless eyes waits until the gasping struggle has ceased.

The next moment he is standing before the vestibule shouting angry defiance to the archer. This time, he says, the true Katoji is there, and Sekiya, understanding that he has been deceived, leaps forth angrily sword in hand. The two men are well matched, for if the Genji knight has the tougher sinews, his opponent's is certainly the nimbler foot. At last however, Katoji manages to grapple with his foe, and after a long struggle in which now one, now the other, is uppermost, the archer's head is thrown through the gate and falls at the side of the loyal Susaki.

Katoji takes up his glaive and passing into the castle searches warily for its master. His progress is only once opposed, and that by a friar who rushing blindly on the intruder, falls pierced from breast to backbone. "The glaive is in truth a wondrous weapon," soliloquizes Katoji, as he shakes the blood from the blade. "It divides bones as easily as though they were grasshoppers' wings."

So he goes on from room to room until presently he finds himself in one that shows evidence of very recent occupation. A lamp but lately trimmed is burning brightly before the alcove, and beside it are a bear-skin cushion and a silksurocoat. The searcher peers round cautiously, and through a half open sliding door in the path of lamp-light detects something like the end of a red crape girdle behind the pillar. Thereupon he unlaces his helmet, and poising it on the end of his glaive thrusts it through the open door. The ruse is completely successful. A sweeping swordcut crashes down on the steel curtain, and the blade meeting no opposition, sinks deep into the soft wood of the door-post. It was never withdrawn, for so soon as Katoji danced out of the vestibule with Kagetaka's head on the point of his glaive, the Genji men fired the castle, and Yoritomo at last saw the long expected signal flash up among the pine trees on the hill side.

(To be continued.)

#### DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

When winter stern  
And cold, begins to reign;  
Then let us turn  
To sports like these again.

1.

Would you obtain  
This light, then persevere,  
For all you gain,  
Well earned, will prove more dear.

2.

Soar, songster sweet!  
Above the world so high;  
It is a treat  
To hear thee in the sky.

3.

A Queen, most fair,  
Most false—did conscience bring  
No thought to spare,  
Her murdered Lord and King.

4.

Pay all you owe,  
You'll never be in trouble;  
But should this grow,  
'Twill doubtless cost you double.

5.

A gentle muse:  
Through whose soft tones we feel  
More, than the use  
Of words can e'er reveal.

SAYONARA.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC OF JAN. 17TH, BY "FELTIN."

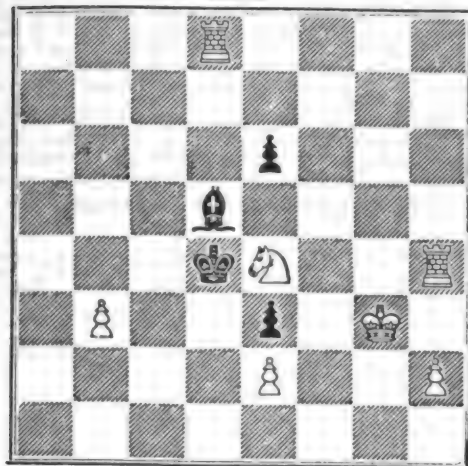
Handlun	Good bye.
HousewarminG	
O verd O	
O tt O	
D ullar D	
L am B	
U sur Y	
M ignonett E	

Correct answers received from Old friend. Tipstaff, Zulu, Snipe  
Come-back-again, Trunips, Motomura, Farewell and Zingra.

## CHESS PROBLEM,

BY G. GROVES.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF JAN. 17TH, BY "W. E."

White.

1—K. to Kt. sq.

2—K. takes P.

3—R. takes P. mate.

Black.

1—P. takes Q. check.

2—K. moves.

Correct answers received from W.H.S., Q., and V.d.P.

## NEXT MAIL DUE FROM

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.		
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Feb.	9th*
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Jan.	31st†
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Feb.	7th
HONGKONG .....	M. B. Co.	Feb.	2nd
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Feb.	11th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.		
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Jan.	29th

\* Left San Francisco, 17th January, *Belgie*.† Left Hongkong, 23th January, *Tibre*.

## NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Feb.	14th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Jan.	26th
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.		
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG, .....	P. & O. Co.	Jan.	31st
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG, .....	M. M. Co.	Jan.	26th
HONGKONG, VIA KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Feb.	7th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.		
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.		
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Jan.	28th

## LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

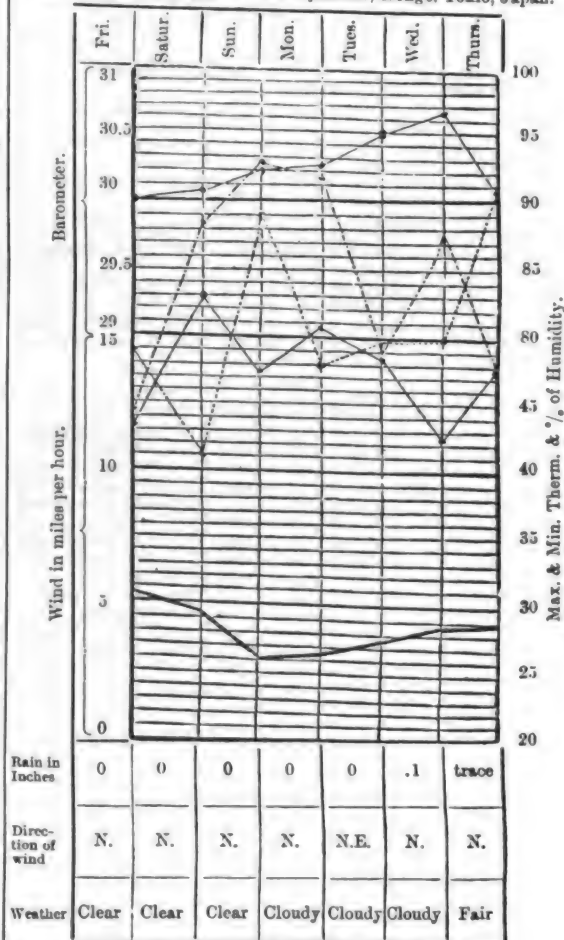
Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red): barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground): brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground): schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as seen as it can be made out.

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 16TH, 1880.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujimicho, Hong6, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. &amp; min. thermometers.

Dashed line—represents velocity of wind

.....percentage of humidity

Max. velocity of wind 32 miles per hour on Thursday, 9 a.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer was 30.430 inches on Tuesday at 10 p.m.; and the lowest was on Thursday at 7 a.m., being 29.865 inches. Throughout the whole week the barometer has been unusually high. The minimum temperature has been continually below the freezing point, the lowest record having been reached on Saturday, which was 23°. 5. On Wednesday, a very small quantity of hail fell, and there was also a trace of snow on the same day.

## NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 24th January, 1880.)

		Yen Satz.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
		A.M.	Noon	Clos- ing.				
1880.								
Monday.....	Jan. 19	550	546	546½	369	326	113	102
Tuesday.....	" 20	546	544	544½	—	—	—	—
Wednesday.....	" 21	544	546	548	—	—	—	—
Thursday.....	" 22	549	548	548	—	—	—	—
Friday.....	" 23	549	550	549	—	—	—	—
Saturday.....	" 24	547½	546	547	—	—	—	—

## YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.15, 1.30, and 4 P.M.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—7.0 and 9.45 A.M. and 12 noon; 1.30 and 4 P.M.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Jan. 18, American steamer *City of Tokio*, Maury, 5,050, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to P. M. S. S. Co.  
 Jan. 18, French steamer *Tolga*, Guiraud, 1,502, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 19, Japanese steamer *Kanamoto Maru*, Drummond, 1,913, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 19, Japanese steamer *Shio Maru*, Thompson, 800, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 19, American ship, *Titan*, Barry, 1,229, from Cardiff, coal General, to M. M. Co.  
 Jan. 22, Japanese steamer *Nagaya Maru*, Wynn, 1,260, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 21, Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, Pym, 313, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 23, British steamer *China*, Alderton, 1,030, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.  
 Jan. 23, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 24, Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru*, Peters, 1010, from Kobe.  
 Jan. 24, British steamer *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,652, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer *Tolga* from Hongkong:—Messrs. Nagamini, Legrand, Clement, Fitzgerald (2), Micquel, Zicavo, Da Silva.  
 Per American steamer *City of Tokio* from San Francisco:—Mr. M. Goklie, Mr. E. Silvester, Mr. G. Toggi, Miss D. Woolston, Miss S. H. Woolston, Miss L. Nelson, Judge J. D. Caton, wife and maid, Messrs. T. B. Tone, Otto Wetzell, J. Waid Hall, H. Davis, wife and child, J. Winckler, J. J. Coffey, A. J. Caton and wife, R. T. Bridgman and E. Stricken in cabin for Yokohama; Rev. William Ashimen and wife and 591 Chinese, for Hongkong.  
 Per Japanese steamer *Nagaya Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Messrs. A. Reimers, D. Reynolds, C. J. Von Doorn, Kitagaki, Sakai, Kotsuda, Hara, Kawano, Fuyama, Yamagawa, Naito, Daidoji, Nagasaka, Hori, Ishimaru, Fujishashi, Hori, Hagiwara, Asai, Asada, Nakamura, Sokino, Watanabe, Isobe, Kuma, Matsuoka, Mr. and Mrs. Takasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Iwamura, Mrs. Watanabe and daughter, Mrs. Nomura in cabin; 232 Japanese, 1 Chinese and 1 foreigner in steerage.  
 Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* from Hongkong and Kobe:—Mr. Wilson, L. Todd, U.S.N., Captain Connor, Mr. Oliver Smith. In the steerage 3 Chinese and 22 Japanese.  
 Per British steamer *China* from Hongkong:—Rev. E. C. Irwine, Mr. W. Powell, Mr. and Mrs. F. Jackson and infant; and 64 Chinese in steerage.  
 Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong:—T. A. Singleton and servant, and 4 Chinese. San Francisco: H. McFarland, N. McLeod, J. Tath, and 161 Chinese.  
 Per Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru* from Kobe:—Messrs. Morris, Mathews, Ishie, (Telegraph Department), Emuyc, (Kobe Section Railway), Mr. and Mrs. Nishikawa, (Osaka Mint).

## OUTWARDS.

Jan. 20, American steamer *City of Tokio*, Maury, 5,050, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. Co.  
 Jan. 20, American barque *Nippon*, Rogers, 1,095, for Kobe, part of original cargo from New York, by Messrs. J. D. Carroll & Co.  
 Jan. 21, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 23, British barque *Sarah Scott*, Estall, 665, for Kobe, General, despatched by L. Kniffier & Co.  
 Jan. 23, Japanese steamer *Shio Maru*, Thompson, 800, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and way ports:—Mrs. Kirkwood, Misses Woolston (2), Mr. and Mrs. Davis and child, Miss A. Nelson, Mrs. Fujita, Miss Ford, Messrs. Ohno, Nakamura, Iwakura, Kato, Fooker, Braga, Kishida, Okazaki, Baron Van Seckendorff, Rev. J. L. Amerman, Capt. Hansen, Dr. Hall, Messrs. Almeida, T. Coffey, Hagart, E. C. Kirby, Motokoe, M. C. Adams, Willey, C. Stacken, Kumamoto, Kitasato, and Nagasaki.

## CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio* from San Francisco:—  
 Cargo ... .. 1,859 tons  
 Mails ... .. 44 pkgs.  
 Treasure ... .. \$1,122,907.00  
 Per French steamer *Tolga*, from Hongkong:—  
 Transhipment ... .. 3,061 pkgs.  
 Local ... .. 498 "  
 Total ... .. 3,559 pkgs.  
 Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—  
 Treasure ... .. \$15,200.00  
 " ... .. yen 3,660.00  
 Per Japanese steamer *Nagaya Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—  
 Treasure ... .. \$26,142.20  
 Per British steamer *China* from Hongkong:—  
 Hemp ... .. 376 pkgs.  
 Sugar ... .. 471 bags.  
 Merchandise ... .. 785 pkgs.  
 Sundries ... .. 994 "

## REPORTS.

The French steamer *Tolga* reports:—Left Hongkong 9th January at 7.30 a.m. Had very heavy weather throughout, with heavy gales from the N.E., continually shipping heavy seas. Arrived in Yokohama on the 18th at 4 p.m.

The American ship *Titan* reports: Left Cardiff on the 2nd of August, 1879; had light N.E., and fresh S.E. Trades in the Atlantic. Ran the casting down on the 40th parallel before fresh westerly winds, and experienced fresh S.E. trades to Sandalwood Island. Came through the Gilolo passage with light winds and calm, and had 14 days' calm weather off Lord North's Island, in the South Pacific. Had moderate N.E. trades and fine weather, with fresh N.W. gales, off the coast of Japan. Arrived in port on the 19th of January. Passage, 168 days.

The British steamer *China* reports: Left Hongkong 4.48 p.m. 14th January. Arrived at Yokohama 1.45 a.m. 23rd. Experienced very strong N.E. winds with heavy sea throughout.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* reports: Experienced very strong N.E. winds and heavy sea to Kobe, from Kobe to Rock Island, fresh W. and N. westerly winds, thence to port, strong N.E. winds.

The British steamer *Gaelic* reports: Left Hongkong at 3 p.m. on the 17th instant, arrived here at 3 a.m. on the 24th instant, having had strong N.E. monsoon in the China sea, and moderate variable weather on the Japan Coast.

The Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru* reports: Left Kobe at 5 p.m. on the 22nd instant, arrived Yokohama at 6 a.m. 24th instant. Experienced very strong N.E. winds and heavy sea throughout.

## VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

## SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charlwood	LONDON	Yokohama
Nov. 5	Crossfield	"	"
" 5	Bundaleer	"	"
" 5	Escambia (s.s.)	"	"
" 17	Killarney (s.s.)	"	"
" 19	Glenfinlas (s.s.)	"	"
" 24	Glenlyle (s.s.)	"	"
" 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
July 2	Fleetwing	NEW YORK	"
Aug. 2	Kate Davenport	"	"
" 9	Oakland	"	"
" 30	Hagarstown	"	"
Sept. 3	Mervia	"	"
" 3	Clydesdale	"	"
" 3	Larnaca	"	"
" 25	Merom	"	"
" 26	Clydesdale	"	"
Oct. 8	St. Charles	"	"
" 10	Columbia	"	Hiogo
" 25	L. J. Morse	"	Yokohama
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 7	Centennial	"	"
" 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
" 21	Mmanuel Ilagudo	"	"
Dec. 1	Paul Revere	"	"
Aug. 17	Collietream	HAMBURG	"
Nov. 5	Hesperia	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Oct. 17	Glenhuntingley	SUNDERLAND	"
" 26	Sea King	PHILADELPHIA	Hiogo
Nov. 10	H. H. McGilvery	"	Nagasaki

## LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Nov. 28	Flintshire (s.s.)	LONDON	Yokohama
" 28	Benarty (s.s.)	"	"
" 28	Crossfield	"	"
" 28	Ullock	"	"
Dec. 18	Susan Gilman	NEW YORK	"
" 18	Alice Buck	"	Hiogo
Nov. 25	Lydia	HAMBURG	Yokohama
" 25	River Logan	"	"
" 27	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 27	Vale of Nith	"	"

## YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

## DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	1.30	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

## UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0



## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND RIG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
China	Alderton	British steamer	1,030	Hongkong	Jan. 23	P. & O. Co.
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Gaelic	Kidley	British steamer	2,652	Hongkong	Jan. 24	O. & O. Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Jan. 22	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru		Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13/78	M. B. Co.
Takasago Maru	Young	Japanese steamer	1,230	Kobe	Jan. 15	M. B. Co.
Tanais	De la Marcella	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	" 3	M. M. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	" 18	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Clifton	Mailler	British barque	384	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Clyde	Romney	British barque	456	Newcastle, N.S.W.	" 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary P. Bohm		German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Lenard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	" 24	Walsh, Hall & Co.
North Star	Janssen	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	" 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Richard Robinson	Smith	American ship	1,652	New York	Jan. 1	C. & J. Trading Co.
Sooloo	Allen	American ship	963	New York	" 21	Smith, Baker & Co.
Titan	Barry	American ship	1,240	Cardiff	Jan. 19	M. M. Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH.—Hornet ... ..	4	584	506	Gun-vessel	Kobe	Com. J.S. Eaton
" Swinger ... ..	4	430	451	Gun-boat	Kobe	Lieut. Com. Tudor
FRENCH.—Champlain ... ..	10	1,901	—	Corvette	Chefoo	Com. Michaud
AMERICAN.—Alert ... ..	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
ITALIAN.—Vettor Pisani ... ..	12	1,800	—	Corvette	Yokosuka	H.R.H. Duke of Genoa
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ... ..	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostock	Captain Schance
" Crayser ... ..	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Cruise	Captain Nazimoff

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ... ..	Tanais	M. M. Co.	Jan. 26th, at 9 A.M.
Hongkong ... ..	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 7th, at 4 P.M.
London via Kobe and China ... ..	Glengyle	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	Quick despatch.
Melbourne via Kobe ... ..	Clyde	Walsh, Hall & Co.	About Jan. 27th.
New York via Hongkong ... ..	R. Robinson	Edward Fischer & Co.	Quick despatch.
New York via Kobe ... ..	Sooloo	Walsh, Hall & Co.	Quick despatch.
San Francisco ... ..	Gaelic	O. & O. Co.	Jan. 26th, at 4 P.M.
Shanghai, &c. ... ..	Takasago Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 28th, at 4 P.M.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

**HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

PAY-UP CAPITAL ... .. \$5,000,000.  
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,200,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. SARSON, Esq.  
Deputy Chairman—WM. H. FORBES, Esq.

E. R. Bellio, Esq., H. L. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppius, Esq.,  
Hon. W. Keawick, Adam Lind, Esq., Wilhelm Reiners, Esq.,  
W. S. Young.  
Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

## LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillpots, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.  
E. F. Duncanson, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.  
Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

## SHANGHAI.

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo, Hankow,  
Saigon,  
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

## YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

I tares allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.  
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o  
" " " 6 " " 4 "  
" " " 3 " " 4 "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description  
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,  
India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

A. M. TOWNSEND, Acting Manager.  
Yokohama, April 13, 1878. 6mly.

## MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA, (HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

PRIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class,  
let at the rate of from 50 sen to 80 sen per day, and  
from 12 yen to 20 yen per month.

## BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class.....	{ 1.50 yen per day, or
	{ 40.00 " " month.
3rd class.....	{ 1.00 yen per day, or
	{ 28.00 " " month.

All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or  
small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates,  
for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood  
of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged  
from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

  
**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.  
Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tf.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## W. & A. GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS.

W. & A. GILBEY have special facilities for carrying  
on an extensive Foreign Trade, having held for  
many years in their Excise Bonded Stores, for the purpose  
of their Home Trade, a stock of not less than 12,000  
Casks of Wines and Spirits, which are equally  
available for Export. These stores are by far the largest  
private Duty Free Warehouses in the World, and are under  
the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially at-  
tached to these Warehouses.

THE EXTENT of W. & A. Gilbey's purchases enables them  
to give the best VALUE to the public, as a twentieth part of  
the Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom is  
supplied from their stock. In the year 1876 W. & A.  
Gilbey paid duty on 1,881,049 gallons of Wines and Spirits,  
and the average quantity bottled and sent out by them  
daily was 3,050 dozens or 36,600 bottles.

QUALITY is guaranteed by W. & A. Gilbey, and is the same  
whether the Wines or Spirits are obtained direct from their  
Head Establishments or from any of their Agents. The  
purity and genuineness of every article in this list are  
guaranteed in accordance with Act of Parliament, 38 and  
39 Vict., Cap. 63.

W. & A. Gilbey have always adhered to the *standard* of  
Bottle Measure recently recognised by the Government,  
namely—

6 bottles contain one gallon; 12 half-bottles contain  
one gallon.

SECURITY is ensured to the purchaser, each bottle bearing  
W. & A. Gilbey's *seal* and *label* guaranteeing *quality* and  
*measure*, and the *strength* also in the case of Spirits.

## W. &amp; A. Gilbey's Head Establishments:—

England.—(Offices) Pantheon, Oxford Street, London;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Oval Road, Camden  
Town, London.

Ireland.—(Offices) Upper Sackville Street, Dublin;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Upper Sackville St.,  
Dublin.

Scotland.—(Offices) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Haymarket, West  
End, Edinburgh.

France.—Principal Establishment, Chateau Loudenne,  
near St. Estephe, Medoc.

Excise Bonded Stores.—Warehouses, Nos. 1 to 5, North-  
Western Goods Station, and Bonny Street,  
Camden Town, London.

Distillery.—James Street, Camden Town, London.

Printing Department.—Poland Street, Oxford Street,  
London.

**J. J. GARGAN,**  
**ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,**  
No. 88, Creek Side.

Machinery of all kinds overhauled and  
Repaired.

House Building and Repairs Con-  
tracted for.

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

**YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE.****NOTICE.**

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the  
MEMBERS will be held at the rooms of the  
Chamber,

**On Monday, February 2nd,**

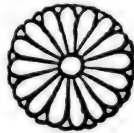
**At 2.30 p.m.,**

for the purpose of Receiving the Annual Report; electing  
Officers for the ensuing year; and for General Business.

By Order,

G. K. DINSDALE,  
*Secretary.*

Yokohama, January 21st, 1880.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.**

No. 5 of the 12th Year of Meiji, (1879.)

**KINKWASAN LIGHTHOUSE.  
STEAM FOG SIREN.**

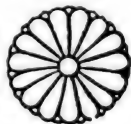
THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives  
notice that a steam Fog Siren has been erected at  
Kinkwasan Lighthouse on the Island of Kinkwasan, East  
coast of Japan.

The Siren will be sounded during fogs, snow storms, or  
other causes that may render the outline of the coast in-  
distinct during the day, or the light by night.

The blast from the Siren will be of 5 seconds' duration  
with intervals of 55 seconds.

YAMADA AKIYOSHI.  
*Minister of Public Works.*

Tokai, 27th December, 1879.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.****MOTOYAMA BUOY.**

**SUWO-NADA, INLAND SEA.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this BUOY  
which was advertised as having broken adrift from  
its moorings on the 5th November last, has been replaced  
in its position.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,  
Benten,  
Yokohama, 17th January, 1880.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**YOUNG JAPAN,**

**YOKOHAMA AND YEDO :**

A NARRATIVE OF

**THE SETTLEMENT AND THE CITY,**

FROM THE

SIGNING OF THE TREATIES IN 1858,

TO

THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1879 :

With a glance at

**THE PROGRESS OF JAPAN,**

DURING A PERIOD OF

TWENTY-ONE YEARS.

*On the 31st January, 1880,*

**THE FIRST VOLUME**

Will be Published,

FROM THE MAKING OF THE TREATIES IN 1858,

TO THEIR

RATIFICATION BY THE MIKADO IN 1866.

**PRICE ... .. \$5.**

AS the first issue must necessarily be strictly limited to  
Subscribers, the Publishers will feel obliged by all  
who desire early copies, sending in their names as early as  
possible.

KELLY & CO.

28, Yokohama,  
13th January, 1880.

**SARGENT, FARSAIR & CO.,**

**No. 80, Main Street,**

**HAVE NOW PUBLISHED A NEW**

**LITHOGRAPHIC MAP**

**Of the Foreign Settlement and Bluff  
of Yokohama.**

This Map has been compiled with the greatest care, and  
is correct according to the best authority.

It will be ready for delivery on Monday the 22nd instant.  
As the Edition is small, those desiring a copy who have not  
already subscribed can see an advance copy, and subscribe  
for same upon application to Publishers.

**PRICE:**

In Sheets..... \$1.00  
Mounted under glass ready for hanging..... \$1.50  
Yokohama, December 18th, 1879.

**C. GIUSSANI,**  
**PUBLIC SILK INSPECTOR,**  
**No. 168, Swamp.**

Yokohama, August 12, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

# ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

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BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERRY.

Manufacture all kinds of

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Windows. Casements.  
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.  
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTHES & PORTABLE FORGES  
12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.*

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LONDON.

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## NOTICE.

TRANSLATIONS from JAPANESE into ENGLISH  
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Japanese who is well versed in the English Language, and  
familiar with Commercial and Legal technicalities.

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H. MacARTHUR'S Office,

NO. 179.

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promptly translated at small cost.

Yokohama, January 13th, 1880.

1f

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION MEDICINAL FOOD**  
**MOORE'S**

IN CONJUNCTION WITH

**WASTING DISEASES**  
IMPROVES THE APPETITE  
Increases Strength and Weight.  
Bottles 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d. and 6s.

**SAVORY BEST FOOD FOR INFANTS**  
**MOORE'S**

SUPPLIED TO THE

**ROYAL NURSERIES.**  
THE MOST DIGESTIBLE,  
CONTAINS  
THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF  
NOURISHMENT in the  
MOST CONVENIENT FORM.  
In Tins 1s., 2s., 3s., 4s., and 10s.

**SAVORY Datura Tatula Inhalations**  
**MOORE'S**

**FOR ASTHMA**  
Asthma & Difficult Breathing  
promptly relieved and paroxysms  
averted by  
Datura Tatula Inhalations  
Testimonials accompanying each  
box of Cigarettes, Cigars and  
Pillules. Tins, in the economical  
form of Cigarettes, 1s. 6d. and 3s. 6d.  
for bottles, from 2s. 6d. to 21s.

143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &c., everywhere.

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE



MARK.

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PATENT AIR CHAMBER

HATS AND HELMETS,  
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AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters  
and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS,  
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

## DINNEFORD'S

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY  
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,  
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists  
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

THE SAFEST MILD  
APERIENT FOR DELICATE  
CONSTITUTIONS, LADIES,  
CHILDREN AND INFANTS,  
AND FOR REGULAR USE  
IN WARM CLIMATES.

## FLUID MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout  
the World.

March 30, 1879.

1y

## MISCELLANEOUS.

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WILDEN WORKS.  
STOURPORT, ENGLAND.

**SHEET IRON,**

BRANDED  
"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."  
**TIN PLATES,**  
BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"  
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Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,  
and Close Annealed.

Export Agents—

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April 6, 1878. 52ins.

**KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES,**

COUGHS,  
ASTHMA,  
BRONCHITIS,  
ACCUMULATION OF PHLEGM.

Composed of the purest articles. These Lozenges contain no opium nor any deleterious drug, therefore the most delicate can take them with perfect confidence. Their beneficial effect is speedy and certain. The old unailing family remedy is daily recommended by the most eminent Physicians. (In use nearly 60 years).

**MEDICAL TESTIMONY.**

July 25th, 1877. 22, Cold Harbour Lane, London.

Sir,—Your Lozenges are excellent, and their beneficial effects most reliable. I strongly recommend them in cases of Cough and Asthma. You are at liberty to state this as my opinion, formed from many years experience.

J. BRINGLOE, M.R.C.S.L., L.S.A., L.M.

Mr. T. KEATING, Indian Medical Service.  
Dear Sir,—Having tried your Lozenges in India, I have much pleasure in testifying to their beneficial effects in cases of Incipient Consumption, Asthma and Bronchial Affections. I have prescribed them largely, with the best results.

W. B. G.—, Apothecary, H.M.S.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are sold by all Chemists, in bottles, of various sizes, each having the words "KEATING'S Cough Lozenges" engraved on the government stamp.

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A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.—SOLD IN BOTTLES BY ALL CHEMISTS.

Proprietor, THOMAS KEATING, London,  
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April, 1879.

5in.

**ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,**

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MANCHESTER,  
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CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND  
EXPORTERS

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

**MACHINERY.**

May 4, 1878.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

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**WONDER OF MODERN TIMES  
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL CAKER,

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**SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!  
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.**

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a ten-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World

May 17th, 1873.

11.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA  
EXHIBITION, 1876."

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**WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH**

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1S., 2S. AND 4S. EACH.

**OAKEY'S**

**INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS**

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

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[NON-MERCURIAL].  
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

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**WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD**

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1LB., 2LB. & 4LB. EACH, & 15L. BOXES.

**JOHN OAKEY & SONS**  
MANUFACTURERS OF  
WIRE, CLOTH, RUBBER, LEAD, & GLASS PAPER  
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.

July, 1879.

52ins.

Printed and published for the Proprietors by the Manager  
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16 Bund  
Yokohama.

# THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF  
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. IV. No. 5.]

Yokohama, January 31, 1880.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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## THE POSTAL SERVICE.

ONLY forty years have elapsed since Mr. Rowland Hill's scheme for the improvement of the British postal system came into operation in the United Kingdom. Since then the organization has been copied in almost every one of its first details, and subsequently in the added improvements, by every civilized nation in the world. One of the surest indices of the beauty and perfectness of the modern postal plan drafted by the English reformer is the ease with which it adapts itself to the requirements of every nation, and the symmetry which it everywhere displays. It is now nearly nine years since Japan under skilled guidance furnished, at her own request, by the United States, introduced a general postal system on the western model into her territory, with the result that at this day she possesses control not only of the domestic but foreign branches of transmission of all kinds of correspondence, and has shown that the department entrusted with the work is in no respects inferior in the detail and ensemble of its constitution to those of the countries from which she first derived instruction in the matter. Probably not one foreign nation is in a better financial position than Japan in regard to the postal part of its administration.

About the first thing that meets the eye when looking at the eighth report of the Japanese Postmaster General is the statement of profits accruing to his department during the fiscal year which terminated on the 30th day of June, 1879. Revenues exceeded expenditures by Yen 122,978.08 or 14.9 per cent, a return which would probably satisfy most foreign firms doing business in the East. We are told that "Every account has shown a more favourable balance than was anticipated. The estimated revenues for the past year were Yen 870,000.00 while the actual receipts were Yen 949,347.01, an increase of Yen 79,347.01 over the estimates. The estimated expenditures

were Yen 799,952.00 while the actual disbursements were Yen 826,378.98 or Yen 26,426.98 more than the estimates. The increase of the revenues over those of the preceding year was Yen 138,198.57 or a little over 17 per cent, and Yen 255,245.09 or about 36.8 per cent, over those of the year ended the 30th day of the 6th month, 10th Year of Meiji (1877). A comparison of the expenditures with those of the preceding year shows an increase of Yen 85,819.75 or about 11.6 per cent, and Yen 57,162.51 or a little more than 7.4 per cent, compared with the expenditures of the year ended 30th day of the 6th month, 10th Year of Meiji (1877)." Within about Yen 5,000, the whole of the revenues were derived from the sale of postage stamps and cards, wrappers and envelopes, and money order fees, the small balance being contributed by box rents, transportation of closed British mails between this port and Shanghai, Savings Banks, and Yen 169 from miscellaneous sources. The future of the institution seems to be as full of promise as the past has exceeded anticipated results. The estimated revenues for the next fiscal year are Yen 1,050,000.00 which is Yen 100,642.99, or a little over 10.6 per cent, more than the actual revenues of the past year. At the same time, the estimated expenditures for the next fiscal year are Yen 1,050,000.00 which is Yen 923,621.02, or about 27.1 per cent, more than the actual outlay of the past year. The latter increase is for the purpose of extending postal routes, increasing the number and salaries of postal employes and for the erection of new Post Office buildings. In this connection confidence is expressed that, although the estimates for revenues and expenditures for the next fiscal year are equal in amount, the revenues will greatly exceed the expenditures, as has been the case in the past year. Reference is made to the past and present condition of the service to justify the prediction thus ventured upon.

The gross number of communications and parcels of all description forwarded through the postal department in the period under consideration was 55,775,206. Of these, domestic newspapers were 11,208,781, an increase of 2,587,624, or a little more than 16.5 per cent, over the number transmitted during the preceding year, and 8,831,175, being 52 per cent, over the number transmitted during the year ended 30th day of June 1877. This proof of the increasing circulation of newspapers; and the inference that may be drawn that the dissemination of knowledge among the masses is extending, are gratifying points to notice in connection with the report.

All the mail routes employed, in the domestic service, had an aggregate length of 36,052 English miles, showing an increase, though a comparatively small one, over the previous period. Such as it was however, the accretion was due to the opening of post routes to distant islands, and to and through mountainous districts, while the larger increase during the next preceding year was due to additional service upon post routes already established, New post offices to the number of 195 were opened between



July 1878 and June 1879. The same interval witnessed the foundation of 9 additional receiving agencies, 653 stamp agencies and 187 street letter boxes. The total number of these depots at the end of the fiscal year was, respectively, post offices 3,927: receiving agencies 163: stamp agencies 1,916: street letter boxes 1,483.

With regard to the department of foreign mails, which may now be said, in view of the approaching transfer of the French bureau, to be exclusively in Japanese hands, we note a few interesting particulars. Thus, the number of letters despatched from Japan to other countries was 170,869, being an increase of 15,179, or nearly 10 per cent, in excess of the number forwarded during the preceding year. A proportionate increase is noticeable in the number of newspapers and registered articles, while the advance in the number of postal cards was about 202.6 per cent. The increase in the number of letters from foreign parts over that received during the preceding year, is 16,889, or about 19 per cent. The number of newspapers received shows, on the other hand, a decrease of 18,987, or about 15.1 per cent, as compared with that received during the preceding period. His Excellency remarks that "the increase in the volume of international correspondence above noted is difficult of explanation, in view of the wide-spread and long continued commercial depression, the full effect of which has been felt in the East." As regards the native-born officials under his orders in this section, Mr. Mayeshima reports, with pleasure, that great progress has been made by them in the acquirement of a knowledge of the practical working of the bureau. "Much of the work of despatching and receiving mails is now performed by them, in the foreign sections of the post offices at Yokohama, Hiogo and Nagasaki in a manner entirely satisfactory; and such is their diligence and aptitude, that it will be quite possible, in my opinion, to relieve the foreign employés in the Hiogo and Nagasaki offices at the close of the present calendar year, and transfer the duties now performed by them to some of the more advanced of the Japanese officers acquainted with the work." The latter part of the change here suggested has been effected. The report adds that a reduction of the foreign staff in the Yokohama establishment can be made without injury to the service, which renders a trifle more inexplicable than before the contemplated transfer of a French employé to that very office. Considerable reduction in various items of expenditure is alluded to; and the future cost of working the department of foreign mails is said to be susceptible of further diminution. One economy we should be loath to see carried into excessive operation. In fact a portion of the prosperity of the department might well be bestowed in increasing, rather than curtailing, the sums expended upon the delivery of letters whether foreign or domestic. The carriers might be better remunerated than at present, with the laudable result of securing to the public a higher class of these servants, zealous and honest in view of the value paid for their services.

There is not much to dwell upon, in respect of the money order department, after noticing an increase of 22 per cent in the number, and 82.8 per cent in the value represented in the previous year. A decrease of 13.6 per cent in representative value is, however, recorded, as compared with the transactions of the next previous year; namely, that terminating in June, 1877. Savings Banks are evidently increasing in business and popularity. We read that the augmentation in the number of the deposits during the past year, over that of the preceding year, was 74,249, or 168.5 per cent, and the increase in the amount deposited was Yen 172,161.09, or 82.4 per cent. The

increase over the business of the year ended 80th day of the 6th month 1877, was 96,922, being 877.8 per cent, in the number of deposits, and Yen 324,635.55, being 574.9 per cent, in the amount deposited. The increase in interest paid to depositors, over the interest paid during the preceding year, was Yen 9,691.99, and over the interest paid during the year ended 80th day of the 6th month 1877, Yen 13,822.14. The increase in the number of depositors at the close of the year was 11,094, as compared with the number at the close of the preceding year, and 17,059, as compared with the number at the close of the year ended 80th day of the 6th month, 1877. The number of Post Office Savings Banks established was 805, and 2 were discontinued during the year, making the total number at the close of the year 595. The whole staff of all the postal departments consisted of 7,504 officials (including ten foreigners) of all ranks.

Most of the remainder of the report consists of statements of detail in the management, and memoranda of the few casualties which have occurred, such as losses of letters. Men have been rewarded for faithful service in face of such peril as would seem to show that the roads of the empire are not everywhere as safe as they are in this immediate vicinity. The families of two letter-carriers, who were killed in the discharge of their duty, have received awards of money. Account is given of the work of the Marine Office, the greater part of whose revenues is derived from the annual instalments paid by the Mitsu Bishi Company. This latter enterprise received a subsidy of Yen 250,000, and an allowance of Yen 15,000 for the maintenance of the Marine School. The examination of officers is part of the work of the office in question. The number of masters, mates and engineers examined during the past year, was 219. Of these, 150, of whom 144 were Japanese and 6 were foreigners, obtained certificates; and 69, of whom 60 were Japanese and 9 were foreigners, failed to pass examination. The issue or renewal of licenses to pilots and other duties done by the board are enumerated. Tables are given showing the casualties on the coasts of Japan during the whole of 1878. The number of vessels wrecked and missing in that year (including both those of home and foreign form, as also four foreign owned vessels) was 527, and the number of persons drowned, injured, or missing (including three foreigners) was 352.

It is again our task to congratulate the Chief of the department upon the efficiency which has been arrived at, and to express confidence that it will not only be maintained, but that the usefulness of the organization will continue to receive annual development.

#### JAPAN AND THE U. S. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

THE recent message of the President to the Congress of the United States refers to several subjects of much interest to politicians in the Far East. Mr. Hayes expresses his belief that the action of the United States, in regard to the revision of its treaty with Japan, will now be followed by the other powers having treaties with this country; he invites the attention of Congress to the indemnity funds received from China and Japan, suggesting that if any portion of these funds be justly due to American citizens it should be given to them at once, and that the balance should be returned, in some form, "to the nations, to whom it equitably belongs." He also mentions that the United States Government has taken measures to inform the Chinese and Japanese Governments of its readiness to extend its good offices in the Loochoo question, "for the maintenance of peace, if they shall mutually

deem it desirable and find it practicable to avail themselves of the proffer."

Respecting the first of these points; namely, the revision of the treaties on the basis of the American treaty of 1878 between Japan and America, in which the right of the former to control her own tariffs is admitted, the President doubtless was not informed of the change of front in this matter on the part of the Japanese Government. He cannot have known of the proposed tariff recently published here, in which, although the duties are in nearly every case higher than those in the old Treaties, yet the general principle underlying both is the same. It would be interesting to know how the American Government will look on this changed aspect of the question. Nearly two years ago it acknowledged by a solemn treaty—negotiated, it is presumed, at the request of this country—certain rights of Japan *vis-à-vis* foreign nations; and now this agreement is to be wholly disregarded, and the revision of the treaties is to proceed on a basis opposed to the rights therein acknowledged.

The subject of indemnities from China and Japan, more especially that known as the Shimonoseki indemnity, has frequently been referred to in Presidential messages. General Grant ten years ago suggested that, on account of the crisis through which Japan had passed, and the advances she was making, the balance of this indemnity then due should be remitted. When Iwakura's embassy was in London, the same suggestion was made to the English Government, and the ambassadors, as a reason for granting the request, pointed to the fact that a system of lighting the coast of Japan was being inaugurated, which would be of the greatest benefit to foreign vessels and for which they paid nothing. Lord Granville, however, made certain other demands, which the Japanese felt they could not concede at the time, and the balance of the indemnity had to be paid. The American Government accordingly also accepted the instalment due to them, and the money remained, and still remains, in the Treasury at Washington. In 1874, General Grant again returned to the subject. He said:—"Having on previous occasions submitted to the consideration of Congress the propriety of the release of the Japanese Government from the further payment of the indemnity under the Convention of October 22nd, 1864, and as no action had been taken thereon, it became my duty to regard the obligations of the Convention as in force; and as the other powers interested had received their portion of the indemnity in full, the Minister of the United States in Japan has, on behalf of this Government, received the remainder of the amount due to the United States under the Convention of Shimonoseki. I submit the propriety of applying the income of a part if not the whole of this fund to education in the Japanese language of a number of young men to be under obligations to serve the Government for a specified time as interpreters at the Legation and Consulates in Japan. A limited number of Japanese youths might at the same time be educated in our own vernacular, and mutual benefits would result to both Governments." Again, in 1877, Senator Wallace, of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, drafted a bill for the return to Japan of the original amount of the indemnity, the United States keeping the interest which had accrued on it. This absurd and illogical attempt to deal with the matter deservedly came to naught. These various suggestions for dealing with this large sum of money, show that the American people are not quite easy in their conscience with regard to the Shimonoseki indemnity; and now Mr. Hayes proposes to settle the question for ever. If any part of the fund be

properly due to American citizens it should be paid, and the balance, together with its accumulated interest, returned to the nation to which it equitably belongs. It will be noticed with interest that the head of the administration of the United States here distinctly and formally declares that, in equity, principal and interest belong to Japan.

The President's remarks touching the Loochoo question are very cautiously worded. But it is very doubtful whether this country, at least, will "deem it desirable" or "find it practicable to avail itself of the offer." That the United States Government, under the impression that war may possibly ensue, should tender its good office for the maintenance of peace, was only right and becoming, but they have probably learned by this time that the possibility of war between Japan and China is a remote one, and that, should it ever occur, Loochoo will not be the cause of the quarrel. And it cannot be doubted that the advice of Mr. Hayes' distinguished predecessor, as well as of other warm and disinterested friends of Japan, has had much effect in soothing the irritated feelings of both countries on this question.

#### THE MILITARY POWER OF CHINA.

##### II.

**B**ETWEEN 1723 and 1736 the then reigning Emperor of China established a kind of guard, whose duty it was to protect the Imperial residences and person, as well as the persons of all members of the Imperial family, and to accompany them when they went abroad. At the head of the whole army is the ministry of war, which especially deals with the troops of the guard; for it is no part of its duty to superintend the bannermen and other troops in Peking and the summer palace. Its power over the provincial army, also, is almost entirely nominal. The minister is a civilian, and so as a rule, are his chief assistants, the majority being Manchu. He receives ordinary reports from all commanding officers of the land and sea forces, from the governors-general and governors, in their capacity of military authorities, from the officials responsible for the transport of grain and the safety of embankments, and from those who are entrusted with the ruling of the nomad and only half subjugated tribes. In order to carry out these numerous and partly heterogeneous duties, this office, which we can hardly call a ministry of war in the European sense of the word, is divided into four bureaux, and these are again subdivided into smaller departments. There are altogether, employed in this ministry, according to the redbook, 197 individuals of whom only about a third are Chinese.

In the guard at Peking the three kinds of weapons are represented. The infantry consists of four battalions of 875 men each, who were up to a short time since armed with muzzle-loaders, and partly exercised according to the principles of European tactics; for some years since four hundred men were sent to Tientsin to be drilled there by foreign instructors, with the ultimate object of communicating the knowledge thus gained to their comrades in the capital; of one battalion of cadets, five hundred strong, carrying bows, arrows, spears and various other old Chinese weapons; of a battalion of five hundred with small matchlocks; of two battalions, of five hundred men each, armed with long matchlocks, called gingsals, of which every two men receive one, (this enormous weapon being six feet long, and when about to be discharged laid on the shoulder of the front man, and fired by the second); of a corps of 1,200 men, armed with swords and shields, and of

one of 200 men bearing Chinese weapons, who form the body guard of the first Imperial prince.

The cavalry is composed of two divisions of 1,000 men each, armed with carbines and chassepots, and of three squadrons bearing matchlocks. The artillery has twenty-four Russian field-pieces, with only two horses and six men to each. There are besides 1,000 artillerymen who have small iron cannon with calibres varying from four ounces to a pound, which are fired from an embankment or wall. Outside Peking, chiefly in the neighbourhood of the summer palace, there are two battalions of infantry, of 875 men each, armed with Russian muzzle-loaders, 1,600 men with large matchlocks, 2,000 with matchlocks and short swords, one battery with 125 European trained artillerymen and four field guns; and one howitzer battery, also with four guns and 125 men. Hence the troops in and around Peking amount to 10,250 infantry, 5,500 cavalry, and 1,750 artillery with 23 field guns—or, in all, 17,500 men. In addition to this, but not including the banner-men already mentioned, two special corps called the van and flank divisions, 15,000 strong, are found, whose special duty it is to guard the Imperial residence, and act as body guards to the Emperor. Finally, we must mention a division of infantry 20,000 strong, whose duty it is to keep order in the capital and neighbouring towns, and hence form a sort of gendarmerie.

These data all come from trustworthy sources, and are comparatively modern. It is possible, however, that some improvements may have recently been introduced into the forces here mentioned, especially in the matter of drill and arms, of which we have no information; but, speaking broadly, no essential change has been made in the Chinese army, so far as the banner-men and the Imperial Guard are concerned.

Besides the forces above mentioned, there is still a third, composed entirely of Chinese—the Green Banner Army—which, at least in the present century, has done almost all the fighting. Each of the eighteen provinces of the Empire has an army corps of its own, consisting of five divisions. One division forms five camps, each of which has from two to five stations. In positions of strategic or political importance, these latter are chosen with care, and are fortified. The governors-general, although civil officials, are placed at the head of the troops stationed in their provinces; except when a special military commission in cases of more than ordinary importance takes over their military duties. This was the case, for instance, in 1874 during the complications with Japan, when a commission of this nature was appointed for the defence of Formosa and the coasts, as well as for the administration of the Foochow Arsenal. They have the initiative in all military matters, and recommend to the ministry of war the promotion, &c., of officers. The governor-general and governor, in their capacity of chief military authorities, are aided by a chief of the staff, and two directors of the post-relays service. Next to these comes the Tartar general who, as already mentioned, commands the banner-men, but has also the right to communicate orders to the Chinese contingent. The total land force is under the superintendence of a general, who is also inspector of the military districts, which do not correspond with the political divisions of the provinces. General inspections are ordered every three years by the war minister through the governors. These are instructed to inquire carefully into and report upon all cases of negligence; but as a general rule, the governors declare themselves satisfied. Every camp and every station should have a certain number of troops, but it is rarely that even an approach is made to

this. Not only does the money of those absent go into the pocket of the authorities, but also many buy permission to engage in other occupations. Add to this that many even of those in the service are employed as police, couriers or tax-collectors, and it will be seen that but few remain for military service, and even these, as their pay is neither punctual nor sufficient, are forced to extort shelter from the inhabitants.

The total strength of this third army of China is said to be 651,677 men and 7,157 officers, on paper. From what has already been said, however, we can form an idea of the proportion between a Chinese army on paper, and a Chinese army in reality. The only troops that can in any degree be regarded as capable of mobilization and fighting are those stationed at Tientsin, Canton, Foochow and Shanghai, all of whom are armed with modern weapons, and instructed in the principles of European tactics, but the number is hardly greater than 50,000. A year ago, when the Kashgar question was under discussion, this force was estimated at 180,000 men, but engagements and losses of all kinds have reduced them largely, and subsequent recruitings in Shansi, Sze-chuen, Hunan and Hupeh, have not been very favourable. We are not in possession of any reliable information respecting the troops employed in the recovery of Kuldja. The other forces of the Green Banner army, still carry spears, matchlocks, and other antiquated Chinese weapons. Silk banners, however, are articles with which every Chinese army is lavishly provided. About every tenth soldier carries a long bamboo lance, with a small gay-coloured piece of silk at the end, and the general effect of the unfurling of these banners at a great review is very pleasing. Of the officers about ten per cent, are chosen from among the banner-men, probably with the object of keeping this body loyal to the present dynasty.

Finally, there is a kind of irregular volunteer corps, yecept "the braves," who are called together when the regular troops are employed in putting down a revolution or the like. Naturally they lack in a still higher degree, than the men of the standing army, skill in the use of their weapons, which are all old and frequently useless, and knowledge of drill. When the object for which they assembled is accomplished, they are promptly disbanded.

A WRITER in the London *Economist* argues that, though a revival of trade may be looked for with some confidence, it is not likely to be rapid, inasmuch as several causes exist to counteract the possibilities of swift expansion. First, there is the great length of time during which depression has lasted. What recovery is to be already noticed cannot be compared to that which occurred after the panic in 1866, after which there was dullness for a couple of years at most, whereas now business has been inactive since 1874. Commercial misfortune has been "a long, slow drag, not a sudden and sharp reverse. The commercial difficulties, failures, and fall in prices which marked 1874 became still more severe in 1875; the next year, 1876, presented no difference; and the time from that date is still fresh in our memories. No doubt all classes have not suffered alike during the five or six years which have worn generally so sad a complexion. No doubt, too, the savings of some sections of the community have gone on slowly accumulating during the whole time; but the current to many, if not to most, has been in the wrong direction. We cannot expect any revival, after so severe and long-continued a strain to be rapid; we can scarcely expect it even to be continuous. Eddies to and fro must be looked for before the stream



once more rises to anything like its former force." In the second place, last year's bad harvest must be taken into serious account; while the increasing dearth of money will also lessen the purchasing power of European communities. On the other hand, in certain enterprises there are indications of increased activity which, however, must not be too greedily believed in as tests of permanent enlivenment. One instance may be cited. One of the leading houses in the fur trade recently sold about 80,000 fur seal skins at an average of 84s. per skin, which represents a sum of 324,000 guineas. This, it is stated, is a material advance on previous prices, and the highest average ever before obtained. "Although this statement is strictly accurate it may easily lead to an exaggerated idea as to the condition of the fur trade at the present moment. As a matter of fact, it is looking healthy, and prices are improving all round, but the advance in seals is due partly to the increased demand for them. The Governor and Committee of the Hudson's Bay Company announce that in their forthcoming report to the shareholders they do not propose to recommend the payment of an interim dividend." Anyhow, the fur trade is mainly a lucrative one; and apart from the general condition of trade) Japanese may find a hint, here, to protect and encourage the constant production of valuable furs in the northern territory.

IN our advertising columns will be found the statement of the First National Bank of Japan, including the thirteenth semi-annual report of the institution, which has now either branches, sub-branches, or agencies for exchange, in every town or place of importance throughout the empire and its dependencies, and foreign agencies at Hongkong and Shanghai. The flourishing condition which the organization has attained under the able direction of Mr. Shibusawa Yeichi, the managing director, may best be seen by direct reference to the balance sheet. There we find that the reserve fund has been increased from yen 225,000 to yen 275,000, by the transfer, in the half-year, of yen 50,000 from the profit and loss account. After deducting from the gains this sum; an amount of yen 86,371 for one loss incurred; an allowance for handsome bonuses to officers; the maintenance of the special reserve fund for bad or questionable debts at its limit of yen 80,000; and the carrying forward to the current account of yen 34,994, there remains for partition among the shareholders, yen 120,000, being a dividend of eight per cent for the six months, or sixteen per cent per annum. Such a result may well excite the envy of some European banking establishments of larger business and much higher pretension.

WE have received from Mr. A. Harmand, Editor of the *Courrier du Japon*, a work entitled "The expedition of the *Vega*, and discovery of a north-east passage." Its contents have already appeared in the columns of our contemporary, into which they were translated, by Mr. Harmand, from Italian notes furnished by one of the explorers. The matter is of a highly interesting nature; and should find favor with readers beyond whose reach or inclination the voluminous and highly scientific volume promised by the Chief of the party may prove.

THE vast development of which the modern postal system is capable may well be realized by examining some of the results obtained in Great Britain. According to the annual report of the British Postmaster-General for 1876, there were then 896 head post-offices in the United Kingdom, 12,551

branch offices or receiving houses, and about 10,724 road or pillar letter-boxes; making more than 24,000 receptacles for letters, at least 19,000 more than existed under the former system. Above 1,018 millions of letters passed through the Post-office in 1876—more than twice as many as in 1861, and thirteen times as many as in 1839, the last year of the dear postage. In 1876, the gross revenue of the Post-office, exclusive of that yielded by the telegraphs was £6,017,000; the expenditure, also excluding the telegraphic service, £4,170,859; the net revenue, £1,947,141. The number of money orders transmitted within the United Kingdom, in 1875, was 17,822,921; the amount of money transmitted being £27,516,698. The postal service in the three kingdoms is under the immediate control of the Postmaster-General, assisted by the general secretary of the post office in London. There are also chief officers in Edinburgh and Dublin, with secretarial and other departmental staffs. The Postmaster-General is a member of the Privy Council, and sometimes a Cabinet Minister. He has a salary of £2,500, and is the only officer connected with the department who leaves office on a change of government. The secretary is his responsible adviser, and has a salary of £2,000. The receiver and accountant-general keeps account of the money received by each department, receiving remittances from branch and provincial offices, and taking charge of the payment of all salaries, pensions, and items of current expenditure. The surveyors are the connecting link between the metropolitan and provincial offices, each postmaster, with some exceptions, being under the superintendence of the surveyor of his district. In 1876, the staff of officers employed in the post-offices, including those partly engaged in ordinary postal duties and partly in telegraph work, was 88,370; and there were, besides, about 11,650 engaged exclusively in telegraph work.

IT appears that a curious and valuable property has been found to exist in Asiatic vines—no less a virtue than that of ability to resist the ravages of *phylloxera*. Plants from Asia, cultivated for some years by Mr. Lavallée, in his large nurseries at Legré, France, seem to have demonstrated the fact that they are always steadily, and perhaps purposely, avoided by the insect. Some cultivators have objected to the eastern vines on the merely sentimental ground that their appearance is not so pleasing, as is that of European trees of the same species. On the other hand we read that "Madame Ponset, the owner of the great vineyards of the Lande de Pomerol, accepted his presents and counsels. She planted three species of Asiatic vines—the *ampelopsis aconitifolia* of Northern China, and the *ritis pterophylla* and *ritis inconstans* of Japan—in the immediate neighbourhood of plants plighted with the insect. Whilst the devastations of the *phylloxera* went on all around, the three Asiatic immigrants thrived prosperously, and were externally unaffected. Madame Ponset, according to her adviser's counsel, next had the roots probed by three experts, all of whom reported that the vines were perfectly sound and free from the suspicious knotty swelling which is a symptom of the presence and operations of the *phylloxera*. M. Lavallée now proposes to graft the various French vines upon Chinese and Japanese roots." The result of these experiments should be carefully noted by Japanese arboriculturists, as a European demand will very probably arise for scions of their vines.

IN our weekly issue of the 17th instant, we called attention to the urgent necessity which exists for the establishment of the office of a harbor master for this port, and the enactment of such regulations for the control of shipping as obtain in maritime cities in other parts of the world. Our remarks are fully borne out by a memorial from captains of



merchant vessels now in the bay, addressed to the Superintendent of the Imperial Marine Department, asking for some alteration in the system, or want of system, allowed to prevail in the laying and maintenance of mooring buoys.

To the Superintendent

Imperial Marine Department,  
Tokai.

Sir,—We the undersigned, commanders of vessels trading to Yokohama, most respectfully draw your attention to an evil connected with the harbour accommodations here—one which we feel certain only needs to be brought to your notice in order to receive prompt attention.

The harbour space here is much cramped by the number of "mooring buoys" scattered about the harbour; and in taking up our anchorages we have to leave these buoys a "clear berth." This would not be quite so bad if there were at all times the steamer moored to them. But, it not unfrequently happens that these buoys are not used for weeks, and not being lit up at night they become dangerous to small craft, and perilous to life, causing damage from time to time like so many small rocks.

We have to request that you will cause this matter to be brought before the Imperial Government, as we believe that its permission has never been asked or given, or the public convenience been considered in any way.

We particularly wish to direct your attention to the utter want of system in the position and limit to the number of such buoys, and would suggest

1st.—That some well defined system and judgment may be exercised by the Imperial Government in regard to the position and number of such moorings.

2nd.—That in the event of the mooring buoys not being used or occupied by the vessels having permission from the Imperial Government, then any vessel taking up anchorage may not be required to allow such unoccupied buoy moorings a "clear berth" or "berthless."

We believe that by correcting this abuse you will largely extend the port accommodations of Yokohama, and have the honour to be,

Sir,

Very respectfully Yours.

Howard Clark.....*Nimrod*.....British barque.  
B. Cremor.....*Don Enrique*.....British ship.  
Paul J. Lemarcheffsky.....*Courier*.....Russian steamer.  
Saml. L. Rogers.....*Nippon*.....American barque.  
Charles F. Allen.....*Sooloo*.....American barque.  
Levi Smith.....*R. Robinson*.....American barque.  
Robert Mailer.....*Clifton*.....British barque.  
B. F. Berry.....*Titan*.....American ship.  
S. Estall.....*Sarah Scott*.....British barque.  
James Romney.....*Clyde*.....British barque.  
D. Smith.....*Campsie Glen*.....British barque.

Yokohama, Japan, 31st December, 1879.

WE have received a copy of the first volume of "Young Japan," by Mr. John R. Black, an author whose name is identified with the history of journalism in the Far East. We hope to have an early opportunity of reviewing the work.

LONDON papers state that a telegram has been received announcing that Admiral Duberquois, in command of the French squadron in Chinese waters, had been ordered to take possession of Tonquin. Our readers are referred to an Editorial note in the *Mail* of last Saturday, wherein rumours are alluded to of the possibility of a French protectorate being established over that country and the neighboring populations of Laos, Annam, and the Indo-Chinese peninsula. It appears that grounds for procedure on the part of the Government of the Republic will not be wanting. The *Indépendant de Saigon* of the 1st instant asserts that news has been received from Tonquin, announcing the assassination of Mr. Francelli, formerly a member of Dupuis's expedition, who had settled there and was intrusted by the Annamite Government with the com-

mand of one of its gunboats. Reports current in Saigon say that tacit assent was accorded to, if even positive orders were not given for, the commission of the outrage, by the authorities at Hué, who may have been glad of an opportunity to get rid of a foreign servant. The French colonial journal continues: "However this may be, let us hope that complete light will be thrown upon the murder, and that if, as is asserted, the Hué government had any part in the affair, the death of a Frenchman will prove the drop which shall cause the vase to overflow." It is added that the war vessel *Antelope* was to leave for Tonquin in a few days; and a hope was expressed that a few companies of troops would be despatched on board, in order to sustain, if necessary, any demands that might be made.

THE *London and China Express*, in its issue of the 5th of December, hazarded the idea that the profits derived from the Japanese Imperial Mint at Osaka are being hoarded with a view to the ultimate liquidation of the foreign debts of this country. A correspondent in the ensuing issue of the same paper, signing himself "A well-wisher of Japan," has swallowed the fallacy. Of course readers on the spot are aware that the surplus income of the Mint is handed over to the Finance Department in the same way as any other revenue, and applied to needs, as they arise, like any other Government funds appearing in the estimates. Again, people in Japan, and one would think in London, are not all ignorant that the interest on the foreign debt of this country is regularly paid, when due, by the London agents, and that the whole capital is being reimbursed in instalments of fixed amount at annual intervals, public drawings deciding the numbers of the individual bonds to be paid off.

IN a region where decapitation is the most ordinary method by which the death sentence is inflicted, it may be interesting to learn that experiments recently made in France, on the remains of a convicted and beheaded criminal, seem practically to set at rest the question whether or not life and sensibility to pain exist after execution. The *Figaro* sent a special reporter to witness the vengeance of the law being satisfied on an atrocious murderer named Prunier. The moment the guillotine had done its work the body and head were placed in a basket and taken to the cemetery, where Dr. Evrard (who had applied for and obtained the body of the criminal for experimental purposes) and several other medical men were ready in waiting. The subsequent proceedings are thus narrated by the representative of the *Figaro* :—

We followed with deep interest, for besides their purely scientific character, they related to a question so often discussed—does life survive decapitation? Five minutes have elapsed from the moment when the head was separated from trunk, and it was placed on a stone in the open air, in front of the little chapel of the cemetery. Comparatively little blood had flowed, and some drops were running from the carotid artery. Although the neck was very short the cutting had been very clean. Pinched, stuck with needles, submitted to the most painful experiments, the head never moved; the face remained unaltered, not a muscle quivered. The left ear was completely calcined in the flame of a candle without obtaining the smallest appearance of sensibility. Then they divided the skin of the head into four parts, and using hammer, scalpel, and the saw, they took away the upper portion of the skull and withdrew the brain. This occupied ten minutes. Immediately on being submitted to an electric battery the remains of the head at once displayed nervous contraction—the teeth chattered, the mouth shut, the eye and the cheek made those grimaces which are observed in sleeping people when tickled with a feather. With the body the same result was obtained. It was absolutely without feeling. It was opened, the heart, lungs, and intestines then removed, and then, on being placed in contact with the electric battery, the arms and legs instantly moved. At this moment Dr.

Evvard asked me what o'clock it was, and it appeared that forty minutes had elapsed from the time of the execution. Lastly came the concluding experiment. Under the action of the battery, a shred of hanging flesh, displayed by the operation, stood on end, oscillated, and quickly placed itself back on the spot from which it had been cut."

The conclusion arrived at by the doctors was that the movements observed in the bodies of persons guillotined on being subjected to the action of electricity are absolutely mechanical, and display neither any remainder of life nor of sensation. The experiment is to be made the subject of a memoir, which will shortly be presented to the Academy of Medicine by M. Evvard, and in which he will demonstrate that death by decapitation is instantaneous.

SOME short time since one of the journals published in Shanghai indulged in a characteristic sneer about the trade of Yokohama. Commercial affairs over the world have not been so brisk for some considerable time past as they might have been and appear likely to be. We have yet to learn that Shanghai was any exception to the general depression not only throughout the East but also in Europe and America. However, in Japan we have one slight consolation, viz:—that there have been no such disclosures of commercial morality here as have, from time to time, garnished the columns of the newspapers in the "model settlement." The following extract from the report of a case which appeared in the *North China Herald* of the 22nd instant, speaks for itself and requires no comment from us; we will only preface it by explaining that the action was brought by a Chinese comprador against the defendant to recover Tls. 600 on a promissory note.

"The defendant was then re-called and deposed—On the 9th April, 1877, the plaintiff did not lend me the sum of Tls. 500. Sometime about that date I did receive a sum of Tls. 600 from the plaintiff, for which I gave him no acknowledgment whatever. I did not give him a document such as he has described, an undertaking to provide him with 500 Chinese bonds for the consideration of Tls. 500. The Tls. 500 I received for a private transaction.

Mr. Wainwright said it would be better for him to give the details of it.

Defendant continued—At the time, acting on behalf of Messrs. —, I was negotiating a loan between the Chinese Government and some friends of mine in England. The loan fell through so far as Messrs. — were concerned by the thick-headed stupidity of the plaintiff.

His Lordship told the defendant not to use such language. It would not assist him in the least. He must state facts.

Defendant continued.—This was a fact. Subsequently I and others were successful in carrying the loan through. In April 1877, Messrs. — had it in hand. The Tls. 500 were paid to me by the plaintiff as expenses for carrying out the loan. I received it and paid it out the same day. None of it came to me. It was paid to a Chinaman, a third party, as a commission or bribe—bribery and corruption, or whatever you like to call it—to assist us in negotiating the loan on behalf of Messrs. —. It did not pass through my books. It was given to me by the plaintiff to hand to the Chinaman, so that he might not appear in the transaction—a blind of the kind that is customary in China every day. It was a cash transaction, and I gave plaintiff no acknowledgment for the money. Plaintiff never applied to me to repay him, and the promissory note I gave him for Tls. 600 had nothing whatever to do with the Tls. 500 paid to me as I have just described. I believe it was paid to me by a native bank order.

The Lordship said that was a story which the defendant, as a commercial man, seemed to be ashamed of.

Defendant answered in the negative, and said it was a thing that was done constantly in dealings with the Chinese.

His Lordship meant to convey the idea that it was a story the defendant would not care to have attached to him. Was it regular or irregular?

Defendant replied that from his Lordship's point of view it would perhaps be considered irregular. From his point of view it was not, but a common everyday custom.

In answer to further questions by his Lordship, defendant said the irregularity was not such as to impress the transaction upon his memory.

Mr. Wainwright remarked that it was a common custom in dealing with the Chinese officials—palm oil used to facilitate business, to make things move along more smoothly and more quickly."

The result of the action was a verdict for plaintiff, so that the financial agent of the Chinese Government was evidently discredited by His Lordship.

#### JAPANESE POTTERY.\*

TO form a sound judgment upon the Ceramic Art of any country, two distinct faculties are required, which are rarely possessed in common by amateur collectors. A thorough knowledge of the processes of manufacture, and a true appreciation of the difficulties of fabrication, need to be supplemented by a refined and educated taste, and a perfect acquaintance with the principles of decorative art. It is quite possible for results, entailing the utmost skill and the practice of years, to be entirely devoid of artistic effect, or even the merit of suitability to a required purpose. On the other hand, the prettiest shapes and embellishments are often the most easily produced. Many prejudices are cherished by professed admirers of *faisance* which bias and pervert the justice of their choice. Putting altogether upon one side the dealer whose selection is guided only by the consideration of what will best please wealthy buyers, and procure the quickest payment, we notice only those who take up the subject as an intellectual pleasure and pursuit. An article may be valued on account of its rarity as a relic of ancient history, and also, with less reason, from the fact that but few of its kind were produced, and that the process, perhaps given up at the time as a failure, has been afterwards forgotten.

There is the collector well versed in the artificial value attached to certain names and dates, well practised in detecting signs of reputed mechanical skill, in such matters as thickness of shell, evenness of colour, or size of crackle; and prizing the merit of purity above all the beauties of a real work of art. There is, moreover, the collector who is an artist by birth or education, and whose choice is regulated merely by the consideration of real æsthetic worth. He admits old and new alike into his emporium, preferring the antique only inasmuch as it possesses merits of design violated in later days. The former tendency, carried as it often is to ridiculous excess, may be well likened to the admiration for the extravagant execution of a rapid pianist, compared with the passion for less showy and laboured but far more artistic music.

The object of all ornamentation applied to clay fabrics is to add beauty to their general effect without detracting from their fitness for a definite purpose. It is difficult to see how an uninterrupted monotony of colour, or uniformity of cracks in a glaze, can be more beautiful than varied combinations of lines, or than the changing harmony of colour, which dissolves from shade into shade, like the plumage of some tropical bird. Yet some of these effects are easy and accidental and are consequently prized much less by the orthodox than a tamer result denoting more care and mechanical skill. The fact of difficulties surmounted simply because they are difficulties gives to such products a fictitious worth. "A work of art may represent skill alone. Add, to equal skill, the second essential, beauty, and the work will rank higher in art. Invest an object for use with both skill and beauty and it is raised still higher." To form however a just appreciation of the excellencies of Chinese and Japanese pottery and porcelain, it is necessary to consider it from every point of view, and without depreciating the value of any kind of knowledge of the subject, we wish only to shew how undue weight is often given to trivialities. The student of industrial art in this country must unquestionably bring to his task a familiarity with art generally, and with corresponding manufactures among other nations. More lessons, then, can be learnt about Japanese pottery from a work treating exhaustively the different forms which ceramics have assumed.

\* The Ceramic Art. A compendium of the History and Manufacture of Pottery and Porcelain. By Jennie J. Young. New York, Harper and Bros. 1879.

ed in all parts of the world, and in the various stages of its civilization, than from a more elaborate and less comprehensive treatise confined to this country alone. The authoress of the volume before us, shews a thorough acquaintance with the materials, processes, and styles of ornamentation, employed by the potter among various peoples. Several chapters are devoted to the explanation of technical terms, and to the chemical analyses and classification of all kinds of porcelain. We confess surprise at a work which is so comprehensive in range, exhibiting such minute information upon the details of preparation and manufacture in Japan, unequalled, in completeness, by any single volume confined to the fabrics of Dai Nippon alone. In such juxtaposition it is valuable to be able to compare them, and to comprehend their intrinsic merits. Many points of similarity are noticed between the Ceramic Art of Persia, China, Corea, and Japan, notable alike for the rich and tasteful employment of colour which distinguishes Oriental from Western nations.

"These are branches of the arts which the Greeks either did not study, or studied without success. They give little evidence of having been able to appreciate colour or to understand its uses. . . . They attained to a certain insurpassable elegance in shape, and the beautiful outlines of their human figure ornamentation can at times hardly be sufficiently admired; but their colouring was purely conventional and its application but little understood. . . . The Orientals went to the opposite extreme. They delighted in bright and gorgeous decoration to an extent, that, but for their many intensely realistic works, would lead to the belief that the production of certain effects, in colour, was the highest object of their artists." Again the same writer says:—"On the one hand are the Greeks pursuing beauty of form with assiduity and marked success; on the other are the Orientals occupying themselves with mechanical skill and the beauty resulting from colour."

A close connection undoubtedly exists between the manufactures of China and Japan. So great is this in some cases as to have led the two to be confounded. Japan's first efforts in the potter's art were instigated by China, and the early processes were entirely learnt from that country. "Japanese Art is of Chinese origin but was modified as it developed. It adapted itself to Japanese tastes and to the ideas of a people quick to imitate but possessing a marked national individuality upon which to modify its imitations." It must be remembered that Japan received its religion from China and with it, its mythology and its symbols. The ancient historical events of the Celestial empire were drawn from, for subjects of decoration, by the neighbouring islanders, who regarded its ancient lore with the same reverence as is shewn by us for the antiquities of Greece. The painters of this country, in depicting such subjects, avoided as far as possible unnecessary anachronism. Rembrandt painting a *Last Supper* represented a group of feasting Dutchmen in the garb of his time, and the Saints and Apostles of the early schools of painting were shown in the apparel of Italian peasants of the fifteenth century. But what has helped us to confuse Japanese and Chinese pictures upon porcelain is that the delineator has tried, so far as lay in his power, to present his characters in the dress and appearance of the times and the country intended. Bearing in mind these and similar considerations it will be found that Japan has always shown great individual skill and originality, such as could be evinced by no mere copyist. So far in fact was all the borrowing or imitation from being on the side of the smaller kingdom, that we read—"The Japanese are said to have gone to Kin-teh-chin, even in early times, to buy porcelain. According to Dubalde, the Chinese repaid the compliment by loading their vessels with Japanese porcelain on returning from their country. This is corroborated by the missionaries at Peking, who state that the people there highly prized the Japanese porcelain, which was in consequence both rare and dear. They even used it in preference to their own in making presents to the emperor and grandees. De Terc states that, when the Emperor wished to send a present of porcelain to Peter the Great, he chose that of Japan, where, says the writer, the people surpass those of China in all the arts and industries. We know, moreover, that the Chinese have borrowed the designs of the Japanese, and that

the Japanese have borrowed those of China." A great difference exists between the character of landscape as used by the decorators of the two countries; and in this point as in others the Japanese artist has shown his selection of nature, as he saw it around him, for his master, to the rejection of the formalisms of his early teacher. By him nature is more closely followed, and his ornamentation is more telling and less profuse.

The permanent nature of painting applied to ceramics, as compared with the ephemeral nature of pigments in many valuable pictures, is a point not to be lost sight of in giving to the art of pottery its true place among the fine arts. The drawings of the Greeks upon their vases alone are sufficient to prove them to have been the greatest artists of the human form that the world has ever produced. Apart from their skill in delineation and composition of designs, we gather from these vessels much of our knowledge of their ancient costumes, customs, musical instruments, ceremonies and utensils. Save the discovery of two cities destroyed, and at the same time miraculously preserved for centuries, owing to the sudden eruption of Vesuvius, near the commencement of the Christian era, we have very few memorials of the painter's art among the ancients, except the pottery exhumed from their tombs. It is only, however, when such arts have assumed a certain degree of perfection that they are valuable as indicating peculiarities of civilization sufficient to prove intercourse, between or a common origin for, nations. The book before us may help to enlighten those who desire to found theories for the origin of the people of this and other countries on the remains of rude and primitive pottery. Useful as certain forms of conventional ornament, representations of natural objects, or architectural embellishments may be in enabling us to trace the connection between different nations, the meaningless scratches, zig-zags and lozenges which are found in all early art, like the scribbles of a groping infant, give us no clue whatever on which to fasten any conclusions of origin. Such primitive forms of ornamentation (if it can be called ornament) as are found in North American pottery, are found alike in Assyrian, early Greek, Mexican and Aino specimens. When art has attained to a system requiring a peculiar and thoughtful application of principles of design, such as must exhibit the individuality of the creator, we may then find in resemblances a sign of connection: but to found reasoning upon formless scratches is as if we should think to trace a common origin between the English and the Japanese, because the infants of both countries cry for the moon.

A point not to be lost sight of is the modification requisite in painting applied to decorative purposes. In the understanding of the decorative principles, as contrasted with the pictorial principles, of painting, lies the superiority of mediæval and Eastern industrial art over that of modern times. In the neglect of these laws many of the most noted modern European ceramics have ignominiously failed to be excellent. One of the greatest examples of failure is in the Sèvres porcelain so much prized by collectors. Of this *faience*, tea sets valued at \$15,000 are mentioned as being in the royal collection in England; while a vase sent by Napoleon to the King of Etruria is said to have been worth about \$60,000. The shapes of the old Sèvres porcelains are acknowledged by all to be ugly in the extreme. Besides this, the system of ornamentation applied to their surfaces violates all the ideas of sense of suitability. A medallion in the centre of one side generally represents some miniature landscape which adds nothing to the effect of the vessel being rendered dirty and undecorative by the addition of shadows and attempts at aerial perspective. Again, the works of Paliessy give another example of undaunted perseverance combined with mechanical skill, but applied without the simplest regard for suitability or beauty of effect which was so well studied and understood by the orientals. Any one who has visited the Louvre will be able to recall to mind those heavy shapeless dishes of the great potter, overloaded with representations in relief, of snakes, lizards, frogs, snails and all things that creep, heaped pell-mell upon the surface. There is here the most careful realistic imitation of nature in form and colour, but complete ignorance of decoration and destruction of utility.

In speaking on this subject Miss Young says:



"They made the mistake of thinking that the artists work is independent of the surface on which it appears, whereas perspective is altered and sometimes destroyed by the curvature of a vase, and the brilliancy of the enamel. The artists of the Orient, on the other hand, either restrict themselves to subjects which can be treated upon a judiciously limited part of the surface, or throw aside composition, entirely, and trust to floral designs, isolated figures, repetitions of decoration without unity of design, or to beauty of colour alone." \* \* \* It would be a violation of good taste to demand pictures upon plates, or that a soup-tureen should resemble a sarcophagus."

It is a very melancholy fact that the Ceramic Art of Japan is deteriorating from its contact with the west. This is more or less inevitable, and in this point history is only repeating itself. It would be interesting at some future time to inquire into the causes at work helping to debase art in this, as they have done in many other countries. Blinding passion for the new and for everything western, combined with different conditions of the national system and the commercial relations with the merchants of the nationalities, are causes which at first sight suggest themselves.

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, January 30th, 1880.

The increase of the German Army has been taken quietly by France.

It is affirmed that the French occupy Tonquin.

LONDON, January 27th, 1880.

GERMANY.

A bill has been introduced by Bismarck to increase the army by 60,000 men, which is justified by the strength of the forces of the neighbouring states.

(From the *Daily Press*.)

London, 14th January.

The Russian Budget for the year 1880 has been published. The revenue and expenditure are equal. The Military and Naval Budgets are increased by eleven millions.

The *Golos* recommends the gradual cession of Kuldja to avoid disturbances on the frontier.

The *Times*, in a leading article, states that the ill-feeling between Germany and Russia continues, and that Germany suspects French influence to be at work.

The *Times* urges a settlement of the Afghan difficulty.

### The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 31st, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 1ST MONTH, 31ST DAY, DO-YO-DI.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

##### BIRTH.

On the 30th of January, at No. 223, Bluff, the wife of A. H. COLE, of a son.

At Yokohama, on the 30th January, the wife of GEORGE W. MUIR, Naval Accountant, of a daughter.

On Monday morning last, the M.M. steamer *Tanais* left for Hongkong with the European mails, and was followed in the evening by the O. & O. S. S. *Gaelic*, bound for San Francisco. This morning the *Tibre* arrived with the home mails. Her latest dates are London 12th and Marseilles 14th, ulto.

With reference to one of our last week's notes written on information furnished by a correspondent in the capital, regarding the contributions received from Hiogo and Osaka in aid of

the sufferers by the great fire in Tokio, the Reverend J. Piper addresses us:—

"I beg to inform you that the Committee (of which I am a member) who administered the money raised by the foreigners in Tokio and Yokohama for the relief of the sufferers by the late fire in this city, have received about *yen* 1,500 from General J. Stahl, United States Consul, Hiogo, and are administering the relief in the same way as that which they received from the neighbourhood. They have *not* handed the money over to the Tokio fu."

As we called attention to the delay in renewing the Mayeda Baahi, the non-existence of which is a great inconvenience to the public, it is but fair to state, now, that the work of reconstruction has commenced. The fourth bridge,—that over the creek at Ishikawa,—is also being repaired. In both cases, however, the work proceeds but slowly.

Nightly frosts continue to be brisk; and the anomaly has to be recorded that the last day of January has arrived, and yet no snow has fallen during the current winter—at least in this vicinity. The streets of the Japanese quarters continue to be watered by the occupants of the houses which line them, rendering the roadway slippery, and not always safe for horses. This custom, in weather with the thermometer below freezing point, might advantageously be abandoned.

Probably many of the late speculators in *bagatelle* boards have found that they were mistaken in their investments, that is, unless they very rapidly recovered their outlay, and gained something for forfeiture of legitimate business. The mania has passed and play is now virtually abandoned. In places the frail tables may be seen, piled up in neglected corners awaiting decay or conversion into fuel. The boards which are still accessible for play cease to attract the passers by.

The objurgations which our local French contemporaries have been hurling at each other, have exceeded the limits assigned to themselves for forbearance by the contestants on one side of the dispute. Failing an adjustment on the field of honor, the matter has been taken into the French Consular Court, where, during Wednesday and Thursday next, their difficulties will be discussed, subject to judicial instead of bellicose arbitrament.

Measures for the opening of a new cemetery for foreigners on the site proposed, near the rifle range, will probably soon be completed. Then the old burial ground, which has for so many years received the remains of western residents who have died in this vicinity, will be closed.

The following notification appears in the *Hongkong Government Gazette*:—"His Excellency the Governor has provisionally appointed Ng Choy, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, to be a Member of the Legislative Council, pending the receipt of Her Majesty's pleasure thereon, in place of the Honourable H. B. Gibb, absent from the Colony." This nomination is not popular among the English residents, although, as the gentleman in question is a British subject, a scholar, and legally qualified for the post, it is hard to imagine that objections, other than those of race, can be found to his occupancy. The *Daily Press* argues that, if such an appointment were to be made at all, a new seat should have been created.

A Hongkong paper has reason to believe that rumours, afloat in Haiphong, that the export of rice from that port will be resumed in April next, have good foundation.

Mr. Eli T. Sheppard, at present one of the legal advisers to the Foreign Office, leaving for America in May next, Mr. H. W. Denison, has been appointed in his stead. The latter gentleman is very popular, and deservedly so, in the communities of Tokio and this Settlement, having served as United States Vice-Consul General in the latter place for several years. In this nomination will be found a fresh proof of the anxiety of the present Minister for Foreign Affairs to surround himself with men of ability and experience, and such as are familiar with the wishes and sentiments of foreign residents.

Official information was received some days ago in Tokio, of the degradation of Chung How, the ex-ambassador from Peking to St. Petersburg—he who negotiated the retrocession of Kulja to



China for a money indemnity. The event should dispel any idea of a close alliance between the two empires, as it demonstrates that the arrangement made, though it will no doubt be adhered to, is not satisfactory to the Tsung Li Yamen. An account of the envoy's dismissal appears in North China papers, received since the intelligence arrived here.

There was an alarm of fire at the Grand Hotel on Monday evening, at about seven o'clock. The engines were quickly in attendance, but as the fire, which broke out in one of the upstairs apartments had already been got under, their services were not required.

Telegraphic instructions having been received from the Foreign Office to that effect, Mr. W. G. Aston, Assistant Japanese Secretary to H. M. Legation, is appointed to the Kobe Consulate, *vice* Mr. Marcus Flowers, and left on Wednesday for his post.

We have still a few copies remaining of the New Regulations for the prevention of collisions at sea, republished by us from the *London Gazette*, some short time since. Price 25 cents each in sheet form or mounted on cardboard, suitable for hanging up in a cabin, &c.

Mr. Conil, the local agent of the Messageries Maritimes Company, will leave Yokohama in an early steamer on leave of absence. M. Falcon de Cimier, an inspector of the Company arrived here by the *Tibre*, and will occupy Mr. Conil's place until his return.

The steam yacht *Lancashire Witch*, belonging to Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart., now on her way from Nagasaki to this port has been on a very prolonged cruise from home. She is a sister ship to Mr. Bramsey's *Sunbeam* which visited Japan some short time since and is another specimen of the yachts for which England is so famous. From the *Straits Times* of the 23rd of October, we extract the following interesting account of the cruise of the *Lancashire Witch* up to the time she reached Singapore. From Singapore the vessel sailed for Bangkok and thence to Nagasaki.

"We have been favoured by Captain Douglas, Commander of the steam yacht *Lancashire Witch*, with the following particulars of that handsome vessel. The *Lancashire Witch* was designed by Mr. St. Clair Byrne, of Liverpool and built and engined by Messrs. Steele & Co., of Greenock in 1878; her tonnage (builder's measurement) is 500 tons and her nominal horse power is 75. She sailed from Cowes on 15th of January last for Madeira arriving there on January 24th, thus making a voyage of 1,450 miles in 9 days, only 125 miles being under steam. She left Madeira on January 28th for Montevideo where she arrived on February 24th, making 5,025 miles in 26 days, 774 miles under steam. Here Lord Queensberry joined Sir Thomas Hesketh, and the party left Montevideo on 8th March, for San Francisco, via Magellan Straits. The yacht arrived at Egg Harbour, Vuldes Island, on the Patagonian coast, on March 8th making 870 miles in 4 days, 270 miles under steam. Here the party shot some fine guanaco and ostriches. Sailed from Egg Harbour on March 15th and anchored in Possession Bay, Magellan Straits, on the 19th of March, doing 521 miles—160 under steam—in 4 days. Here the party went ashore with an armed company of seamen, shot 7 guanaco and wounded others. Sailed from Possession Bay on 22nd of March to Gregory Bay. Here the shooting was not good, owing to a settlement having been established and the yacht proceeded to Sandy Point which she reached on 24th March. Here a stay was made to await the arrival of the outward English mail. This brought them news of the outbreak in Zululand, and the intelligence prompted Sir Thomas Hesketh to shape his course for Natal, whereupon Lord Queensberry left the party. The *Witch* sailed from Sandy Point on 21st March, arrived at Stanley, Falklands, on the 30th of the same month, making in three days 635 miles, 295 under steam. Sailed from Stanley on April 1st, passed Meridian of Cape of Good Hope on 17th April, and reached Natal, experiencing head winds on the way, on April 24th, thus making 4,458 miles in 23 days and 8 hours, 912 miles under steam. The yacht anchored in the outer roads to await spring tides for crossing Bar. Sir Thomas landed and went to the front where he joined the staff of Colonel Buller, V. C., and Brigadier General Sir Evelyn Wood, V. C., and was present at most of the principal battles, and took part in the famous fight at Ulundi. Mr. Francis Francis joined Sir Thomas in Zululand and both with Mr. Sadlier left Natal on the 29th July, arriving at Majunga, Madagascar, on 9th August, making 1,564 miles in 10 days, 28 miles under steam. Sailed from Majunga on the 12th August, and arrived at the Johanna Comoro Islands on the 14th August, 254 miles—34 under

steam—in 2 days and 4 hours. Sailed from Johanna Islands on 15th, arriving at Zanzibar on 19th August, 461 miles—76 under steam—in 3 days and 21 hours. Steamed from Zanzibar to the mouth of the Wani river. On Sunday 24th, the party landed on a shooting expedition and returned to the yacht on 30th, having shot several good specimens of hippopotami. On Saturday 31st, yacht returned to Zanzibar. On September 3rd, sailed for the coast on a shooting expedition, Dr. Kirk, H. B. M.'s Consul-General accompanying, touched at Melind on the evening of the 4th where a guard of soldiers was obtained from the Sultan. On the 5th proceeded to Formosa Bay and anchored under Ras Gomany; on the morning of 6th shooting party set off for the coast where they had excellent sport. Returned to the yacht on the 11th September and sailed for Zanzibar arriving there on the 13th, a distance of 526 miles, 326 under steam. Sailed from Zanzibar on 18th September arriving at the Seychelles on the 25th September, making 1,023 miles in 7 days 2 hours, 268 miles under steam. Here the ex-Sultan of Persia visited the party on board. Sailed from the Seychelles on 28th September, passed through equatorial channel on 8th October at 6 p. m., passed Acheen Head on the 16th, and arrived at Singapore on Tuesday morning, 21st October, thus in 22½ days making by Dist. Log 3,233 miles, by observation 3,264 miles, 1,363 of which were under steam.

The yacht will leave here in about seven or eight days hence for Bangkok and the party hope to get some good shooting in Siam. Hongkong and Japan will afterwards be visited. Her owner, who has been in Singapore before, is Sir Thomas George Fermor Hesketh, Baronet, of Rufford Hall, Lancashire."

The *World* in a notice of the party says:—"After a spell of campaigning in Zululand as galloper to Colonel Buller, Sir Thomas Hesketh steamed away from Durban in his fine yacht, the *Lancashire Witch*. He had no particular views as to destination, speaking vaguely about the Malay coast, the Andamans, and the Loochoo Islands. His travelling companions on this vague cruise were Captain Thornburgh Cropper and young Mr. Francis Francis, who so efficiently represented the *Times* in the Zulu campaign. This last gentleman writes from 'Mahi, Seychelles,' telling of successful buck-shooting in Madagascar and of two hunting trips from Zanzibar to the African mainland, under the experienced guidance of Dr. Kirk. The bag on these two expeditions seems to have been curiously mixed: 'We slaughtered fifteen hippopotami, and got a lot of wilde beeste, harte beeste, Torpe, &c., besides a couple of zebras, and some wild pigs. I wounded a giraffe badly, but too late in the evening to follow him up. The whole party had touches of fever. We are now en route for Singapore; no definite plans for the future.'"

There were two fires in the capital last night one at Ushigomi which destroyed fifty houses, the other at Kanda by which ten houses and two godowns were burnt down.

This year's issue of the Hong-List and Directory published by the *Japan Herald* is a worthy successor to the previous volumes of this useful work. Of very attractive appearance and great accuracy which, after all, is the principal feature in a compilation of the kind, the *Herald* Hong-List should meet with a large demand, in fact we can scarcely imagine a desk or drawing room in Japan without a copy of it.

We learn from Hakodate that a very sad affair has occurred there lately which will probably have a fatal termination. Two English gentlemen, one a baronet, have been for some time past engaged in bear-hunting. Owing to the severity of the weather and want of sufficient precaution, one of them was severely frost-bitten. Mortification set in and the unfortunate gentleman's life is despaired of. We understand he now lies at a tea-house, some considerable distance from Hakodate, under the care of a Japanese doctor.

The *Glenfulas* left Shanghai on the 20th instant, and the *Craiglands* on the 21st, both for Nagasaki.

At the opening meeting of the Graduates' Section of the Institution of Engineers and Ship-Builders in Scotland, held last November, Mr. John F. Miller, the president, in his opening address, dealt with the subject of steel as against iron for ship-building, boiler-making, and rail-making purposes. As showing the increase in the use of steel for ship-building, they had, he said, only to look back twelve months to find what a large proportion of vessels were now built with steel as compared with iron. About two years ago comparatively few vessels had been built with steel, and even then there was great suspicion as to the lasting power and stability of the new material for such purposes. During this year many of the yards on the Clyde were almost solely employed in building steel vessels, and there were very few yards that had not been doing something in that way. One yard had turned out eleven

such vessels this year up to the present time. These vessels varied from a few tons to about 4000 tons register, and ranged in construction from yachts and light-draught river steamers to ocean traders. Only a month ago the largest steel vessel afloat was launched at Dumbarton for Messrs. Allan, and now a large number of other shipowners were following their example. He alluded to the proposed construction of large vessels for the Cunard and Allan lines, and also to the yacht which is being constructed on the Clyde for the Czar. Scrap steel had been utilized for making bars, which stood a strain of 26.6 tons to 28.3 tons per square inch, and it had been made for £2 less per ton than bars got direct from steel manufactories. The price, however, would of course depend on the price of scrap. In his opinion, steel had a great future before it for constructive purposes.

We observe in the *Scotsman* that Sheriff Lees of Glasgow has decided a case in which James Galbraith, boot and shoe maker, sued Harry Alfred Long, "printer, book-seller, stationer, and missionary," for £5, and also asked the Court to interdict Mr. Long from publishing a pamphlet of his, entitled "Moses and the Egyptian." The defender (defendant) pleaded that there was no sufficient averment made with regard to the copyright, and that the pamphlet, being of an irreligious and immoral tendency, could not be subject to copyright. Sheriff Lees found that the act of the defender in publishing the pamphlet did not constitute an infringement of the pursuer's (plaintiff's) copyright, and assolied (gave a verdict for) the defender, with expenses. In a note, the Sheriff says that in August 1877 the pursuer and defender differed in the course of conversation as to whether Moses was a murderer or not. To settle the matter, the defender proposed that they should have a public discussion, and after the discussion had taken place each issued the views he maintained in the form of a pamphlet. Subsequent events led the defender to undertake to show that the pursuer's pamphlet contained "fifty errors in composition, history, orthography, geography, and Biblical knowledge: that its logic was paralytic, and its style bombastic." With this object he compiled and issued a pamphlet in which he reproduced bit by bit the pursuer's pamphlet, interspersed with his own criticisms, and it was this pamphlet which the pursuer wished the defender interdicted from publishing. The defender had urged that the pursuer's pamphlet, "being of an irreligious or immoral tendency, cannot become subject to copyright." He could not agree with the defender. It was unfortunate that neither party seemed to have reflected or remembered that to commit a murder, and to be a murderer, are not used by every one as synonymous expressions. Indeed the two phrases are given in logic text, books as an example of a common fallacy. To describe a historical character as a murderer would convey to the mind of most people that that was the general characteristic of the man's career, and therefore most people would demur to Moses, Bruce, and Alexander being described generically as "murderers." As a matter of fact, the Bible did not expressly say whether the act of Moses in killing the Egyptian was murder or not, but he (the Sheriff) would only say that on the details it did give us, if the act was not a murder, he did not know what murder was.

As a politic concession to the vehement indignation excited throughout Germany by the scandalous attack upon German women recently published in the *Wiedomosti*, of St. Petersburg, the Russian police authorities suspended for three months that journal's privilege of street sale. It appears that the wrath aroused in Teutonic minds by the article alluded to, which, as will be remembered, stigmatized the matrons and maidens of the Fatherland when of a lively disposition as "prancing cows crowned with rose wreaths," and insolently asseverated that "they are not altogether human beings at any time," has brought down upon its author a very deluge of irate letters from all parts of the German empire. One of these, which may serve as a specimen, has been made public by its recipient, as well as the reply which it elicited from him:

"Berlin, 30th October.—It is lucky for you, sir, that you reside in a city far distant from Berlin, otherwise I would punish you in a highly exemplary manner for your abominable article upon German women. As, however, the distance separating us prevents me from so doing, consider yourself as having been properly thrashed by me. B. NOCUSTETTER, 132, Oranienstrasse."

The Russian feuilletonist, however deficient he may be in good taste, is certainly a very funny person, as the following answer to the above convincingly demonstrates:

"Petersburg, 4th Nov.—Honoured Sir: At the very moment in which your raised your cudgel to belabor me I succeeded in drawing a revolver from my pocket and in shooting you dead on the spot. I therefore request you to consider yourself shot. My address is No. 14 Wladimirskaja."

#### SOCIAL ENTERTAINMENT AT THE TOKIO CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

A very successful Entertainment was given at the Tokio Christian Association on Thursday evening, the 22nd inst., at the conclusion of which the retiring President of the Association (Prof. W. G. Dixon) who has left Japan, gave a farewell address. After pointing out that the Association had done much to bring together the missionary and the non-missionary elements in the foreign community at Tokio, which had formerly been abnormally wanting in mutual interest, and after urging the irrationality of coldness on the part of professing Christians to the missionary cause, since it is of the very essence of Christianity that it should be a missionary religion. Prof. Dixon proceeded to say. "There is a crying need for the manifestation before this (the Japanese) people of the fact that the religion of Jesus Christ is something that enters into the whole nature of all who receive it, a vital transforming principle, making life nobler in all, even its most trivial, aspects. I feel convinced that there is a wide and promising field here for those lay men and women who desire to live true to their master Christ. The Japanese are a much too acute people not to notice and be influenced by even a silent Christian life. It is possible for them to hear missionaries preach, and even feel some little admiration for the doctrine they hear, without being so thoroughly affected as when they see a man engaged in secular pursuits living up to his conviction that the man who walked the streets of Palestine eighteen centuries ago is really the living Saviour of men. Silently we may sow the good seed, and if we find a fitting occasion for testifying more distinctly we may be surprised to find with what attention we are listened to. It would need no prophet to foresee that, if even one-half of the foreigners in Japan were thorough-going Christians, the coming of Christ's kingdom in this country would be at hand. A tremendous responsibility lies on the shoulders of those who here name the name of Christ. They stand in the fore-front of one wing of the Christian army, and if they are but true to their colours, victory lies before them. Do we believe in Christ? If so his life, death, and resurrection are to us the most momentous facts in history, whoever or wherever we may be: and if any hour of our lives fails to be influenced by this belief, then that hour is thrown away: it has been lived in vain.

"My object in the above remarks is to show the crying need there is especially in such a country as this for the manifestation of Christian life among all members of the Church in every one of their lives. When, therefore, two years ago I was asked to become President of the newly instituted Tôkiyô Christian Association, I felt deeply gratified that such an office was to exist, and highly honoured in being invited to fill it. Amid many shortcomings, I have endeavoured during these two years to put into practice my intense interest in the objects of the Association, and beg you now to forgive those failings of which I have been very conscious, and to accept my heartfelt thanks for the support which I have received in the Association work. The ideal of this Association is a sublime one, a perfect one, the life of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In Him it sees the only hope of the world's resurrection, the only hope of the elevation either of individuals or of communities, and therefore after Him it names itself the Christian Association. Looking back along the ages it sees that One Figure lifted up and drawing all men to Him. It believes in the triumph of good through Him who is the embodiment of all good. It looks at that wondrous life and sees no asceticism in it, no condemnation of the secular duties or the innocent enjoyments of life. The first miracle, that wrought at the marriage feast at Cana in Galilee, furnishes it with a noble lesson, the lesson that it is through Christ that

the water of this world is turned into wine,—that whatever He touches becomes transformed and infinitely enhanced.

"In the still abnormal state of the world, such a society as this cannot fail to excite opposition. The very loftiness of its ideal may serve only to make more apparent the defects of its members. But it is the noblest of man's prerogatives to be ever climbing upward towards the height of absolute perfection, and no sense of his own unworthiness should tempt him to be untrue to his nature by giving up the struggle. The ideal of this Association is invincible. Its opponents know that, and have to resort to side attacks upon the shortcomings apparent in the way in which the ideal is pursued. Knowledge of these, even if it come in the form of success, will always be valuable in helping on the Association; for it will rouse the members to pay more heed to their steps. But the opposition which this Association has evoked has been by no means remarkable. There is too much of a right-feeling among the residents of Tōkyō to allow it to be so.

"But I must not prolong these remarks. With ever-to-becherished recollections of the honour granted to me of presiding at this Association's meetings, recollections of eloquent lectures, readings and recitations both grave and gay, cheering vocal harmony, of heart-penetrating songs, of the society of friends whose acquaintance I shall ever deem it an honour to have made; of interchange of thought on the sublimest of themes, of communion, praise and prayer to God, I bid you farewell; and I do so not without the brightest hopes of the speedy resurrection of this land, and that in no small measure through the loyalty of this Association to Him whose name it bears."—*Communicated.*

#### JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

##### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

Dr. W. Anderson, of the Board of Health, who left for England on the 26th instant in the French mail, had an audience with His Majesty the Emperor and was presented with a porcelain vase as a farewell gift.

Visits of congratulation were paid to Her Majesty the Empress Dowager, at the Aoyama Palace on the 23rd instant, on the occasion of her birthday, by His Majesty the Emperor, the Princes of the Blood, the Daijin, the Sanji, and the Chokunin and Sonin officials.

It is said that an application has been made to the *Daijo Kwan*, requesting that a portion of the grant to the Home Department may be applied to the purposes of the Police Bureau.

Mr. Yamao, the Assistant Minister for Public Works, is going to Kiushiu at the commencement of next month, for the purpose of selecting timber and stone for use in the construction of the new Imperial palace.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports a rumour that General Kuroda, chief of the Colonization Department, has proposed to build an Imperial palace in the neighbourhood of Hakodate, in order that His Majesty the Emperor may spend the hot season there, and also witness the progress of colonization in Yesso. The General arrived in Hakodate the other day, in the *Tokio Maru*.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* reports that the *Daijin* and *Sangi* are now daily holding meetings of the Cabinet, to consider the question of establishing a National Assembly.

His Excellency Okuma, the Minister of Finance, is to pay a visit of inspection to the Osaka Mint, about the commencement of next April.

Mr. Akiyama, a member of the Local Assembly in the prefecture of Miyagi (in the north), has issued circulars with a view of establishing a United Club of the seven provinces, in order to make an arrangement for forwarding a memorial to the Government, demanding the establishment of a National Assembly.

We hear that the Local Governors' Assembly will be opened about the 5th proximo, by His Majesty the Emperor in person.

The *Choya Shimbun* mentions a current report that a Supreme Court is to be established at Hakodate, and a Provincial Court in Yesso.

Prince Shimadzu Tadayoshi was honoured with an audience by His Majesty the Emperor, on the 25th instant.

The *Hochi Shimbun* notes the return to Tokio, on the 26th instant, from Atami, of His Excellency Ito, Minister of the Home Department.

Governors Makimura, of Kioto; Matsuudaira, of Miyaki; Shirane, of Saitama; Tomioka, of Kumamoto, and Chief Secretary Korenami of Gifu, and Under Secretary Mori of Fukuoka (both representing their Governors) arrived in Tokio on the 20th instant, to attend the Local Governors' Assembly.

His Excellency Yoshida, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court at Washington, is to leave here for his post about the 8th of next month. He will give a farewell dinner on the 3rd proximo, at the Shiba palace, which has been placed at his disposal for the occasion.

H. R. H. the Duke of Genoa, being on the eve of leaving Yokohama, had a farewell audience with His Majesty the Emperor, at 2 p.m., on the 28th instant.

The *Amaki Kan* left Yokohama on the 27th, for Atami, and returned on the 28th instant with His Excellency Sanjo and others on board.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* announces that a telegram has been received stating that General Kuroda, Chief of the Colonization Department, left Hakodate in the *Kokonoye Maru* which arrived in Tokio on the 30th instant.

The new building for the Home Department has been completed at a total cost of 12,000 yen.

It is hereby notified that, in conformity with the 5th Article in the Treaty of Friendship concluded between Japan and Corea, in February, 1876, two ports are to be opened in Corea for the mutual trade of both nations, and it has been arranged that the port of Gensan shall, as one of the proposed ports, be opened from the 1st of May, 1880.

N.B.—Those who wish to go to Gensan after the above mentioned date shall keep the Notifications Nos. 128 and 129, issued in October, 1876, in their mind.

(Signed) IWAKURA TOMOMI,  
Acting Prime Minister.

January 28th, 1880.

It has been estimated that the forthcoming Local Governors' Assembly will cost the country 20,000 yen.

Mr. Nishimura, Governor of Oita *Kan*, arrived in Tokio on the 28th instant, and Mr. Sekiguchi, the Governor of Shizuoka on the 29th instant.

Prince Nabeshima visited the Italian man-of-war, *Vettor Pisani*, in Yokohama, on the 26th instant.

##### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The total number of men raised by conscription this year, for military purposes, amounted to 24,293.

The *Jingri Kan* having now been completed, will shortly sail on an experimental trip to Hakodate.

It is rumoured that a man-of-war is shortly to be despatched to the ports of Fusan and Gensan in Corea, and that in all probability the *Amaki Kan* will receive sailing orders.

General Toriwo, the Commander of the Imperial Guard, has sent in his resignation.

There will be a distribution of certificates among the cadets of the naval college, about the middle of next month, in the presence of His Majesty the Emperor.

The steamer *Gembu Maru*, belonging to the Colonization Department, that lately went to survey the coasts of China, has now returned to Kotaru, and will leave for Yokohama early next month.

It is rumoured that the *Takao Kan*, which has lately returned from Corea, will proceed there again at the end of next month, after undergoing a complete overhaul.

##### INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

A Chamber of Commerce was opened at Sakai, in the province of Izumi, on the 17th instant. The new Chamber already numbers about seventy members.

The Specie Bank in Yokohama commenced the transaction of business on the 25th instant, and is going to establish a branch in Osaka.

Mr. Nakamura Keitaro, a resident at Imabashi, Osaka, is about to establish a Life Insurance Company. The necessary capital will be raised by subscription.



The following return, shewing the exports and imports at the port of Yokohama for the month of December, 1879, has been issued by the Customs' Department :—

Exports .....	yen	3,232,252.80
Imports .....	"	2,986,631.72
Excess of exports.....		yen 245,621.08
Export of coin and bullion .....	yen	716,809.76
Import .....	"	58,363.00
Excess of exports.....		yen 658,444.76

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The wife of the man in whose house the recent disastrous fire in Tokio broke out, has been fined two yen, as the conflagration was caused through her carelessness. It was mentioned in Court that the usual punishment was eighty days penal servitude, but, in consequence of the sex of the accused, the sentence was changed to a light fine.

A branch telegraph station is to be established at Tsurugao-oka, in the prefecture of Yamagata.

About three hundred prisoners in the prison of Kioto, under sentence of penal servitude for over five years, formed a conspiracy to escape. On the evening of the 13th instant, when the servants of the prison were carrying in supper for the prisoners, the conspirators, who had armed themselves with pieces of wood, broke out into open insurrection, and the prison guards were unable to quiet them. A number of police were called in who quelled the disturbance, but in the confusion about twenty of the prisoners, who had got out of the prison when the riot commenced, broke down the northern gate and escaped in the direction of Sembon-dori. Here they separated into two parties, one of which went westward, and fled to Kuwado-gori in the province of Tamba, where six or seven of them were arrested on the 17th instant. The other party made off in an easterly direction along Sembon-dori, and three of them have since been captured at Yodo. Nothing has yet been heard of the remainder of the escaped prisoners, although a strict search is being made for them.

The *yashiki* or mansion of Prince Shotai, the ex-King of Lochno, has hitherto been guarded by police, but they have now been removed.

We learn from the *Akeshuno Shimben* that a fire broke out in Moto-machi, Takaasaki, at 9 p.m. on the 26th instant, and soon spread over several streets in consequence of the very severe wind. The fire was extinguished at 3 a.m. on the 27th, after destroying about 2,000 houses together with a large number of warehouses.

The *Hiriki Shimbun* states that His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa leaves Yokohama for Kobe to-day, in order to visit Kioto and Osaka.

The *Hochi Shimbun* announces that, in Yamashiro and Settsu, the rivers are frozen and the roads blocked with snow. All traffic has been brought to a standstill, and the weather is colder than has been experienced for many years.

**IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.**

**TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.**

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday,  
25th January, 1890.

Passengers, Parcels, &c.....	\$ 8,118.55
Merchandise, &c.....	\$ 876.41
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$ 8,994.96</b>

Miles Open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, Parcels, &c.....	\$ 6,939.69
Merchandise, &c.....	\$ 683.93

Total.....

**Miles Open 18.**

**Kobe and Ootsu Section.**

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday,  
25th January, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 9,967.60
Merchandise, &c.....	\$ 1,786.13

Total .....

Miles open, 55.  
Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 7,100.88
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,138.31

**Total.....**

Miles open, 47.

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

**TREATY REVISION.**

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

*Continued from last week:*

AS soon as this event took place<sup>1</sup> the Government were placed in a dilemma how to deal with the question of exchange. Previously, it had been the practice for foreign merchants to take their money to the local Government office, where it was exchanged for Japanese coin. The American treaty, signed at Shimoda in 1857, provided "that American money shall be exchanged for Japanese money, gold or silver *ichibu* as the case may be, of similar weight and fineness, an allowance of six per cent being made to the Japanese authorities to cover the expense of recoinage;" and under this arrangement one Mexican dollar was exchanged for two gold *bu* (each value fifty *sen*). Then the existing treaties were entered into, and it was agreed<sup>2</sup> "that foreign coin shall circulate freely in Japan on a par with Japanese coin of equivalent weight and purity," and that "the citizens of both countries shall be at liberty to use foreign and Japanese coin in the purchase and sale of all articles." It was also arranged that, "the Japanese subjects not being familiar with foreign money, an office shall be established by the Japanese Government in every port open to foreign trade, and shall, during one year after the port is opened, exchange foreign for Japanese coin when required," and further that "no allowance shall hereafter be made as heretofore for the expense of re-coinage." It therefore became imperative upon our Government to keep large stores of coin at the open ports in order to comply with these stipulations in the treaties. The Shōgunate officials soon discovered that in order to exchange Japanese for foreign coin of equal weight and fineness, three *bu* (that is three silver *ichibu*) would have to be given for one Mexican dollar, and the dollar being raised to over forty-five *momme*, the price of all the products of Japan would have to be increased. In consequence of this, a memorial submitted by Mizuno Chikugo-no-kami, the Superintendent of the Board of Finance and Foreign Affairs, was approved of, and the coinage was commenced of silver *nanrio*, two of them being equal in weight to one dollar. This step was notified to the Foreign Representatives in the following terms:—"The Japanese Government will in future give, in exchange for Mexican dollars, the newly coined silver *nanrio*. The existing *ichibu-gin* was coined at a time when the Government were in want of funds, and was put in circulation at the value stamped upon it. The *ichibu-gin* cannot be treated as the standard coin of Japan, any more than the *issu-gin* (one *shu* silver), the *nibu-ban*, or the *nishu-ban*. The standard coins of Japan are the gold *koban* and silver *nanrio* and these will, in future, be used for purposes of exchange." This was the project for treating the Mexican dollar as equivalent to one *bu*. Foreigners, however, never agreed to the notification and urged upon the Government that they had committed a breach of treaty stipulations. Great confusion then arose, and the Shōgunate authorities found themselves in this dilemma:—they had not a sufficiency of *nanrio* to exchange for the *ichibu-gin* already in circulation, and they were unable to withstand the pressure brought to bear by the treaty Powers. The result followed that the notification was rescinded a few weeks after publication, and it was arranged to exchange dollars for their weight in *ichibu-gin*. A notification was also made to the native merchants in the treaty ports, that dollars should be taken as worth three *bu* each. It was altogether unreasonable to imagine that the merchants would give three *bu* for what they had hitherto got for two, and sometimes only one *bu*, and they therefore refused to obey the notification. The foreigners then addressed the authorities on the subject and demanded that the Government should themselves effect the exchange as provided for in the treaties. This the Government were wholly unable to do, but they issued another notification couched in more stringent terms peremptorily ordering the acceptance of the dollar at the value of three *bu*. This last notification was of no more avail than the former one, and things remained in a very unsettled state until the month of June

<sup>1</sup> The opening of Kanagawa, Nagasaki and Hakodate.

2 See Article 5 of the American Treaty, and Article 10 of that entered into with Great Britain.



in the following year, (1860). It is worthy of remark that during all this period, owing to the low value placed upon Japanese gold coin, very large quantities of it had been obtained by foreigners and exported from the country.

It may perhaps seem that the foregoing statement of the exchange operations is not altogether relevant to the subject of this article, but, as a stipulation was inserted in the treaties providing for "re-coinage of bullion, &c.," and the Government were unable to carry it into operation, it was made the means of depriving Japan of some of her independent sovereign rights, and tends to shew how eagerly Foreign Powers took advantage of the inexperience of the Shōgunate officials to secure undue advantages. No other nation under Heaven would have consented to allow foreign coin to circulate within its territories at par with the ordinary currency of the country. The problem involved has been found difficult of solution both in Europe and America; and it was a most indefensible proceeding on the part of foreigners to benefit by the ignorance of Japanese, and induce them to submit to stipulations unheard of elsewhere.

When these questions arose respecting the currency and the impediments thereby occasioned to trade, we find, on looking into the internal state of the country, that a succession of civil wars had taken place, consequent upon the arbitrary proceedings of the Tokugawa family. The conclusion of the treaties with foreign Powers gave the Imperial House, then at Kioto, an opportunity of throwing odium on the Shōgunate Government, and a very strong feeling grew up in favour of restoring the power of the Emperor and expelling foreigners altogether from Japan. Ii Kiamon-kami became prime minister and dismissed from office Chiu-nan-gon of Mito, and together with him, as participators in his misconduct, all the able and energetic officials of the Shōgunate. Thus, with the exception of Mizuno, Hori, etc., there were no officials remaining in power who had devoted attention to the subject of relations with other countries, and they were prevented by others from carrying their ideas into practice. In fact, we are justified in saying that "the Shōgunate Government, owing to internal dissensions, had no opportunity of properly dealing with the question of foreign intercourse." Now, if this was the condition of the Supreme Government in Yedo, how much more so was it the case with the minor officials at the open ports?

Again we find that, when the country was first opened to foreign trade, many astute merchants flocked here who were accustomed to over-reaching eastern people, and took unfair advantage of the extra-territoriality clauses in the treaties, to escape from the consequences of any speculations or transactions in business which turned out unfavourably; but on the other hand, as our merchants seem to have been quite as astute as their foreign compeers, a system of mutual deception was very soon instituted. However, if we examine into which party derived the most benefit from these unprincipled practices, we find that our Government and people had become greatly separated by the operation of the feudal system, while the foreign officials and merchants were all on intimate and friendly terms with each other. Thus then, it was generally remarked that, when a lawsuit took place between a native and foreign merchant, the former invariably lost his case even when he should have gained it. The remembrance of this iniquitous state of things awakens feelings of resentment, even now after the lapse of nearly twenty years.

The reasons why this took place are very feasible; the foreign Consuls were always strongly inclined toward their countrymen, and overruled the Japanese officials, who being accustomed to despise the mercantile class willingly gave them up to be plundered by foreigners. The same influence prevented any of the notifications and orders issued by the late Government from being enforced against foreigners, just as if they were living in a paradise of unrestrained license. On the other hand, the Japanese, oppressed by their own officials on one side and foreigners on the other, found themselves, so to say, scarcely allowed room to breathe. This was the first result of extra-territoriality in Japan, and a similar disgraceful state of things has continued, although in a modified form, ever since.

The patriotic party, ostensibly actuated by loyalty to the Emperor and a dislike to foreigners, leagued together against the Shōgunate Government, and tried to prevent the treaties being carried into operation. Foreign intercourse has therefore from the first opening of the ports been a very

difficult subject to deal with. The Shōgunate officials were invariably trampled upon by the foreigners, and the public has already arrived at a verdict upon the acts and motives of the patriotic party of those days. It is therefore unnecessary for us to deal further with the matter, than to give our impartial opinion upon it. We consider that loyalty to the Emperor made the patriotic party anxious by every possible means to overthrow the Shōgunate. They observed that, by preventing the treaties being carried out, they would harass and weaken the Government. In this design they certainly succeeded; but unfortunately, in damaging the Shōgunate, they also inflicted enormous injury upon their own country, and paved the way for many subsequent national disasters and humiliations.

In the month of July, 1859—the year following the opening of the ports—Russian naval officers were assassinated in Yokohama, and subsequently one of the servants of the British Minister was cut down at the front gate of the Legation. Then came the murder of the interpreter of the American Minister, at Akabane, in November, 1860. This last outrage led Sir Rutherford Alcock, the British Minister, and some other Representatives of the Treaty Powers, to desire to haul down their flags and retire to Yokohama, holding the Shōgunate Government responsible for the crimes which had been committed. Fortunately, however, the American Minister declined to join in this step and a peaceful solution of the difficulty was arrived at.

In the summer of 1861, a night attack was made on the British Legation, at the Tosenji (a Buddhist temple at Takawawa, Tokio) in which the assailants were driven off. The result of these continued hostile proceedings was, that the Government were compelled to allow English and French soldiers to be landed and stationed at Yokohama for the protection of their nationals. Now no greater disgrace can possibly happen to any country than to be forced to submit to the presence of a foreign soldiery, more especially when there is no treaty stipulation sanctioning it, and it was a glad day for Japan when the English and French forces were removed some time after the Restoration.

After the assassination of the prime minister, Ii Kamouno-kami, in 1860, loyalty to the Emperor and a hatred of foreigners grew rapidly in intensity. This naturally resulted in a great diminution of the influence of the Shōgunate, and on more than one occasion foreigners took advantage of this to extort concessions which detracted from the independent sovereign rights of the country, the most important in its effects being the postponement of the opening of new ports.

Previous to this time the Government had despatched to America, with a view of concluding other treaties, Niimi Buzen-no-kami, Muragaki Awaji-no-kami and Oguri Bungo-no-kami. These ambassadors were received in America with an effusion of hospitality, highly pleasing to the Shōgunate Government, and accordingly they were very well disposed towards following the advice of the British and French Ministers to send representatives to the six other Treaty Powers viz:—Great Britain, France, Holland, Prussia, Russia and Portugal, asking for the postponement of the opening of the new ports. The Government fell into the trap thus artfully set for them, and despatched Take-no-achi, Shimotsuke-no-kami, Matsudaira, Iwami-no-kami and Kioyoku Moto-no-kami, in the winter of 1861, on a mission to the six Treaty Powers in Europe. This step was principally taken on the advice of Ando Tsushima-no-kami, one of the Privy Counsellors. At this time Mizuno had been dismissed from office, and Hori committed suicide, so that the Privy Counsellors, Ministers and members of the Board of Foreign Affairs, (with the exception of Oguri and two or three others) were a very mediocre collection, and quite willing to make every sacrifice for the sake of temporary quietness. Ando thrust himself prominently forward as a leader in foreign intercourse, and thus drew upon himself the suspicion and dislike of the patriotic party.

As already stated, the object of the mission to Europe was to ask for a postponement of the opening of new ports. Under the existing treaties the port of Niigata was to have been opened for foreign trade on the 1st of January, 1860, Yeddo on the 1st of January, 1862, and Osaka and Kobe on the 1st of January, 1863. The Government, however, found that in consequence of domestic troubles it would be

impossible to comply with the treaties in this respect, and therefore wished to postpone the opening of these ports for five years, when the popular dislike to the measure would have been allayed. The ambassadors succeeded in their object, and a treaty to the desired effect was signed in London. But the foreigners insisted upon some return, and it was accordingly agreed that the duty on wines and spirits should be reduced, and crystal ware classed among the articles paying an *ad valorem* duty of five per cent.<sup>3</sup> In this way the tariff was fixed, and through our own fault we had again to submit to foreign interference with our private affairs.

In the autumn of the year 1862, the retainers of Prince Shimadzu murdered two British subjects at Namamugi. This atrocity led to serious complications, the patriotic party assembling in great numbers at Kioto, demanding to be allowed to expel all foreigners from Japan; and the excitement was so intense, that Shōgun Iyeshige himself had to visit Kioto in order to restore quietness.

In the month of March following (1863), Colonel Neale, the Chargé d'Affaires for Great Britain, arrived in Yokohama, having at his disposal a powerful naval force. On the 19th of the same month he addressed a menacing letter to the Privy Council, stating that the retainers of Prince Shimadzu Saburo, who had committed the murders, should be executed, or else an indemnity of £100,000 paid by the Government and £10,000 by the Prince of Satsuma; and further that, if these demands were not complied with, war would be declared. Twenty days were allowed for an answer to this imperious mandate. All this time the Shōgun was in Kioto much troubled about the project for expelling foreigners and closing the ports to foreign trade, while the Shōgunate Government in Yedo were in great perplexities what to do respecting the demand of the British Representative. Ultimately, after making several ineffectual attempts to gain delay, the Privy Councillors Matsudaira Bungo-no-kami and Inouye Kawachi-no-kami on their own authority paid the £100,000 required, and shelved the difficulty.

But Prince Shimadzu had not paid his £10,000; and accordingly the British Representative sent seven men-of-war in the month of June to Kagoshima, to enforce his demands. Payment was again refused, and hostilities commenced on the 1st of July. Many were killed and wounded on both sides; and the British bombarded Kagoshima, thus committing a savage act repugnant to civilized nations. The ultimate result was that the Satsuma men had to sue for peace; and some of them came to Yedo in a British man-of-war and borrowed the money from the Shōgunate in order to satisfy the claims made on them.

From the time this defeat was inflicted upon our countrymen, the contempt of foreigners for our nation and Government increased greatly, and they indulged in their high-handed behaviour even to a greater extent than previously. At the same time, the Imperial desire for the closing of the ports became more imperative, and the Shōgunate Government ordered Ikeda Chikugo-no-kami, Kawadzu Izu-no-kami and Kawada Sagami-no-kami, &c., to proceed to Europe with a view of arranging for the closing of the ports. However, when the mission arrived in Paris they found that it would be impossible to attain their object, and they were induced to sign a treaty arranging for the continuance of foreign intercourse. It was also agreed by this treaty (which was signed in 1864) that "we" (the Japanese) "shall pay £140,000 as an indemnity for the Shimonoseki affair, and open the straits of Shimonoseki to foreign shipping, and join with France in putting down by force any opposition on the part of the inhabitants. And also that tea-land shall be imported free of duty and the duties on wines, spirits, machinery and curios reduced to six per cent *ad valorem*."<sup>4</sup> Here again our tariff was made to suffer through the interference of foreigners.

When the Imperial mandate was issued to expel all foreigners from the Empire, and close the ports against foreign trade, the clans in the south-west were eager to carry it into effect. The Prince of Chōshū, in particular, was very active in the matter, and constructed strong fortifications along the sea-coast of his territory, in order to protect it from foreign aggression. At this time, vessels sailing from Nagasaki to Yokohama were accustomed to go

through the Inland Sea, and the Shōgunate Government became much alarmed lest a similar difficulty should arise as had already been the case at Kagoshima. Accordingly, the authorities requested the Foreign Representatives to prevent the vessels of their respective countries from navigating the Inland Sea for a short time. This request, which was, under the circumstances, certainly very reasonable, was not only refused on the ground that "by the treaties, foreigners are clearly to be permitted to travel in the interior;" but it actually seemed as if the Foreign Representatives rather encouraged the navigation of that particular water. What the Government anticipated actually happened. In the year 1863, the Prince of Chōshū caused vessels sailing under the flags of Great Britain, France, the United States of America and Holland to be fired upon, and then the Representatives of those Powers at once demanded the payment of an indemnity and the opening of the Straits of Shimonoseki to foreign ships. The Government now found themselves in a position of extreme difficulty, and adopted a temporizing policy, delaying by every possible means a settlement of the question.

In the same year (1864) Ikeda and the other ambassadors returned to Japan and presented a copy of the Paris Convention to the Government. Now the Shōgunate authorities were perfectly aware, from information they had received through private sources, that the failure of the ambassadors to accomplish the object of their mission, viz.—the closing of the ports, and their having signed a treaty agreeing to the payment of an indemnity, arose out of circumstances which really gave them no option in the matter. However, the authorities were afraid to incur the further displeasure of the Imperial House, and, with a view of shielding themselves, degraded Ikeda and the other emissaries and cast them into prison.

In the month of July in the same year (1864), the Chōshū men committed several acts of insubordination against the Imperial authority, and the Shōgunate officials issued orders that an expedition should be prepared for the purpose of punishing them for their misconduct.

The Representatives of Great Britain, France, the United States and Holland, had by this time come to a mutual understanding to send an allied fleet to force the Prince of Chōshū to submit to their terms. The Shōgunate Government represented that it was manifestly inconsistent for these four Powers to make war upon any part of a nation with which they were in friendly alliance, and that, as an expedition was being prepared to punish the Chōshū people, the Government would accept the responsibility of the hostile proceedings of the Prince of that province. These representations had not the slight effect, and the allied fleet, consisting of eighteen men-of-war, bombarded Shimonoseki in the month of August, 1864, and forced the Prince of Chōshū to accept any terms dictated for his acceptance. The treaty then made provided for the payment, to the allies, of \$3,000,000, which is known as, "the Shimonoseki Indemnity." As far as the Prince of Chōshū was concerned, he agreed to the greater portion of the treaty, but the Shōgunate, as the chief governing authority of the nation, had to pay the indemnity out of the general revenues, the Prime Minister, Sakai Hida-no-kami, being forced into doing so by the Foreign Representatives.<sup>5</sup>

Looking back on the state of Japan at this time we are reminded that there were two Governments in existence:—the Imperial and the Shōgunate. Orders were issued by both Governments indiscriminately, and the clans in the various provinces were almost altogether independent and acted as if there was no central authority in the country. The confused state of our domestic affairs afforded Foreign Powers the opportunity they desired to compel the Shōgunate to accede to their demands, but the fact that such undue advantage was taken of our internal troubles, conclusively shews how little regard is paid to considerations of morality in the conduct of diplomatic relations. The various Conventions entered into between the Shōgunate Government, and Great Britain, France, the United States and Holland from 1864 to 1867, are public property, and the reader of them can judge for himself if the proceedings of the Foreign Representatives were creditable to nations who boast of their civilization, enlightenment and liberality. For ourselves, we have arrived

<sup>3</sup> See the London Convention of 1862.

<sup>4</sup> See the Paris Convention.

<sup>5</sup> See the final Convention of Shimonoseki, 1864.

at the conclusion that at that particular time in everything relating to foreigners, whether of a public or private nature, and no matter who was right or who wrong, the Empire of Japan was more in the condition of a country where Foreign Representatives had uncontrolled power of interference than one where a mere extra-territorial immunity was provided by treaty stipulation.

Notwithstanding the treaty concluded at Shimonoseki, the feeling against foreigners continued to gain ground, and the Representatives of the Four Powers proceeded in company to Osaka for the purpose of urging the Imperial Government at Kioto to confirm the treaties already entered into with the Shōgunate. The policy of the Imperial Government was, at this time, opposed to foreign intercourse, and the Shōgunate authorities found themselves in the difficult position of standing between two contending parties and having to keep on friendly terms with both. As usual, the Foreign Representatives mastered the situation and took advantage of it;—they demanded a revision of the tariff.

In the seventh article of the Trade Regulations it had been arranged that the tariff might be revised any time, five years after Kanagawa was opened to foreign trade. This revision could have taken place after the month of June 1864, so that the Representatives of the Treaty Powers persistently urged upon the Shōgunate officials, the necessity of reconsidering the tariff and demanded the reduction of the import duties to five per cent *ad valorem*, according to the London and Paris Conventions.

If the Shōgunate officials had paid the most superficial attention to foreign trade they would not easily have been brought to acquiesce in these demands. But what could be expected? Unfortunately for the country, towards the close of the Shōgunate, the officials were frequently changed: in fact it was not uncommon for a man to receive an appointment in the morning and be dismissed from it in the evening. The result was that, at the time we write of, there was not a single prominent official, except Oguri Kozuke-no-suke, who had the slightest knowledge of the foreign trade. In addition, the Shōgunate was then tottering to its fall, owing to internal dissensions; and it was willing to make any and every sacrifice to retain its grasp of the reins of executive authority. The Shōgunate amid its great dangers and difficulties, engaged as it was in a struggle for existence, looked upon the revision of the tariff as a matter of very secondary importance, and thought moreover to secure the good-will and moral support of the Four Powers by acceding to their wishes. Accordingly, the Privy Councillor Midzuno Izumi-no-Kami, signed a treaty revising the tariff on the 13th of May in the 2nd year of Keio (1866) and fixing the import duties at five per cent *ad valorem*. This was a ruinous proceeding: not only was Japan deprived of the twenty per cent duties formerly fixed by Mr. Harris, but the revenue received a blow the evil effects of which have been felt yearly ever since.

The Shōgunate now made preparations to throw open to foreign intercourse in the month of January, 1868, in accordance with treaty stipulation, the two cities of Osaka and Yedo, but as, just at the time, the Shōgun was about to resign his authority into the hands of the Emperor, another opportunity was given to the Foreign Representatives to meddle in our domestic affairs, an opportunity of which they amply availed themselves.

With the retirement of the Shōgun one central authority was established in Japan; and the feeling against foreigners and intercourse with foreign nations immediately subsided. Friendly relations have since continued and been continually cultivated; while, as the Foreign Representatives have been kept in their proper position, we have been gradually gaining confidence to try and recover the independent sovereign rights so insidiously inveigled from the weakness of our Government.

Since the Restoration, the Government of Japan has actively striven to promote intercourse with foreign countries, and secure for the Empire recognition on an equal footing with the other nations of the world. In carrying out this liberal policy, so opposed to the traditions of our ancient country, a country in which the teachings and example of former generations are perhaps more revered than in any other under the canopy of Heaven, except, indeed, the neighbouring Empire of China, a Minister Plenipoten-

tiary was despatched in the year 1871 to the English and other European Courts and the Washington government. Again in the year 1872, the Junior Prime Minister, Iwakura, the Privy Councillor Kido, the Finance Minister, Okubo, the Assistant Minister for Public Works, Ito, and the Vice-Assistant Foreign Minister, Yamaguchi, were despatched on a mission to visit the different countries of Europe and America to try and arrange a revision of the treaties. The Mission commenced operations in America; but from some unexplained cause the negotiations proceeded no further, and it was determined to let all consideration of the questions involved be settled in Japan. It was made patent to the world, from this time, that we desired the restitution of our independent national rights, the abolition of the noxious principle of extra-territoriality, and free liberty to impose customs duties according to the requirements of the country, without any outside interference.

As the existing treaties could have been revised any time after the 4th of July, 1872, our Government notified to the different Treaty Powers as early as the year 1871, their desire that such revision should take place and expected, with reason, that the matter would receive immediate attention on the return of the Mission from Europe and America. Unfortunately, however, this was not the case. Great changes occurred in the cabinet in the year 1873, then followed the Saga insurrection, the troubles in Formosa, and, shortly afterward the terrible rebellion in the south-west which engaged all the energies and taxed to the utmost the resources of the Government before it was finally crushed. These pressing affairs caused the question of Treaty Revision to remain for the time in abeyance, but in 1877, when tranquillity was finally restored to Japan, the Government recommenced negotiations on the subject. The Foreign Representatives here were made acquainted with the wishes of the authorities, and at the same time our Ambassadors abroad were instructed to make known to the Courts to which they were accredited the requirements of Japan. However, up to the present, Foreign Governments, and the Foreign Representatives here, have procrastinated and delayed consideration of the matter, first upon one pretext and then another, and it may justly be said that nothing has, as yet, been accomplished.

We have now laid before our readers a résumé of the different events which have occurred during the twenty-one years that have elapsed since the signing of the treaties opening Japan to foreign intercourse, and will now proceed to treat, in detail, the various matters in the treaties which require to be altered.

The 22nd article of the existing treaty with Great Britain provides that, "either of the high contracting parties may demand a revision of this treaty and of the trade regulations and the tariff annexed thereto on and after the first of July, 1872, with a view to the insertion therein of such modifications or amendments as experience shall prove to be expedient. It is necessary, however, that one year's notice must be given before such revision can be claimed." We do not say positively that this treaty lapsed at the end of June, 1872. The arrangement made was for the purpose of securing the advantages of peace, trade and navigation, and these must always continue so long as an open rupture does not take place between the two countries. Revision, however, is a different thing altogether, and it is only right and reasonable that alterations should be made which have been found necessary by actual experience. Notice having been given by our Foreign Minister, in the year 1871, that Japan required to have the treaties amended after the 1st of July, 1872, the right to have the alterations made certainly accrued on the latter date, and it is quite clear that if no fresh arrangements were entered into the Japanese Government had the most perfect power to consider the treaties void. Theoretically, therefore, the treaties no longer exist, but practically they are still being acted upon. In all discussion of the subject this should be carefully borne in mind.

The time having happily arrived when Japan is entitled to demand the restitution of independent sovereign rights, how is it that the public are dissatisfied with the action hitherto taken in the matter by the Government?

The demand heard on all sides throughout Japan has long been for the abolition of extra-territoriality and the resumption of power to arrange our own tariff. In com-



pliance with this general wish, His Excellency Iwakura and others went abroad some years since, and made strong representations in America protesting against foreigners, resident in Japan, being exempt from the territorial laws. These remonstrances led to nothing at that time, but in the seven years which have since elapsed the vast strides which have been made in the improvement of our internal administration amply justify the functionaries now charged with negotiating the revision of the treaties, in firmly reasserting the position taken up in 1871-2.

Considering all the circumstances, it certainly affords us matter for great surprise to hear the opinion constantly expressed in high quarters, that "the extra-territoriality question will be left in abeyance, and the efforts of the Government directed entirely to obtaining control of the tariff." We could well understand this course being adopted if the Ministers of the existing Government were in a similar position to the Privy Counsellors in the latter days of the Shōgunate, whose only object was to temporize at any cost, and who took no heed for the future. But then the present Ministry are very differently situated: they are looked up to as the leaders of civilization in Japan, and are to as great an extent the guides of the people as the polar star is the guide of the mariner. It is utterly incredible that they can ignore such a pressing, vital question as that of extra-territoriality and we refuse to believe the current rumours, —well founded although they may seem.

Public writers often treat the questions of extra-territoriality and control of the tariff as on exactly the same basis, and maintain that we should recover the privileges we have lost in both cases. This is no doubt perfectly correct, but when we come to consider which is of the most importance, the question assumes a very different aspect. We will now give our own views in the matter. If it be said that, "our desire for the abolition of extra-territoriality arises from the fact that a portion of our country is practically held by foreigners," then we quite agree with the opinion expressed; but if the desire to regain sole control of the tariff is said to spring from "foreigners now having control of it," then we must altogether dissent. The laws of Japan have no force or effect in Consular Courts: foreigners are punished according to their own laws and by their own tribunals: this is extra-territoriality. With the tariff it is different. The Japanese Government has no power under the existing treaties to alter the tariff, but neither has any Foreign Government. The only way in which any modification can be effected is by a conference of the different Powers interested. It is correct to say that the tariff, which ought to be under the sole control of Japan, is interfered with by foreigners, but as regards extra-territoriality a separate and independent jurisdiction in Japan is claimed and exercised by Foreign Powers. The two questions are therefore very dissimilar. In the case of the tariff the injury we sustain is only trivial, but the seizure of our judicial rights is a very grave and serious matter. Tariffs are frequently arranged by friendly conferences between independent nations, and, as compared with a claim of extra-territoriality, are of secondary importance. It is evidently the usage of treating both cases as on the same footing that has led many people into the error of deeming it sufficient, at present, to get rid of interference with the tariff (a minor consideration) and postpone to a future period the settlement of what practically amounts to a foreign occupation of a portion of our territory.

We will now deal with the two great questions involved in an alteration of the compacts made between Japan and foreign nations:—our judicial and commercial rights. As we desire to progress in regular gradation, we shall commence with the minor question of the tariff first. This question naturally divides itself into two branches; 1st, the right of controlling the tariff; and 2ndly, the proposal to increase the customs' duties. For the sake of convenience and perspicacity we shall treat each branch separately.

Every independent country possesses the most perfect right to impose taxation, to suit its own requirements, regardless of the wishes of any other country. As the existing treaties are in opposition to this most just and reasonable usage, it was found necessary to stipulate that all imported goods on which the duties have been paid, may be transported by the owners into any part of the Japanese Empire without the payment of any further tax or transit-duty whatever,

and further where goods have once paid duty they may be landed at any other port without further payment. In addition, it was, as we have already mentioned, distinctly agreed that the treaties and tariff were to be revised five years after Kanagawa was opened to foreign trade. Now how are we to account for these stipulations? We should imagine that the Foreign Representatives who first concluded the treaties were apprehensive the Japanese Government would become averse to foreign intercourse and try and crush trade by imposing prohibitory duties. They therefore protected themselves by the precautionary stipulations we have quoted above. The Foreign Representatives may have known perfectly well that they were taking undue advantage of Japan, and justified to themselves their action in the matter on the ground of expediency, the welfare of trade being, from their view, at stake. Granted that such was the case, Foreign Governments must now be convinced that neither the Government or people of Japan have any desire to prevent or injure foreign intercourse or trade. The cause of all anxiety on this score being removed, what possible reason exists for the continuance of these stipulations in the treaties? The refusal to consent to their abolition is now positive proof that Japan is not regarded in the light of an independent Empire. This is a national ignominy no longer to be borne, and to remove which every Japanese should be willing to sacrifice his life. If, however, Foreign Powers have no desire to interfere improperly with the sovereign rights of Japan and cast disgrace upon the Empire, then our Government has only to take a firm and determined stand to recover the right to control the tariff without let, hindrance, or interference.

It must however be matter of apprehension to Foreign Governments, that, when we obtain the uncontrolled regulation of the tariff, measures may be adopted prejudicial to foreign trade, such for instance as the imposition of protective duties, which would entail great losses upon foreign subjects resident in Japan. Although this apprehension is altogether groundless, yet it is quite excusable in persons who are ignorant of the actual state of affairs in the Far East. When Japan has once obtained the control of the tariff such commercial treaties should be arranged with other nations, as is now the custom amongst independent countries. These trade conventions are made, not from any "right" which one nation has to force them upon another, but from motives of mutual benefit and advantage and it will certainly be to the interest of Japan to conform to the ordinary procedure. We will now show how Japan is deeply interested in preserving friendly mercantile relations with foreign countries. Suppose that we were to levy a duty of sixty per cent on English cotton yarn and seventy per cent on French woollen goods, no Foreign Government would have any right to prevent us, but then England and France might very easily retaliate and levy a duty of eighty per cent on Japanese silk which would ruinously affect the staple product of this country. It is therefore evident that mutual self-interest will lead to the arrangement of a tariff which will be satisfactory and beneficial to all parties concerned.

It is only natural that we should advocate an addition to the present import duties. We have already given our reasons why we wish to be rid of foreign interference: we will now deal with the question of an increase in the duties.

(To be continued.)

## LAW REPORT.

### IN THE IMPERIAL GERMAN CONSULAR COURT.

Before E. ZAPPE, Esq., Consul.

Messrs. F. GRUNWALD and M. RASPE, Assessors.

Thursday, January 29th, 1880.

Joseph Heid was charged with having bribed a Japanese newspaper boy named Ogawa to deliver for a monthly payment of one yen a nightly copy of the *Japan Gazette* during the period August 1878 to October 1879, at his house the "German Tavern," No. 121.

The accused pleaded *not guilty*, saying that he had not



asked the Japanese boy to bring the paper to his house. In reply to the questions put by the Court, accused stated:—

I am by profession a tailor, but have for many years been keeping bar in public houses. I am now in the "German Hotel," No. 179. From the month of June or July until 1st instant I kept the "German Tavern," No. 121, which I took over from one August Nebbe, when the latter went otter-hunting. During that time, I received a copy of the *Japan Gazette* regularly every night: a Japanese newspaper boy brought it into my house. I had not asked him to bring it, and had no conversation with him about it. Only once when he had missed to bring the evening-paper, I asked him the next day the reason, and he told me that he had no surplus copy. At the end of each month he asked me for one yen, which I paid him. He told me that my predecessor in the place, Nebbe, had paid him the same amount. Before I took No. 121 I had a public house at No. 31, "Travellers Club," and was then for two months subscriber to the *Gazette*, I know that in Germany it is usual that the employes in printing offices take a copy of the newspaper home with them. It never struck me that the Japanese boy stole the copy of the newspaper which he brought me every night. I thought, that the carriers of the newspapers might have some copies for sale for the proprietors, besides those copies which they brought to the regular subscribers. It would of course be strange if the newspaper proprietors sold for one yen a month on the evening of publication, the same papers for which they charged their regular subscribers \$2.50 a month. In October last I was invited to go to the *Gazette* office and see Mr. Anglin; when I went there, he called all the newspaper boys into the room, and asked me to point out the boy, who used to carry the *Gazette* to my house. I did so, and Mr. Anglin sent for a policeman, to whom he delivered the boy on a charge of theft. I did not know that boy until I came to No. 121. I did not tell Mr. Anglin that the boy had formerly been my servant. I used to find the *Gazette* in No. 121, when the place was kept by my predecessor, Nebbe.

Mr. J. R. Anglin, sworn:—I am one of the proprietors of the *Japan Gazette*; Mr. Talbot is my partner. One evening in October last, on the 25th I believe, in going home I happened to see one of our newspaper-carriers enter Heid's place with newspapers. Knowing that Heid was not a subscriber to the *Gazette*, and knowing also that the practice exists among grogshop-keepers to bribe the boys to sell them newspapers, I watched Heid's house the next evening, and again saw the same boy enter it with newspapers. On the following day, which was a Saturday, I went in the afternoon to No. 121; I saw the *Gazette* lying on a table in the bar-room, I asked for Heid, but was told he was not in; I then left word for him to come to my office. When he came, I called all the boys into the office, and in the presence of Mr. Talbot I asked Heid to point out the boy, who was in the habit of bringing him the *Gazette*. He did so, and I sent for a policeman, to whom I handed the boy. He told me that the boy had formerly been in his service, and that he had brought him the papers for the last two years. He offered to pay me the subscription for that time if he could thereby hush up the matter. I refused, and on the following Monday I sent my complaint to this Consulate. The boy has been punished in the Saibansho for having stolen a copy of the *Gazette* every night during one year, and he has there stated himself that he had formerly been in Heid's service.

The accused denied having told Mr. Anglin that the boy had been in his service.

Mr. Anglin added, that the monthly subscription to the *Japan Gazette* evening number, is \$2.50 per month, and that single copies sell for 25 cents each. They only print a very few copies over and above the number subscribed for. No gratis copy is given to any of the Japanese employes.

August Nebbe, warned to speak the truth, said:—I am by profession a sailor. On the 1st January, 1876, I established the "German Tavern" at No. 121. When I in June, 1878, went otter-hunting I left the establishment in the hands of Heid. I never subscribed to the *Japan Gazette*, but a copy came nevertheless mostly every night to my house, and was read by me and my guests. A Japanese boy brought the paper; how he came to bring it I don't know. I never asked him to do so. Now and then he

asked me for \$1.00, which I gave him. I took no thought, whether the paper was stolen. It is just the same thing with newspapers, as with coal: one may buy a number of baskets full from the Japanese boys for a trifle. I have often done so myself.

Ozawa, a prisoner in convict-dress, admonished to speak the truth:—I used to take the *Japan Gazette* to "Schneider" (Heid), while he was living at No. 121. I continued to do so for 15 months, every evening. I had previously done the same thing for "Peter" (Nebbe), while he was at No. 121. It was "Peter" who persuaded me to steal a daily copy of the *Gazette*, and sell it to him. I know him from having lived in the same compound with him. I did not deliver the *Gazette* so regularly to him as I afterwards did to "Schneider." He paid me one yen about every three months, when "Peter" left No. 121, "Schneider" told me that he had now taken over the place, and that he wanted me to continue the delivery of the paper. I did so, and he paid me one yen every month. I am now in Kanagawa prison under sentence of one year's penal servitude for having stolen and sold my master's property, viz. copies of the *Japan Gazette*.

Nebbe re-called denied that he ever spoke to witness about procuring him the *Japan Gazette*. He does not know how that paper was first brought into the house. Nor did he, when he handed over No. 121 to Heid, tell the latter that the *Gazette* was brought every evening to the house, by a Japanese boy, who therefore was to receive one yen per month.

Accused Heid was confronted with Nebbe, and contended that when Nebbe handed him the house No. 121, he told him that the *Gazette* came in the house every evening, and that the Japanese boy was to have a yen per month. Asked whether he had anything to say in his defence, he repeated that he had not asked the Japanese to bring the newspaper. He was not conscious of having bought stolen property and demanded to be acquitted.

The Court now retired, and on re-entering the Court-room, the President read the following:—

#### SENTENCE.

The Court finds the accused Joseph Heid guilty as a receiver of stolen goods, condemns him to imprisonment during seven days, and orders him to pay the costs of the prosecution.

#### Reasons.

Any person who, with a view to make a profit, conceals, buys, receives in pawn or otherwise brings into his possession, or who assists in transferring to others, goods of which he knew, or from the circumstances must have presumed, that they were obtained by a crime, is liable to be punished as a receiver of stolen goods.

By the admission of the accused and the evidence of the witnesses and of Ozawa Shidzuyo, it is proved, that the accused daily or almost every day, during a period of 15 months in the years 1878 and 1879, bought from Ozawa Shidzuyo for one yen per month a copy of the newspaper, the *Japan Gazette*, although he knew that the monthly subscription for that paper amounted to \$2.50 a month.

It is further proved by the official correspondence between this Consulate and the Court of Kanagawa Ken, as likewise by the evidence of the witness Ozawa Shidzuyo, that the newspaper-copies, which during the above-mentioned period were sold to the accused, had been stolen by the seller.

The defence of the accused, that he acted under the impression that Ozawa had a right to sell the copies for his own account, is unworthy of credit, considering that the accused as an old resident of Yokohama must have known, that it is not the custom among the Yokohama newspaper-proprietors to furnish their native employes with newspapers to sell for their, the natives, own account.

All these facts have thoroughly convinced the Court, that the accused Joseph Heid has for a period of fifteen months during the years 1878 and 1879 almost daily bought from Ozawa Shidzuyo a copy of the newspaper, the *Japan Gazette*, although he from the circumstances must have supposed that those newspapers had been obtained by a crime, and also that he bought the copies with the view to making a profit, and thus according to Art. 259 in the penal code has made himself liable to the punishment provided for receivers of stolen goods.

The Article just quoted punishes that offence with imprisonment, and the sentence of imprisonment during seven days is thus justified, the good character hitherto enjoyed by the accused having been taken into due consideration.

As to the costs, the sentence is in conformity with Art. 497 of the law on criminal procedure.

#### INCIDENT OF PEASANT LIFE IN BRITTANY.

The great attraction of Brittany is "the peasantry," and no wonder, for they are quite *en genre*, quite different from all other populations. They combine the sombre, taciturn nature of the Spaniard with the droll, wild life of the Irish. It is difficult to understand how the same people can be silent and noisy—reserved and running over with jollity. Yet so it is. There must be a strain of tiger in a population which could amuse itself as lately as 1847 in cutting the life out of friends with a whip made after this fashion:—Lash, eighteen feet long, swelling at a little distance from the handle to the thickness of a man's arm, from whence it tapered to a twisted and strongly knotted end, made more like a knife by the help of a mixture of glue. This plaything was fixed upon a strong, stiff stick, and often not only cut a man into steaks, but sometimes cut out the life of him at a single stroke. Yet a local historian gives an account of a fête which he attended in 1847, at which the chief attraction was a contest between twelve men, six on a side, with these deadly weapons. The smack of these whips made, he says, much more noise than a gun shot; they could be heard at the distance of two and a half miles, and when several smack their whips in concert the noise is so terrible that one must either run away or stop up one's ears. These twelve men were ranged opposite one another at a distance almost corresponding to the length of the lashes of their whips. They stood up, having for protection in the shape of dress only short felt breeches, and shirts made of stout sailcloth. Like all Breton peasants of the old style, their hair hung down their backs in long tresses, but was cut straight across the forehead after the fashion of Gainsborough's "Blue Boy." They wore no hats or head-covering. The left arm was naked, but the right arm, which held the whip, was protected from the fist to the neck by an armet or shield of thick leather. The sides were distinguished by the colour of the tuft of their whips, the one being white, the other red.

These men thus standing face to face were there to be wounded almost to death for the glory thereof, and also for the prize, which consisted of half-a-dozen striped pocket-handkerchiefs and a pound of tobacco. The signal given by an old peasant, the combatants put themselves into the attitude of defiance, the whip raised, while the lash was held in the left hand. "Strike," said the same voice, and the twelve cables were let loose in an instant, but no smack was heard as they met, twisted, and struggled in mid-air.

Those most renowned quickly disengaged their lashes and dealt the second and dreadful blow upon the persons of their antagonists, opening up long seams of livid or bleeding flesh; on the third stroke all the faces except two were seamed and flowing with blood. These two were the leaders—one tall, the other short; one heavy, the other light; one all flesh, the other, although only five feet high, all nerves and sinews. An outsider would have backed the giant, but the boys of Pipriac knew too well the prowess of the dwarf to risk their money against him.

The combat now raged with fury; men disdained to parry, they were only eager to strike. The sound was that of a volley of musketry. The lashes soften into tow, but harden again and glue themselves together with blood. The faces are no longer human; the long hair hangs down in front, bathed in perspiration and blood. But not one blow has fallen on either champion. They have reserved themselves; they have guarded and parried, knowing that upon them the issue of the fight did depend. But now the tall man has hit home. A long, blue, spiral mark, which here and there squirts blood, twists round the left arm of the little Joseph, and makes him stagger with pain. He recovers himself; launches his whip at his foe, and but six inches intervened between its deadly point and the face of Joseph the great. Animated by his first success, Kaer stepped forward bent his whole strength to the blow which he aimed at Josille. The little man never parried the blow, but pirouetted as it were; while, without any effort, he threw out his lash softly. The blow of Kaer missed; but when Josille sharply drew back his lash, the whole face of Kaer was cut in half—a gigantic gap opened up the very bones. These two stood alone in the lists; the rest had made a truce, and were engaged in attending to their grievous wounds. Kaer, blinded by the shock, put his armet of leather before his face and paused. Josille, so far from profiting by the occasion and pressing his advantage, coolly took out his pocket-handkerchief and loudly blew his nose, to the great amusement of his backers, who thought it an excellent joke. The laughter made Kaer mad, threw him out of his *sang-froid*, and made him wild. He struck, stamped and made wonderful points; but Josille was calm; and at the end

of ten minutes the giant, covered with wounds, his shirt cut into ribbons, his mouth foaming, his eyes blinded, fell heavily upon his knees. "Don't give in!" cried some voices still; but the effort to rise was vain. Josille, apparently incapable of pity, like a true Breton peasant, again blew his nose, and prepared to give the falling man his *coup de grâce*.

A shiver ran through the crowd; but Josille was better than he seemed, for instead of cutting the poor flesh, he dextrously drew the whip out of the hands of the victim, and folded his arms upon his breast. Kaer shut his eyes, and laid his burning head upon the sand. The whites were proclaimed the victors. Each subaltern had a pocket-handkerchief worth sixpence, and Josille the pound of tobacco. I know not whether any of these scenes are enacted now, but this account is so recent that it throws light upon the Breton peasant as I find him.—*Cornhill Magazine*.

#### THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

BY CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

#### CHAPTER XXXIV.

##### THE BATTLE OF THE WILD FOWL.

This open attack upon the chief stronghold of the Heike power in the province was a challenge which the Taira chief might not underlie. The so called rebels were as yet but a very insignificant force, and their first success could only be counted a fortunate chance, but in the ancient prestige of the Minamoto name and in the slumbering—though by no means lifeless—fealty of the provincial barons, a less astute leader than Kiyomori might have seen signs of no despicable danger. Moreover a long habit of unchallenged autocracy had made the old man so intolerant of anything resembling opposition that the news of this revolt roused him to the fiercest wrath. Ill at ease in mind and body alike, he began perhaps to forecast the decadence of the huge fabric his iron grasp alone had sustained, and though the capital presently resounded with preparations for the equipment and march of an army that should crush the rebels under foot, the supposed tardiness of his liegemen or the apparent apathy of his allies kept him constantly in a ferment of impatience.

Meanwhile fate was preparing for Yoritomo a buffet that well nigh overwhelmed him. The victory he had gained at the outset did indeed bring him some small access of force, so that he presently found himself at the head of about three hundred men, but on the other hand Oba Saburo, a powerful baron of the neighbouring province and at one time a staunch supporter of his old liege-lords, the Genji, suddenly conceived the idea of establishing an everlasting claim on the gratitude of the Taira chief by destroying his dangerous rival. To this end he summoned all his vassals, numbering more than three thousand, and took the field with such promptitude that the rumour of his design scarcely preceded its execution.

Yoritomo and his handful of knights had taken up a position at a place called the 'Stone Bridge,' among the precipitous hills of Hakone. Here they had thrown up a breast-work, and added what their rude skill might to the natural advantages of the ground, for their only hope consisted in being able to hold out until the arrival of promised aid in some degree remedied their grievous inferiority of force. Oba, however, was not less cognizant of this necessity. He had no sooner come within sight of his enemies' position than he gave the order to attack forthwith, regardless of the difficulties his men had to encounter in their advance.

The battle that ensued was on this side a heroic defence, on that, a dogged repetition of assault after assault. The Minamoto knights used hollow-headed arrows, whose humming sound was designed to conceal their paucity, but neither device nor desperation might make head against such odds, and in a few hours nothing remained of the Genji force but half a dozen men who followed Yoritomo in his flight towards the seashore.

Never did fugitives find themselves in harder case. Between them and the point where they hoped to embark lay a jungle-clad hill, so intersected by watercourses and precipitous ravines that a man might not trust himself beyond the pathway, though in following it he was often obliged to cross rocky spurs entirely visible from the valley beneath. Yoritomo understood that nothing could save him but some negligence almost intentional on the part of his enemies, and unwilling that his now apparently inevitable fate should include

those who had already suffered so much for his sake, he dispersed his followers, desiring each to provide for his own safety, since by holding together they only facilitated pursuit.

It thus happened that when Oba reached the valley he saw but two figures climbing the steep pathway before him, and in one of the two he recognized the man whose head was needed to make his triumph complete. Urging his horse rapidly up the rocky track, he was just in time to see the fugitives leave the road, and conceal themselves apparently behind a fallen pine tree, whose branches the wisteria and other creepers had found such a convenient trellis that a bird could scarcely have discovered space to roost among the luxuriance of leaf and tendril. Here Oba dismounted from his horse and would have continued the pursuit on foot, but he was outstripped by one of his knights, Kajiwaru Kagetoki, who ran forward and passed first behind the tree.

Oba's eyes had not deceived him. Yoritomo seeing that it was hopeless to continue his flight, had taken refuge in the thicket, not more with the design of saving his life than of winning leisure to end it honourably, and when Kajiwaru descried him, he had knelt down and was just in the act of turning the point of his dagger towards his own bosom.

From the incidents of that moment depend a chain of consequences illimitably powerful for good and evil in the future. Kajiwaru had outstripped his chief by the strength of his zeal for their common cause, but when his glance encountered that of the hunted man kneeling in the shadow of the pine tree, something more worthy to be called an inspiration than a caprice changed him suddenly from an enemy to an ally. Making signs to dissuade Yoritomo from his design, he came softly to his side and pledged himself to devise some means of baffling his pursuers, adding a request—which seemed almost a mockery under the circumstances—that if by any chance fortune should favour the Genji arms, the service rendered at that critical moment should not be easily forgotten.

There was ample motive to mistrust so unaccountable an offer of service, but since the alternative was death, Yoritomo sheathed his dagger while the other hastened back to oppose his comrades' advance. Oba of course had no suspicion of Kajiwaru's treachery, but for all that he refused to be persuaded against the evidence of his own eyesight and insisted on exploring the thicket himself. Too resolute an opposition could only have excited doubt. Kajiwaru was therefore constrained to permit his ally's passage, taking the precaution, however, of preceding him on the plea of acting as guide. He had not yet abandoned all hope, thinking perhaps that the fugitives would have employed their respite for some better purpose than that of abiding so hazardous an issue, but the fact was that Yoritomo had no choice, since he knew that the pathway along which his enemies were advancing, was the only possible means of escape from the ravine.

Thus Kajiwaru's merciful design was on the point of achieving his own ruin as well as that of the man he sought to succour, when there happened one of those strange accidents which so often interrupt the course of apparently inevitable events. A few yards on this side of its inner exit the leafy alley that led to the open space where Yoritomo sat, grew so narrow that a man might not pass without thrusting back the boughs on either side. Kajiwaru, advancing with the greatest possible leisure and peering cautiously before him, saw to his astonishment that in the brief interval of his absence a spider had spun its web right athwart the pathway. He turned immediately to Oba and asked him with a laugh whether he thought it possible that the passage of two full grown men in armour could have left these glittering threads unbroken, and whether it was not much more reasonable to suppose that the fugitives had only pretended to turn aside from the track and were even now reaping the benefit of their successful ruse. Oba was completely convinced by this argument, and so it fell out that the future ruler of Japan owed his life to the intervention of an unusually busy spider!

Yoritomo was not a whit discouraged by this disastrous defeat. He had firm faith in the vitality of his cause, and when he embarked that evening with a little band of liegemen who had joined him on the seashore, he turned his eyes northward with a confidence that did not fail to reassure his followers.

In the province of Kadzusa, whither the fugitives shaped their course, reasons more cogent than even hereditary fealty disposed men to succour the Genji chief. Not a few of the most powerful barons had charges of insult and injury to prefer

against the ruling clan, so that when Yoritomo raised his standard on the plains of the River Sumida, he soon found himself at the head of a large and enthusiastic force.

Oba Saimuro was the first to take the field on the Taira side, but the triumph his numerical superiority had enabled him to gain was now avenged by a crushing defeat, inasmuch that he recognized the futility of resistance and prayed permission to return to his old allegiance.

This victory established the supremacy of the Genji arms in the north-eastern provinces, but in the meanwhile an immense host had marched from the capital to punish the so-called rebels. More than two hundred thousand men were pressing northward by the great shore route, and though Yoritomo could scarcely muster a fourth of that number, he determined not to shun the offered combat.

Along the shores of the Suruga sea lies a wide expanse of wooded slopes, intersected by deep ravines and rivers whose rocky channels hardly suffice to contain the rushing torrents of melted snow that Mount Fuji shakes from his comely shoulders in the early summer. This was the place Yoritomo selected as a battle ground, partly because every nook and knoll was familiar to him, and partly because in the event of defeat, he could withdraw his troops over the Hakone hills, easily holding the precipitous passes against any attempt the enemy might make to force them.

Here then the two armies were encamped on the banks of the river Fuji in the middle of November, seven hundred years ago. The weather was fine but bitterly cold and every day their snowy covering seemed to creep farther and farther down the hill-sides. Knight and vassal alike found scanty shelter in caves or wooden hut from the biting frosts at night and the keen blasts by day, so that men looked forward with ever increasing impatience to the moment when the heat of the fray should drive the chill from their numbed limbs.

If this was the case with the Genji knights, most of whom habit had inured to even sterner hardships, it was still more so with the Taira nobles, already wearied by their long journey and yearning to resume their luxurious fashion of life at the capital. Yoritomo seeing how ill his own people brooked the delay that succeeded their arrival at the battle-ground, was at no loss to understand how it fared with the enemy, and seeking like a skillful commander to profit by every opportunity chance threw in his way, he selected an admirable position for defence, and determined to await the assault his opponents superior numbers and more irksome circumstances would surely impel them to deliver.

But there was something far less endurable to the Heike host than either cold or discomfort, and that was the prospect of encountering the men they had come out to annihilate. An extraordinary trepidation, based in part upon weird stories circulated amongst them by secret partisans of their foes, and in part upon experience of the things that had actually befallen them at the bridge of the Yodo, made them huddle over their camp fires at night, expecting every moment to see the flash of smiting weapons or hear the shout of fierce onset. Surely if their commanders had not shared this disquiet they could not have endured the semblance of hesitation in the presence of an enemy comparatively so inferior, but whatever their motive was, it is certain that day after day of inaction diminished the confidence of their troops and increased that of their foes, until Yoritomo at last persuaded of the truth, resolved to assume the offensive and deliver an assault forthwith.

At dawn of the day preceding the execution of this design he ascended a hill in the vicinity of the camp to observe, as was his custom, whether any change had taken place in the relative positions of the two armies. Every detail of the scene was perfectly familiar to him, and as the mists rolled away from the undulating slopes and the sound of the sea began to be borne nearer by the morning breeze, he stooped down and peered into the recesses of the valleys and shadows of the woods with an intentness that nothing might escape. But no change whatsoever had taken place since the preceding evening. The Fujikawa crept quietly shoreward, like a huge silver serpent, washing the bases of reedy slopes and reflecting the eaves of deeply thatched farmsteads, while here and there among the hillocks on its further bank the smoke of the Heike camp fires curled slowly upwards, and the rising sun shone on the many-coloured silk hangings that surrounded the huts of these luxurious warriors.

Yoritomo had turned to descend the hill when happening



to look northward, he observed a band of sixty or seventy men grouped about a white flag on a little plateau above the roadside. They were so near that it was almost possible to distinguish their features, and Yoritomo perceived from their attitude as well as from the weary look of the horses standing saddled beside them, that the dawning must have been some hours distant when they commenced their journey.

The arrival of allies was happily an event of so little rarity that this troop of cavaliers caused no surprise either to the Genji chief or his attendants. Nevertheless Yoritomo scanned the new comers with unwonted curiosity, and presently turning to one of his followers desired him to ride forward and ascertain who might be this handful of friends who reached the camp at such an opportune moment.

Yataro, the recipient of this commission, marvelling not a little at the interest his lord displayed in so unimportant an occurrence, moved off discontentedly enough for this departure from the ordinary routine of etiquette seemed altogether unjustifiable under the circumstances, and to prevent any misconception on their part to whom his mission lay, he deemed it expedient to execute it with the least possible display of deference.

Riding therefore directly up to the plateau of the white pennoncelle, he did not draw bridle till he found himself face to face with one in whom he easily recognized the leader of the new-comers. This was a young knight dressed in gold-enchased armour and seated on a bear-skin cushion at the foot of the bandlerole. The comeliness of his countenance, otherwise almost faultlessly perfect and of unusually fair complexion, was somewhat marred by a slight projection of the upper teeth, while his frame, though slender, was so well knit and perfectly proportioned that it suggested an uncommon union of sinew and suppleness. Indeed it was scarcely possible to believe that he had shared the fatigues whose effects were so plainly perceptible in the bearing of his followers, for while these for the most part lay upon the ground in attitudes of utter weariness, his face was as fresh and his eye as clear as though his waking was no older than the sunrise. This power of endurance seemed also to be possessed, though in much smaller degree, by two of those that stood beside him; the one a soldier of gigantic proportions, carrying his heavy plate armour as easily as a silk surcoat, and leaning on a glaive fully ten feet long; the other also a man of massive limb and ample chest, but showing by his white hair and shrunken features that the interval between the prime and the decline of his life had been suddenly bridged over by some harrowing catastrophe.

Yoritomo's envoy delivered his message without dismounting. The Earl of Kamakura\* had sent him, he said, to enquire the names and purpose of the new-comers. Judging from their pennon they were allies, but on the eve of a battle it was necessary to be heedful of friend and foe's positions alike.

The young knight listened at first to Yataro's words with quiet courtesy, but at the mention of the impending conflict, he sprang to his feet and clapped his hands in an ecstasy of delight. "Few days in my life have brought me such glad tidings as these of yours," he said to the messenger. "We have journeyed as fast as horse might travel or riders' endure with the hope of joining in this mêlée, but it seemed scarcely possible that our desire should be achieved. Pardon me, however, for thus delaying your errand. Tell the Earl, I pray you, that one whom he remembers perhaps as Ushiwaka, but whose name is now Yoshitsune, has ridden from Oshiu to fight under his banner, and that deeming one sword before the battle better than a clump of spears after the victory, he has neither waited for those that were not ready nor tarried for such as fell behind."

Before Yoshitsune had ceased speaking, Yataro was kneeling on the ground with his forehead bowed in the dust. He had often heard the Earl mention his youngest brother in a way that left little doubt as to the nature of the welcome Yoshitsune would receive, and men were not a little astonished when they compared the impetuous speed of the messenger's return with the leisurely dignity of his departure.

Not one of Yoritomo's most intimate friends could remember to have seen him so much moved as he was by the receipt of Yataro's intelligence. He desired his brother to be immediately conducted into his presence, and summoned all his chief liegemen and allies to bid the new-comers welcome.

\* The title by which Yoritomo was known.

Yoshitsune accordingly found himself presently ushered into a huge enclosure, festooned on all sides with curtains on which the Minamoto arms were emblazoned, but scarcely sufficient despite its spaciousness to contain the crowd of knights and nobles whose bear-skin cushions were spread on every available spot within. Yoritomo was seated on a richly bordered mat forming a sort of slightly elevated dais, but he no sooner caught sight of Yoshitsune than he hastened forward, and led him at once to the place of honour beside his own. Here for a moment the two men, unconscious of everything beyond the joy of this meeting, were content to gaze at one another without seeking to frame any form of question or greeting, until the buzz of congratulation that rose from the assembled nobles recalled Yoritomo to the memory of his position.

"Believe me, brother," he said, "next to that of our murdered father, there is no face among the living or the dead I could have wished to behold before your own. Your coming at this moment is to me a better omen than the addition of ten thousand allies. But we have many things to tell each other that are ill-fitted for alien ears; neither, I ween, will such an apt soldier as fame calls you be content to waste in words the time we need for preparation. On the issue of to-morrow's struggle depends in a great measure the success of our cause. Let us bestir ourselves to complete what we have in hand, that we may gain the more leisure to renew our memories of the past."

So saying Yoritomo turned to the assembly, and explained his intention of attacking the Heike army on the following day. He pointed out in a few concise words the just inference to be drawn from the enemy's inaction, stating however very plainly that unless that inference were correct, nothing but disaster could be expected to result from this change of attitude. Not a single voice was raised in opposition to this proposal. The nobles, one and all, welcomed the announcement of the coming struggle with an eagerness that showed at once how weary they had grown of waiting and how little they were troubled by the consideration of the enemy's superior numbers. They were unanimous in ascribing the southern army's idleness to timidity, and prophesied an easy victory over such craven opponents.

Yoritomo then described the method he proposed to pursue in the attack. It was to be delivered on two fronts simultaneously; one by a direct advance on the enemy's position, the other by a flank march through the passes of the western valleys, and of this, the more difficult as well as the more important manœuvre, he entrusted the conduct to Yoshitsune.

That was indeed a glad and a busy day in the Genji cantonments, and it was not till long after nightfall that all the necessary dispositions having been completed, the two brothers found leisure for their much desired meeting. Yoritomo then shewed Yoshitsune the commission he had received from the ex-emperor and recounted all the adventures of his past life, unfolding at the same time his already matured plan for the establishment in the north of a court and a capital that should yield in nothing to the magnificence of Kiyoto. He confessed however that until his brother's arrival he had scarce dared to reckon on the realization of this scheme, for loyal as his allies seemed there was not one amongst them on whose sympathy he could surely count; neither might he forget that their allegiance to the House of Hei, so long observed, and so lately laid aside, was liable to be resumed at the instance of any freak of fortune. The Taira power could never be completely broken till its strongholds in the south were captured or destroyed, while on the other hand the fealty of the northern barons could not be trusted to endure for a month in the absence of the only man they dared not deceive. Of this dilemma Yoshitsune's aid afforded an easy solution. To him Yoritomo could commit the leadership of the forces he proposed to despatch southwards as soon as the highways were cleared of these two hundred thousand obstructions encamped beyond the river, and even as Yoshitsune swore to undertake this and any other service possible to man, the first step towards the fulfilment of his promise was in process of achievement by an agency the most extraordinary that ever influenced the issue of a battle.

Benkei and Saburo had been the first to receive intelligence of the part their young master was destined to take in the engagement of the morrow. Neither of them had any knowledge of the paths by which the force under Yoshitsune's command would be obliged to advance, but they both understood the fatal mischief such ignorance might cause, and they

therefore determined to devote the early part of the night to exploring the valleys on the west of the Heike position.

Saburo joined in this undertaking with something of the alacrity that had always distinguished him before Ino's death. The prospect of the impending combat had already roused him a little from his wonted apathy, but this night reconnaissance was particularly suited to his mood, since it included a remote possibility of discovering whether Hiramori was among the southern troops, and if so, in what part of their camp his pennoncelle might be found.

The two men disguised in farmers' clothes and carrying only their short swords, crossed the river a long way above the Genji camp and soon struck the path they desired to explore. It was a moonless night, but yet there was sufficient light to show them the general features of the country, and they had proceeded unchallenged to within about a mile of the enemy's position, when the road emerged upon a wide plain in the centre of which was a large sheet of water with reedy banks and deep marshes on its outskirts. The vicinity of this plain to the Heike camp made its examination especially expedient, and so the explorers, leaving the road, followed a sort of bank or causeway that led directly towards the margin of the lake. After a time their progress was interrupted by a forest of reeds and alders through which they forced their way with considerable difficulty and no little noise, startling at each step flocks of wild fowl which wheeled round and round above their heads in ever increasing masses.

Benkei had just suggested that these birds might perhaps give inconvenient warning of their approach, when his sandal catching upon an alder stump, he staggered forward and fell with a heavy splash into the shallow water on the edge of the lake. The noise of his fall startled the countless myriads of water fowl that were feeding on and around the water, and as they rose and swept seaward, the beating of their pinions sounded like the rush of an immense host. Even Saburo and his companion were alarmed by this sudden din bursting forth in the midnight silence. They turned and retraced their steps at full speed, remarking to their astonishment and perplexity that the noise of the birds' flight seemed to increase more and more until it merged into a clamour amid which they fancied they could distinguish the shouting of men and the neighing of horses.

The next morning before daybreak, the two divisions of Yoritomo's army, following their appointed routes, marched to the attack of the Heike position. Their progress was at the last somewhat slow, for the complete absence of opposition and the silence into which they advanced suggested the idea of an ambushade. Halting within bow-shot of the place where the enemy's pennons had waved on the preceding morning, they shouted three times, and even discharged a flight of random arrows, but when this too failed to elicit any response, they rushed forward and threaded their way unmolested among the entanglements and pitfalls that constituted the sole guardians of the position.

Throughout all the length and breadth of the southern army's cantonments, the only living being was an unfortunate woman, who had been knocked down and so grievously mangled by horses feet that it was long before any intelligent account could be elicited from her. When at last she recovered sufficiently to speak, all she had to tell was that the camp had been roused about midnight by a rushing sound like the tramp of many men, and that the Taira soldiers, overtaken by an unendurable panic, had saddled their horses and fled away into the night, casting away their armour and equipments and crushing every thing under foot in their precipitate retreat.

(To be continued.)

#### DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

To all my Eastern friends a kind farewell!  
Where we may meet again I scarce can tell.

1.

Off my aid you invoke when you wish to look smart;  
Even nature can't scorn the assistance of Art.

2.

Next, a hearty good cheer, known to different tongues,  
But it's best given forth from a Britisher's lungs.

3.

Take your map of Japan, and search through it aright,  
You will there find a *Kra* that will give you this light.

4.

Though the Radical class may assail me with jeers,  
Still I've always the right to be tried by my peers.

HOODLUM.

#### ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF JAN. 24TH, BY "SAYONARA."

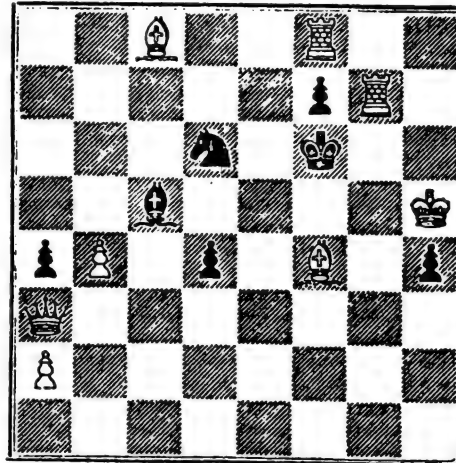
Slide	ucce	Skate.
L	ar	K
I	sabell	A (Queen of Edward II.)
D	eb	T
E	nterp	E (Goddess of Music.)

Correct answers received from Rink, Hoodlum, Zulu, Skate and Jack Frost. Others incorrect.

#### CHESS PROBLEM,

BY JOHN W. LENAUX.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

#### SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF JAN. 24TH, BY G. Groves.

White.

1—K. to K B. 4.

2—K. to K Kt. 4.

3—K. to K Kt. 5 mate.

Black.

1—P. to K. 4 check.

2—K. to Kt.

Correct answer received from V.d.P.

#### NEXT MAIL DUE FROM

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 1st
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 9th*
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Feb. 14th
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 7th†
HONGKONG .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 2nd
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Feb. 11th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 27th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. *5th

\* Left San Francisco, 17th January, *Belgic*.

† Left Hongkong, 28th January, *Sunda*.

#### NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Feb. 14th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 2nd
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 14th
EUROPE, VIA HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Feb. 9th
HONGKONG, VIA KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 7th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 12th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 4th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 4th

The arrival and departure of mails by the Pacific Mail, and Occidental and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

#### LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

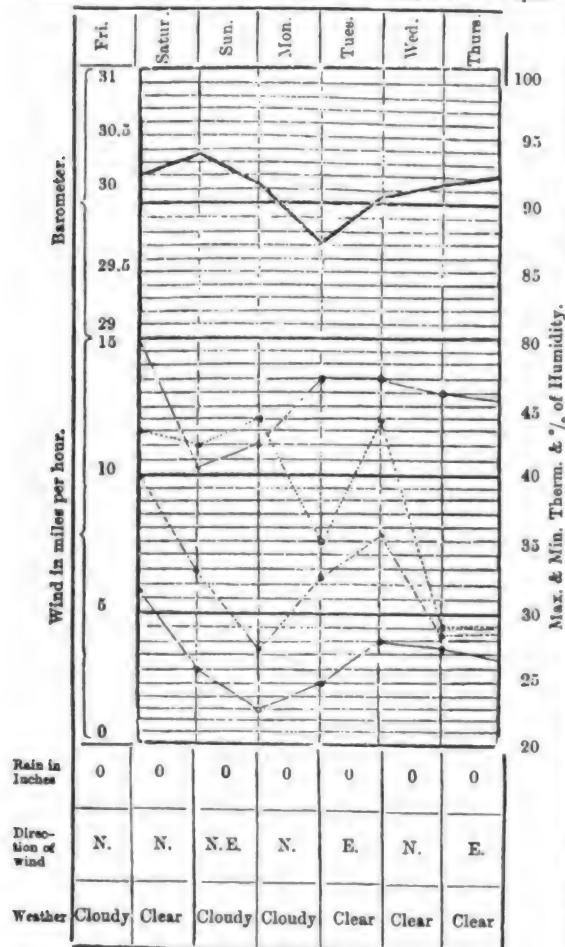
Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 23RD, 1880.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujimicho, Hougō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. &amp; min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind

.....percentage of humidity

Max. velocity of wind 32 miles per hour on Monday, 9 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer was 30.380 inches on Saturday at 10 p.m., and the lowest was 29.570 on Monday at 2 p.m. The fall of the barometer during the middle of the week was accompanied by cloudy weather but no rain or snow has fallen during the week. The minimum temperature reached was 23° on Sunday morning. The range of temperature has been almost constantly 20°—for each day during the week.

It is hardly necessary to remark here, what must have attracted the attention of the most careless observer, that the diagram for last week was turned bottomsides up by the printer, resulting in only a mass of meteorological absurdities.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Jan. 25, British steamer *Glengyle*, Quartley, 1,263, from London via Hongkong, General, to Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
 Jan. 26, British barque *Campsie Glen*, J. Smith, 490, from Newcastle N.S.W., Coals, to Walsh, Hall & Co.  
 Jan. 27, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Kilgour, 908, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 27, Russian schooner *Otago*, Isaacson, 46, from Bonin Islands, to H. Cook.  
 Jan. 27, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christensen, 1346, from Hachinohe, General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 28, American ship *Oakland*, F. H. Purinton, 1,237, from New York, Kerosene and General, to Fearon, Low & Co.  
 Jan. 28, Japanese barque *Kanagawa Maru*, Eckstrand, 1,184, from Nagasaki, Coal, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 28, Japanese barque *Sumanoura Maru*, Spiegenthal, from Nagasaki, Coals, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 28, British barque *Nimrod*, Clark, 700, from Nagasaki, Coals, to Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.  
 Jan. 29, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,260, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

Jan. 29, British steamer *Killarney*, O'Neil, 1060, from Shanghai, General, to Hurlson & Co.  
 Jan. 29, Japanese steamer *Kabunage Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133 from Hakodate, General, to M. B. Co.  
 Jan. 30, American ship *Kate*, Davenport, Mallett, 1,248, from New York, 38,468 cases kerosene and 200 tons General, to Frazer & Co.  
 Jan. 31, French steamer *Tibre*, Reynier, 1,726, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* from Hakodate:—Mr. Kono and 2 servants, Commissioner Customs Hakodate, 1 Chinaman and 20 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Kuhu and 2 children, Mrs. Kirkwood, Miss Fredericka, Miss Lawrence, Mons. Laurence, Messrs. Doudesbes, J. H. Pearson, T. Lemon, G. Taylor, Tallers, Sekikuchi, Nomura, Sasaki, Kishima, Mori, Shishido, Miyasaki, Hama, Katsura, Mitsui, Nishifuka, Hirayama, Watanabe, Shimizu, Hori, Miyasaki, Morikami, Inaba, Mrs. Ogawa, Mr. and Mrs. Yoshida, Mrs. Kasuno and child in cabin; 1 European, 294 Japanese and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kokunoye Maru* from Hakodate:—General Kurada and staff in cabin, 30 Japanese and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Tibre*, from Hongkong &c:—Mr. and Mrs. Wright, Miss Rew, Messrs. Von Torp, de Cimier, Thompson and Akusawa.

## OUTWARDS.

Jan. 24, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Jan. 25, British steamer *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,652, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.

Jan. 26, French steamer *Tannia*, De la Marcelle, 1,736, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.

Jan. 28, American ship *Sooloo*, Allen, 963, for New York via Kobe, General, despatched by Walsh, Hall & Co.

Jan. 28, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Jan. 28, Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Steadman, 661, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Jan. 29, British barque *Clyde*, J. Romney, 456, for Kobe, despatched by Walsh, Hall & Co.

Jan. 29, British barque *Clifton*, Mailler, 354, for Nagasaki, despatched by Walsh, Hall & Co.

Jan. 29, Japanese steamer *Takachiko Maru*, Nye, 1,407, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Jan. 31, British steamer *China*, Alderton, 1,030, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer *Tannia* for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Bellamy, child and two servants, Dr. and Mrs. Anderson, two children and servant, Mr. Whitney, Mrs. and Miss Whitney, Messrs. A. Dumelin, W. G. Dixon, F. J. Divers, Ah Low, and Cheo Shan.

Per British steamer *Gaelic* for San Francisco:—Rev. W. F. Garratt, Paymaster Whitehouse, U.S.N., Messrs. R. M. Fartana, N. McLeod, G. J. Edwards, David Mout, M. P. Stephenson, A. T. Makita, T. K. Otsuka, J. Tamasaki, E. Amaden, Alex. Center, and two Europeans in the steerage. For Havre: J. Oppenheimer.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Aston, Mrs. Yassee, Messrs. Kubo, Nojima, Fujita, Tanaka, Kitajima, Nabeshima, Del'Oro, W. C. Drummond, Hirata, A. Greppe, and Cwamoto.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Townsend, child and servant, Mrs. Schraub and child, Mrs. Plummer and child, Mr. T. R. H. McClatchie.

## CARGOES.

Per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—

TEA:				
From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	—	34	—	34
Hiogo	—	3	—	3
Yokohama	797	2,525	—	3,322
Hongkong	174	—	—	174
Total	971	2,562	—	3,533

SILK:				
From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	2	322	—	324
Hongkong	—	366	—	366
Yokohama	—	326	3	329
Total	2	1,014	3	1,019

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure ... Yen 3,538.00

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai, and ports:—Treasure ... Yen 20,950.60

## REPORTS.

The British steamer *Glengyle* reports: Left Hongkong at 4.30 p.m. on the 17th January. Experienced very strong N.E. monsoon and heavy sea to the coast of Japan. Thence to port moderate N. and N. W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama at 4.30 p.m. on the 25th instant.

The Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* reports: Left Hakodate 25th instant, arrived Yokohama at 2 a.m. on the 27th instant.



Strong N. gales constant snow-squalls to Miyako, thence to port fine weather N. and N. W. winds.

The British barque *Campusie Glen* reports: Left Newcastle, N.S.W., November 29th. Experienced very boisterous weather off the Coast of Japan.

The Japanese barque *Kanagawa Maru* reports: Left Nagasaki January 23rd in company with Company's barque *Sumanoura Maru*. Light N.E. winds. Passed through Van Dieman's Straits January 24th exchanging signals with Company's three-masted schooner *Awajishima Maru*. From there until arrival very unsteady weather with hard squalls. Crossing Kii Channel passed barque *Nimrod*, shortly afterwards one of the sailors fell from the royal-yard and died 4 hours later. An hour afterward at 5 p.m. passed a disabled junk with two men on it, ship then going 12 knots, tried everything to save them, but failed to find them during the darkness of the evening and a very heavy sea running at the time. Arrived at Yokohama at noon on the 28th January in company with the Company's barque *Sumanoura Maru*.

The British barque *Nimrod* reports: Left Nagasaki 22nd instant, arrived Yokohama at 12 p.m. on the 28th instant. Experienced very strong N. winds and squally weather throughout.

The Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* reports:—Left Shanghai 21st January 6 a.m. Arrived Nagasaki 6.30 on 23rd, left Nagasaki 12 p.m. 23rd. Arrived at Shimonoseki 2 p.m. 24th, left Shimonoseki for Kobe 4 p.m. 24th. Arrived Kobe 2.30 p.m. 25th, left Kobe for Yokohama 6 p.m. 26th. Arrived at Yokohama 1 a.m. 29th. From Shanghai to Yokohama experienced very strong N.N.W. winds with clear weather.

The Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* reports: Left Hakodate 8.35 a.m. on 27th January, with fine weather throughout the voyage. Passed brig *Maul Marian* (off Siriya Saoki) bound to Hakodate.

### VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

#### SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charlwood	LONDON	Yokohama
Nov. 5	Crossfield	"	"
" 5	Bundaleer	"	"
" 5	Escambia (s.s.)	"	"
" 19	Glenfinlas (s.s.)	"	"
Dec. 8	Benarty (s.s.)	"	"
Nov. 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
July 2	Fleetwing	NEW YORK	"
Aug. 30	Hagarstown	"	"
Sept. 3	Mervia	"	"
" 3	Clydesdale	"	"
" 3	Larnaca	"	"
" 25	Merom	"	"
" 26	Clydesdale	"	"
Oct. 8	St. Charles	"	"
" 10	Columbia	"	Hiego
" 25	L. J. Morse	"	Yokohama
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 7	Centennial	"	"
" 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dagnis	"	"
" 21	Manuel Lizarumo	"	"
Dec. 1	Paul Revere	"	"
Aug. 17	Coldstream	HAMBURG	"
Nov. 5	Hesperia	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Nov. —	West Glen	"	"
Oct. 17	Glenhuntingley	SUNDERLAND	"
" 26	Sea King	PHILADELPHIA	Hiego
Nov. 10	H. H. McGilvery	"	Nagasaki

#### LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Dec. 12	Flintshire (s.s.)	LONDON	Yokohama
" 12	Ullock	"	"
" 12	Castello (s.s.)	"	"
" 12	Virginia Schilizzi (s.s.)	"	"
" 18	Susan Gilman	NEW YORK	"
" 18	Alice Buck	"	Hiego
" 12	Lydia	HAMBURG	Yokohama
" 12	River Logan	"	"
" 12	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 12	Vale of Nith	"	"

### YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

#### LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.15, 1.30, and 4 P.M.

#### LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—7.0 and 9.45 A.M. and 12 noon; 1.30 and 4 P.M.

### NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 31st January, 1880.)

Yen Satz.							
A.M.	Noon	Clos- ing.	Gold Yen.	Nibue.	Silver Subunitary (Yen.)	Silver Subunitary (Old.)	
1880.							
Monday.....	Jan. 26	548	548	549	378	326	113 102
Tuesday.....	" 27	551	552	553	—	—	—
Wednesday.....	" 28	553	551	550	—	—	—
Thursday.....	" 29	549	550	549	—	—	—
Friday.....	" 30	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saturday.....	" 31	548	549	546	—	—	—

### YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

#### DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0 10.0

#### UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0 10.0

### NEW RULES OF THE ROAD AT SEA, &c.

ADOPTED by Great Britain, the United States of America, France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Portugal, Belgium, Denmark, Netherlands, Spain, Austro-Hungary, Greece and Chili.

#### ON SALE IN SHEET FORM.

Price, 25 Cents.

"JAPAN MAIL" OFFICE,  
No. 16, Bund.

And at SARGENT, FARSARI & Co.,  
No. 80, Main Street.

Yokohama, December 24th, 1879.

### SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,

No. 80, Main Street,

HAVE NOW PUBLISHED A NEW

### LITHOGRAPHIC MAP

Of the Foreign Settlement and Bluff  
of Yokohama.

This Map has been compiled with the greatest care, and is correct according to the best authority.

It will be ready for delivery on Monday the 22nd instant. As the Edition is small, those desiring a copy who have not already subscribed can see an advance copy, and subscribe for same upon application to Publishers.

#### PRICE:

In Sheets..... \$1.00  
Mounted under glass ready for hanging..... \$1.50  
Yokohama, December 18th, 1879.

### SUN FIRE OFFICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED are prepared to accept RISKS  
AGAINST FIRE for periods  
Not exceeding Ten days at.....1/8th,  
" " Four days at.....1/16th,  
of the annual rate.

WILKIN & ROBISON,  
Agents.

Yokohama, June 24, 1879.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Genkai Maru	Conner	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Jan. 29	M. B. Co.
Glengyle	Quartley	British steamer	1,263	Hongkong	Jan. 25	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Killarnsey	O'Neil	British steamer	1,060	Shanghai	Jan. 29	Hudson & Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Jan. 22	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru		Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13/78	M. B. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	Jan. 31	M. M. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Jan. 18	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Campsie Glen	Smith	British barque	490	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Jan. 26	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Kate Davenport	Mallett	American ship	1,248	New York	Jan. 30	Frazer & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm		German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Lenard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	" 24	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Nimrod	Clark	British barque	696	Nagasaki	Jan. 28	Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha
North Star	Janssen	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Oakland	Purinton	American ship	1,237	New York	Jan. 28	Fearson, Low & Co.
Otago	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Bonin Islands	Jan. 27	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	" 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Richard Robinson	Smith	American ship	1,652	New York	Jan. 1	C. & J. Trading Co.
Titan	Barry	American ship	1,240	Cardiff	Jan. 19	M. M. Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH.—Hornet ... ..	4	584	506	Gun-vessel	Kobe	Com. J.S. Eaton
" Swinger ... ..	4	430	451	Gun-boat	Kobe	Lieut.-Com. Tudor
FRENCH.—Champlain ... ..	10	1,901	—	Corvette	Chefoo	Com. Michaud
AMERICAN.—Alert ... ..	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
ITALIAN.—Vettor Pisani ... ..	12	1,800	—	Corvette	Yokosuka	H. R. H. Duke of Genoa
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ... ..	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostock	Captain Schance
" Craysseer ... ..	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Cruise	Captain Nazimoff

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ... ..	Volga	M. M. Co.	Feb. 7th, at 7 a.m.
Hongkong ... ..	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 7th, at 4 p.m.
London via Kobe and China ... ..	Glengyle	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	Jan. 31st.
New York via Hongkong ... ..	R. Robinson	Edward Fischer & Co.	Quick despatch.
San Francisco ... ..	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	About Feb. 14th.
Shanghai, &c. ... ..	Genkai Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 4th, at 4 p.m.

## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—Only a moderate business has been done during the past week. Yarns are firm and in fair demand, especially 28/32's, which have been forced up to same rates as are nominally quoted for 38/42's. These last counts are very quiet and neglected. Shirtings easier. Fancy Cottons dull, except Velvets and Lawens.

## COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$28.00 to 33.50
" " Good to Best ... ..	\$34.00 to 35.50
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... ..	\$30.00 to 32.00
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... ..	\$35.00 to 36.50
" " Good to Best ... ..	\$37.00 to 39.50
" 38 to 42 ... ..	\$39.00 to 39.50

## COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.65 to 1.85
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.85 to 2.27½
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.15 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.65
Drills, English: 14-16 lb. 40 " 30 in. "	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12 " 44 in. "	\$1.80 to 1.85
Prints:—Assorted... " 24 " 30 in. "	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Satens Black 32 in. "	\$0.11 to .14½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in. "	\$1.35 to 1.55
Do. 2½ to 3 lb. 24 " 30 in. "	\$1.50 to 1.65
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in. "	\$1.75 to 1.90

## COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ... ..35 " 22 in. per piece	\$9.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns:— " 12 " 42/3 in. "	\$0.78 to 0.81
Taffelashes:— " 12 " 43 in. "	\$1.75 to 2.00

## WOOLLENS:—

Plain Orleans ... .. 40-42 yds. 32 in. ...	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... .. 29-30 yds. 31 in. ...	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... .. 29-30 yds. 31 in. ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... .. 30 yds. 32 in. ...	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Cords ... .. 29-30 yds. 22 in. ...	4.00 to 5.25
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy.. 48 in. to 52 in. ...	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... .. 54 in. to 56 in. ...	0.40 to 0.60
Presidents ... .. 54 in. to 56 in. ...	0.55 to 0.60
Union ... .. 54 in. to 56 in. ...	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs ... .. per lb. ...	0.35 to 0.41

SUGAR.—In the absence of stock there is nothing doing.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... .. per picul...	\$5.60 to \$5.20
" " in basket ... .. " "	\$5.20 to \$5.00
Taiwanfoo in bag... .. " "	\$5.20
do. in basket... .. " "	\$5.00
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ... .. " "	\$8.00 to \$9.00
China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fah... per picul...	\$6.25 to \$8.00
Daitong ... .. " "	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... .. " "	\$2.60 to \$3.00
Kerosene Oil ... .. " "	\$1.65 to \$1.70
Newchwang Pens ... .. " "	\$2.20 to \$2.25

KEROSENE.—During the past week but little business has been done in this article; we hear of settlements, amounting to about 6,500 cases, at \$1.65. The *Kate Davenport* has arrived from New York with a cargo of 38,468 boxes.

## EXPORTS.

SILK.—During the past week our silk market has been rather dull, and during the first part of the term scarcely a transaction was reported. Since Wednesday last there has been some activity, and 567 Japanese bales have been brought to buyers' godowns. It is however rumoured that much of this silk is either being inspected for native account, or has simply been deposited in foreign godowns against advances. Prices are to a great extent nominal, and at the Japanese have done well during the first part of the season, it does not appear probable that they will make important concessions for some time, even if the news from home continues unfavourable. A few parcels of filatures, for the American market, have been sold at full rates.

Stocks in Yokohama about 5,000 Japanese bales; Total export to date 14,401 bales against 14,844 bales at corresponding period last season.

	In London at 8/10 per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.		In London at 8/10. per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.
Hanks,—Superior, nom...			Kakoda,—Extra ... ..	\$730 to 750	24/9 to 25/4 frs. 68 50 to 70 00
" Best ... ..	\$680 to 690	23/1 to 23/5 frs. 64 00 to 65 00	" Best ... ..	\$690 to 710	23 5 to 24/1 frs. 65 00 to 67 00
" Good ... ..	\$660 to 670	22/6 to 22/10 frs. 62 00 to 63 00	" Good ... ..	\$610 to 660	20 11 to 22/6 frs. 58 00 to 62 00
" Good Medium...\$640 to 650	21/10 to 22 2	frs. 60 50 to 61 50	" Common ... ..	\$750 to 800	26/4 to 27/ frs. 73 00 to 75 00
" Medium ... ..	\$610 to 620	20 11 to 21 2	Filatures,—Extra ... ..	\$730 to 770	24 9 to 26/ frs. 68 00 to 72 00
" Common, In'r...\$570 to 590	19 7 to 20 3	frs. 54 00 to 56 00	" Best ... ..	\$640 to 710	21/10 to 24 1 frs. 60 50 to 67 00
Oshius,—Best ... ..	\$650 to 660	22 2 to 23 1	" Good ... ..		
" Medium ... ..	\$610	20/10	" Med. & C'n		
Hamataki ... ..	\$610	20/10			

## EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9½
" " 6 " "	3/10 nom.
" Bank Bills on demand	3/9
" Private 4 months' sight	3/10
" " 6 " "	3/10½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight	4.73
" Private 6 m. sight	4.88
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	1 ½ prem.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight	1 ½ prem.

ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72
" Private 10 days sight	72½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	91
" 30 days sight Private	92½
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	91½
" 30 days sight Private	93
Kinsatz	546
Gold Yen	377



# FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF JAPAN.

Capital - - - - - Yen 1,500,000.000.  
Reserve Fund - - - - - „ 275,000.000.

HEAD OFFICE—TOKIO.

BRANCHES:—Osaka, Yokohama, Kobe, Saikio,  
Morioka, Sendai, Ishinomaki, Fusan, (Corea.)

SUB-BRANCHES:—Furukawa, Akita, Yokote,  
Honjow, Miyako, Ichinoseki.

Agencies:—SHANGHAI, HONGKONG.

Agencies—(For Exchange only):—

Nagasaki, Hakodate, Nagoya, Fukuoka, Yamaguchi, Akamagasaki, Okayama, Kochi, Wakayama, Oita, Gifu, Yamanaishi, Fukushima, Mayebashi, Tatebayashi, Kirew, Nagahama, Otsu, Matsuyama, Matsuye, Akashi, Kishiwada, Obama, Fukui, Idsushi, Tottori, Kawanoishi, Sayegi, Sendai, Awamori, Morioka, Hirotsaki, Ichinoseki, Akita, Tanabe, Nagaoka, Yonezawa, Miharu, Tsurugaoka, Koriyama, Tokushima, Kuwana, Kameyama, Hikone, Tsuwano, Tamashima, Itsuhara, Tsu, Handa, Yodo, Tsuruga, Nakatsu, Saijo, Uwajima, Yamagata, Ohi, Choshi.

## THIRTEENTH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Court of Directors to the Proprietors,

For the Half-year ending 31st December, 1879.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the Proprietors was held at the Head Office, on 18th January, 1880, at which the Directors had the honour to submit the annexed General Statement and Balance Sheet of the affairs of the Bank, as at 31st December last.

The net profit of the Head Office and Branches amounts to Yen 198,793.668 (deducting remuneration of the officers, their travelling expenses, and all other payments, inclusive of interest). Adding to this sum the unappropriated balance of last Half-year, namely, Yen 36,772.855, and Yen 80,000 set aside as a special reserve for bad and doubtful debts, the total comes to Yen 315,566.523. From this sum Yen 36,371.575 will be taken to extinguish the bad debt of Onogumi; Yen 50,000 will be set aside as a special reserve for bad and doubtful debts; and Yen 24,200 will be given to the officers as a bonus; and the remainder is Yen 204,994.948, from which Yen 50,000 will be added to the Reserve Fund, Yen 120,000 will be divided amongst 15,000 shares, being Yen 8 per share, which is at the rate of 16 per cent, per annum, and the balance, Yen 34,994.948, will be carried forward to next half-year.

The debt incurred by Onogumi has been written off, and amounted to Yen 36,371.575, taken from the Special Reserve of Yen 80,000, which has been supplemented by the addition of the sum of Yen 50,000, an amount which, the Directors are of opinion, will amply suffice to meet any further contingencies that may arise.

SHIBUSAWA YEICHI,  
Chairman.

General Statement and Balance Sheet of the  
First National Bank of Japan, for the Half-year  
ended 31st Dec., 1879.

### LIABILITIES.

	YEN.	YEN.
Deposits .....	960,018.107	
Bills Payable .....	227,252.962	
Loans .....	755,000.000	
		Total due to Government... 1,942,271.069
Notes in Circulation .....	1,196,440.000	
Fixed de- posits ... 861,166.569		
Current deposits 1,046,823.377		
Post Bills in Circu- lation ... 546,927.933		
Bills Pay- able ..... 103,285.885		
Other de- posits ... 691,875.105		
Due to Agencies 265,384.222		

3,516,163.091

Total due to the Public.....	4,712,603.091
Capital .....	1,500,000.000
Reserve Fund.....	225,000.000
Special Reserve Fund for Bad and doubtful Debts .....	80,000.000
Balance brought forward from last half-year .....	36,772.855
Balance of Profit and Loss Account ...	198,793.668
Accounts not yet Realized .....	19,919.386
	2,060,485.909
Yen.....	8,715,360.069

### ASSETS.

	YEN.	YEN.
Gold, Silver, and Copper Coin and Paper Money .....	1,366,110.703	
Gold and Silver Bullion.....	34,744.538	
Government Bonds lodged in the Fi- nance Department, to secure notes in circulation .....	1,088,531.400	
Government Bonds on hand.....	442,706.917	
		2,932,093.558
Loans receivable, and other sums due to the Bank .....	5,107,667.720	
Bills discounted and Bills receivable...	201,227.619	
Premises .....	32,299.390	
Due by Agencies .....	442,071.782	
		5,783,266.511
Yen.....		8,715,360.069

### RESERVE FUND.

	YEN.
By Balance brought forward from last account .....	225,000.000
By Transfer from this Profit and Loss account .....	50,000.000
Yen .....	275,000.000

### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	YEN.
By Balance brought forward from last half-year.....	36,772.855
By Net Profit for the half-year ended 31st December, 1879 .....	198,793.668
By Special Reserve Fund brought forward from last half-year .....	80,000.000
Yen .....	315,566.523

	YEN.
To loss for writing off a bad debt .....	36,371.575
„ the special reserve fund for bad and doubtful debts	50,000.000
„ Bonus to the Officers .....	24,200.000
„ Addition to Reserve Fund .....	50,000.000
„ Dividend on 15,000 Shares .....	120,000.000
„ be carried forward to next half-year .....	34,994.948
YEN .....	315,566.523

SHIBUSAWA YEICHI,  
Managing Director.  
SASAKI YUNOSUKE,  
Accountant.

MITSUI TAKAYOSHI,  
SAIONJI KINSHIGE,  
SAITO JUNZO,  
MITSUI HACHIROJIRO,  
NAGATA JINSICHI,  
Director and Manager.

Tokio, December 31st, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

PAID-UP CAPITAL ... \$5,000,000.  
RESERVE FUND... \$1,200,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. SASSOON, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—WM. H. FORBES, Esq.

E. R. Belilios, Esq., H. L. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppius, Esq.,  
Hon. W. Keawick, Adam Lind, Esq., Wilhelm Reiners, Esq.,  
W. S. Young.

Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

## LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillpots, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.  
E. F. Duncanson, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.  
Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

## SHANGHAI.

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo, Hankow,  
Saigon,  
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

## YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

I teres allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.  
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o  
" " " " 6 " " 4 "  
" " " " 3 " " 4 "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

£ Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description  
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,  
India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

A. M. TOWNSEND, Acting Manager.  
Yokohama, April 13, 1878. 6mly.

## MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA, (HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

PRIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class,  
let at the rate of from 50 sen to 80 sen per day, and  
from 12 yen to 20 yen per month.

## BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class .....	{ 1.50 yen per day, or
	40.00 " " month.
3rd class .....	{ 1.00 yen per day, or
	28.00 " " month.


All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or  
small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates,  
for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood  
of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged  
from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.



**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.  
Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tf.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## W. & A. GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS.

W. & A. GILBEY have special facilities for carrying  
on an extensive Foreign Trade, having held for  
many years in their Excise Bonded Stores, for the purpose  
of their Home Trade, a stock of not less than 12,000  
Casks of Wines and Spirits, which are equally  
available for Export. These stores are by far the largest  
private Duty Free Warehouses in the World, and are under  
the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially at-  
tached to these Warehouses.

THE EXTENT of W. & A. Gilbey's purchases enables them  
to give the best VALUE to the public, as a twentieth part of  
the Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom is  
supplied from their stock. In the year 1876 W. & A.  
Gilbey paid duty on 1,881,049 gallons of Wines and Spirits,  
and the average quantity bottled and sent out by them  
daily was 3,050 dozens or 36,600 bottles.

QUALITY is guaranteed by W. & A. Gilbey, and is the same  
whether the Wines or Spirits are obtained direct from their  
Head Establishments or from any of their Agents. The  
purity and genuineness of every article in this list are  
guaranteed in accordance with Act of Parliament, 38 and  
39 Vict., Cap. 63.

W. & A. Gilbey have always adhered to the *standard of*  
Bottle Measure recently recognised by the Government,  
namely—

6 bottles contain one gallon; 12 half-bottles contain  
one gallon.

SECURITY is ensured to the purchaser, each bottle bearing  
W. & A. Gilbey's seal and label guaranteeing *quality and*  
*measure*, and the *strength* also in the case of Spirits.

## W. &amp; A. Gilbey's Head Establishments:—

England.—(Offices) Pantheon, Oxford Street, London;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Oval Road, Camden  
Town, London.

Ireland.—(Offices) Upper Sackville Street, Dublin;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Upper Sackville St.,  
Dublin.

Scotland.—(Offices) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Haymarket, West  
End, Edinburgh.

France.—Principal Establishment, Chateau Loudenne,  
near St. Estephe, Medoc.

Excise Bonded Stores.—Warehouses, Nos. 1 to 5, North-  
Western Goods Station, and Bonny Street,  
Camden Town, London.

Distillery.—James Street, Camden Town, London.

Printing Department.—Poland Street, Oxford Street,  
London.

**J. J. GARGAN,**  
**ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,**  
No. 88, Creek Side.

Machinery of all kinds overhauled and  
Repaired.

House Building and Repairs Con-  
tracted for.

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE.****NOTICE.**

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the  
MEMBERS will be held at the rooms of the  
Chamber,

**On Monday, February 2nd,**

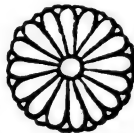
**At 2.30 p.m.,**

for the purpose of Receiving the Annual Report; electing  
Officers for the ensuing year; and for General Business.

By Order,

G. K. DINSDALE,  
*Secretary.*

Yokohama, January 21st, 1880.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.**

No. 5 of the 12th Year of Meiji, (1879.)

**KINKWASAN LIGHTHOUSE.****STEAM FOG SIREN.**

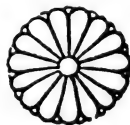
THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives  
notice that a steam Fog Siren has been erected at  
Kinkwasan Lighthouse on the Island of Kinkwasan, East  
coast of Japan.

The Siren will be sounded during fogs, snow storms, or  
other causes that may render the outline of the coast in-  
distinct during the day, or the light by night.

The blast from the Siren will be of 5 seconds' duration  
with intervals of 55 seconds.

YAMADA AKIYOSHI.  
*Minister of Public Works.*

Токеи, 27th December, 1879.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.****MOTOYAMA BUOY.****SUWO-NADA, INLAND SEA.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this BUOY  
which was advertised as having broken adrift from  
its moorings on the 5th November last, has been replaced  
in its position.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,  
Benten,  
Yokohama, 17th January, 1880.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,**

New Premises, No. 80, Main Street.

**SCROLL SAWS,**

THE NEW LESTER, with LATHE, DRILL and CIR-  
CULAR SAW.

THE NEW ROGERS, with Drill.

THE DEXTER, very convenient and cheap.

HAND VICES, 1½ and 1¾ Inch jaws.

EXTRA SAW BLADES, for any Scroll Saw.

**SEWING MACHINES,**

"NEW AMERICAN," three sizes \$15.00 to \$40.00.

"NEW HOME," from \$12.50 upwards.

"CROWN," suitable for both heavy and light work.

"IMPROVED HOME SHUTTLE," a very fine family  
Machine.

One very fine GROVER & BAKER'S MACHINE, second-  
hand, but in good order.

MACHINE OIL and NEEDLES.

*All the above are offered at very low prices.*

*Stationery of all kinds.*

**CIGARS, TOBACCO & SMOKERS' ARTICLES.****SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,**

New Premises, No. 80, Main Street.

Yokohama, November 1st, 1879.

**YOUNG JAPAN,****YOKOHAMA AND YEDO:**

A NARRATIVE OF

**THE SETTLEMENT AND THE CITY,**

FROM THE

SIGNING OF THE TREATIES IN 1858,

TO

THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1879:

With a glance at

**THE PROGRESS OF JAPAN,**

DURING A PERIOD OF

TWENTY-ONE YEARS.

*On the 31st January, 1880,*  
**THE FIRST VOLUME**

Will be Published,

FROM THE MAKING OF THE TREATIES IN 1858

TO THEIR

RATIFICATION BY THE MIKADO IN 1866.

**PRICE ... .. \$5.**

AS the first issue must necessarily be strictly limited to  
Subscribers, the Publishers will feel obliged by all  
who desire early copies, sending in their names as early as  
possible.

KELLY & CO.

28, Yokohama,  
13th January, 1880.

## MISCELLANEOUS

# J. & E. ATKINSON'S PERFUMERY,

CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained the following

## EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA, 1872. PHILADELPHIA, 1876. VIENNA, 1873.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY,"  
PARIS, 1878.

## Atkinson's Choice Perfumes for the Handkerchief,

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang Ylang, Stephanotis, Opopanax,  
Jockey Club, Ess. Bouquet, Trévol, Magnolia, Jasmin,  
Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,  
And all other odours, of the finest quality only.

## Atkinson's Florida Water,

A most fragrant Perfume, distilled from the choicest Exotics.

## Atkinson's Quinine Hair Lotion,

A very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

## ATKINSON'S Ethereal Essence of Lavender,

A powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

## ATKINSON'S

Quinine Tooth Powder, Violet Powder, Macassar Oil, Glycerine Cream,

And other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the Manufacturers.

**J. & E. ATKINSON,**  
24, Old Bond Street, London, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

**CAUTION.**—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, "a White Rose on a Golden Lyre;" printed in seven colours.

ESTABLISHED 1799.

July 26, 1879.

12m. 26in.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.

Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,  
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,  
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED CHEESE,  
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,  
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,  
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,  
PLUM PUDDINGS,  
LEA AND PERBINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.

### CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars they should invariably be destroyed when empty.

Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.

All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles, Jars and Tins.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL,**  
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,  
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

52 ins.

**H. MacARTHUR,**  
No. 179.

LANDS, <sup>AND</sup>OR SHIPS, & CLEARS  
CARGO,

AT MODERATE RATES.

Yokohama, January 12th, 1880.

tf

## THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach." "Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years. Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

### CAUTION.

Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

**ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.**

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,  
BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.

Manufacture all kinds of

**IRON WORK,**  
Structural & Ornamental.BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch  
Bridges. Suspension Bridges.A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some  
thousands of Tons of Bridges.LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.  
ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.***ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.***See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.)  
with 1,300 designs.*Railings. Balcony Panels.  
Gates. Street Posts.  
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.  
Balusters. Newels.  
Creastings. Terminals.Columns. Column Capitals.  
Brackets. Gratings.  
Windows. Casements.  
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.  
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

**SMITH'S HEARTHES & PORTABLE FORGES**  
12 Shapes and Sizes.*Catalogue (D) free on Application.***Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,**  
LONDON.

26 ins.

**NOTICE.****T**RANSLATIONS from JAPANESE into ENGLISH  
or *Vice-Versa* undertaken by the advertiser, a  
Japanese who is well versed in the English Language, and  
familiar with Commercial and Legal technicalities.

Enquire at

**H. MacARTHUR'S Office,**  
NO. 179.Contracts, Letters, Advertisements, or Legal Documents  
promptly translated at small cost.

Yokohama, January 13th, 1880.

tf

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION MEDICINAL MOORE'S FOOD**  
FOR INFANTS

**SAVORY & BEST FOOD SAVORY & DATURATULIA MOORE'S ASTHMA**  
FOR

**ASTHMA & Difficult Breathing**  
promptly relieved and paroxysms  
arrested by  
**Datura Tatula Inhalations**  
Testimonials accompanying each  
box of Cigarettes, Cigars and  
Pillules. Also, in the economical  
form of capsules, and in a powder  
for inhaling, from 2s. 6d. to 21s.

**ROYAL NURSERIES.**  
THE MOST DIGESTIBLE,  
CONTAINS  
THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF  
NOURISHMENT in the  
MOST CONVENIENT FORM.  
In Tins 1s., 2s., 5s. and 10s.

**IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES**  
IMPROVES THE APPETITE  
Increases Strength and  
Weight.  
Bottles 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d. and 10s.

**143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &c., everywhere.**

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE MARK.

**ELLWOOD'S**

PATENT AIR CHAMBER

**HATS AND HELMETS,**  
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION  
AGAINST SUN STROKE.To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters  
and Wholesale only of**J. ELLWOOD & SONS,**  
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

**DINNEFORD'S**THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY  
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,  
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.**DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists**  
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

**FLUID  
MAGNESIA.**And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout  
the World.

March 30, 1879.

-ly

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**E. P. & W. BALDWIN,**  
WILDEN WORKS.  
STOURPORT, ENGLAND.

**SHEET IRON,**

BRANDED  
"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."  
**TIN PLATES,**  
BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"  
"ARLEY," "STOUR."

*Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,  
and Close Annealed.*

Export Agents—  
Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane, London, E.C.  
April 6, 1878. 52ins.

**KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES,**

COUGHS,  
ASTHMA,  
BRONCHITIS,  
ACCUMULATION OF PHLEGM.

Composed of the purest articles. These Lozenges contain no opium nor any deleterious drug, therefore the most delicate can take them with perfect confidence. Their beneficial effect is speedy and certain. The old unfailling family remedy is daily recommended by the most eminent Physicians. (In use nearly 60 years).

## MEDICAL TESTIMONY.

July 25th, 1877. 22, Cold Harbour Lane, London.

Sir,—Your Lozenges are excellent, and their beneficial effects most reliable. I strongly recommend them in cases of Cough and Asthma. You are at liberty to state this as my opinion, formed from many years experience.

J. BRINGLOE, M.R.C.S.L., L.S.A., L.M.

Mr. T. KEATING, Indian Medical Service.

Dear Sir,—Having tried your Lozenges in India, I have much pleasure in testifying to their beneficial effects in cases of Incipient Consumption, Asthma and Bronchial Affections. I have prescribed them largely, with the best results.

W. B. G.—, Apothecary, H.M.S.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are sold by all Chemists, in bottles, of various sizes, each having the words "KEATING'S Cough Lozenges" engraved on the government stamp.

**KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,**

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.—SOLD IN BOTTLES BY ALL CHEMISTS.

Proprietor, THOMAS KEATING, London,  
Export Chemist and Druggist.

April, 1879.

6ins.

**ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,**

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,  
ENGLAND.

CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND  
EXPORTERS

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

**MACHINERY.**

May 4, 1878.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## THE GREATEST

**WONDER OF MODERN TIMES  
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

In his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Faky that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

**SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!  
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.**

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

In his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World

May 17th, 1873.

tf.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA  
EXHIBITION, 1876."

**Oakey's  
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH**

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

**Oakey's  
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS**

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. Oakey's Wellington Knife Polish SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

**Oakey's  
SILVERSMITHS SOAP**

(NON-MERCURIAL).  
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

**Oakey's  
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD**

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D., & 4D. EACH, & 1S. BOXES.

**JOHN Oakey & SON'S  
MANUFACTURERS OF  
EMERY, CLOTH, BLACK LEAD, CABINET  
GLASS, &c.  
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.**

July, 1879.

52ins.

Printed and published for the Proprietors by the Manager,  
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16 Band  
Yokohama.

# THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF  
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

Vol. IV. No. 6.]

Yokohama, February 7, 1880.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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## THE FUTURE OF JAPANESE ART.

MANY noteworthy writers could be quoted in defence of the opinion that the state of the Fine Arts in any country is entirely independent of its political advancement. It might even be shewn that the imaginative pursuits have achieved excellence inversely as the tide of national and social progress has swept on. The march of civilization appears in all countries to have eradicated from the minds of men that deep feeling of sentiment which a childlike veneration for the external manifestations of nature produces, and which finds its expression in poetry, painting and sculpture. The capacity of the human mind is limited. A man whose whole thought is devoted to astute calculations, will hardly be found to be rich in creations of fancy. As with individuals so with nations, the pursuit of political reforms and moral improvement will naturally tend to divert their attention from the simple voices of nature. So great will the infection be that those whose profession is still to be the seers of natural loveliness will lose skill for the want of a sympathetic patronage; like the children sitting in the market place and saying, "we have piped unto you and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you and ye have not lamented!" The best periods of the arts have existed side by side with a distant devotion and reverence for the grand and beautiful in creation; and thus it seems that a familiarity with causes of phenomena, by robbing them of the awful and marvellous has helped to degrade the work of the artist. Superstition is the term that is generally applied to that fearful veneration for the awe-inspiring terrestrial appearances with which is connected the idea of divine wrath and punishment. With the departure of superstition also disappears the habit of observation and the sympathy with the grand and beautiful which are the great stimulants of the imaginative faculties. Japan has, during

the last decade, made remarkable progress in government, laws and in the acquirement of all modern advances in speed, comfort, manufacture and commerce. As this change takes place it is almost inevitable that there should be a tendency to a corresponding depression in the originality of her Fine Arts. Her former seclusion favoured the growth of a distinctive character among her poets and art workers. A parallel case may be instanced in the mountain-circled Montenegrins, of whom little was generally known, until the war of some years back revealed a secluded tribe possessing arms, implements, costumes and habits far superior in the picturesque, though perhaps not in the commodious, to those of the continental nations around. The feudal system of government and the consequent rivalry of provinces to compete with their industries, as well as the position of the high-class artisan being one of a salaried dependent, owing his reputation to the originality and exquisite quality of his work rather than to quantity and speed, may be mentioned as other circumstances in favour of former eminence. The introduction of machinery, degrading the industrial artist to a mere mechanic, naturally tends to deprive his work of the sentiment and spirit that it contained. Add to this the increased demand in all parts of the world for products of Japanese Art, which though still possessing a certain kind of distinctly national character, are rapidly deteriorating, both from the growing demand and from the bad taste of the buyers: so large indeed is the moneyed class who crowd their mansions with rich but debased specimens of Eastern Art such as a native artist fifty years ago would not have dared offer to his patron lord. The removal of the natural conditions that have fostered high art in the past, necessitates artificial means of culture. An ancient, whose daily life showed to him some gorgeous pageant, some mass of gaily moving colour, or may be the display in arena or in joust of athletic form or scenic effect, and whose existence was one of outdoor enjoyment and free communion with nature, received thereby a silent, almost unnoticed training of the mind. A modern who only sees around him sombre, shapeless vestments and ceremonies without pomp or show, and to whom nature is robbed of its charm by crowded habitations and the smoke of ghastly factories, must learn his lessons in the arts elsewhere.

In Europe, Art at one time indigenous has now become a growth of hothouses and forcing-chambers. The time has come for this country to provide itself with the same means of artificial encouragement and culture. A right step has been taken, in the institution of a school of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture, in good time, and before the national taste in such arts has been quite swept out by the absorbing interest in scientific introductions. Take any western country, and we shall find that it has passed from a period of original imaginative creations to a state of artistic chaos, succeeded by an artificial revival based upon studies from the past. Japan has happily started her school of Fine Arts before she has lost her originality

and before her chaotic period has arrived. Though in some instances we cannot but detect signs of decline in the popular taste, in others great excellence is still attained. Much of the metal work now produced is unsurpassed by any specimens of earlier times. No artisans in the world have ever shown greater skill or beauty in the design and execution of objects of virtue in bronze and other metals. The works in lacquer and inlay have deteriorated, and so have the decorative arts applied to screens, pictures and porcelain. Architecture is going through a kind of chrysalis change in which she cannot be said to present the most attractive exterior. This Art is of all other the most practical and most dependent upon altered modes of life, possessing however at the same time a claim to distinct national individuality on account of peculiarities in climate.

A visit to the school of Fine Arts in Tokio, under the able superintendence of Italian masters, is sufficient to show that the Japanese youth has a quickness of artistic perception, and power of delineation and composition of a very superior kind. Hopes are expressed that before long this important institution will assume an independent and exalted position as a national educational establishment. Picture painting in oils, and statuary, which are for this country quite new phases of the Arts, are gradually gaining ground; and in these the students have much to learn from their foreign teachers. Even in these branches, however, Japan will before long, we expect, strike out fresh paths for herself. Pictorial painting relies for its subjects chiefly upon native history, tradition, theology and the natural aspect of the country in which it exists. The scenery of the land is unique; and its history and romance are full of striking events which must be depicted in their own peculiar garb and with their own thoroughly individual surroundings and fierce feudal sentiment. To the painter as well as to the dramatist is left to recreate and bring before the people all that is illustrious and picturesque in the past. The industrial artisan will soon begin to need some means of educational training. There is a great risk of the latter artist confounding his work with that of the historical picture painter, portrait painter and sculptor, and letting pass forgotten the true principles of decoration which he has hitherto so well understood.

Museums, fully stocked with excellent examples of the best decorative works, important shrines, temples and palaces, carefully preserved from the hand of time, will help to provide examples which, aided by able precept, may keep public taste alive. With due care Japan may take as high a place in the Arts of the future as she has undoubtedly held in her former days.

#### LIGHT DUES.

IN our article in last week's *Mail* on the Presidential message, we mentioned that the Japanese ambassadors, when in England, pointed to the system of lighting the coasts of Japan, which had recently been progressing, as a reason for remitting totally, or at least deferring, the payment of the balance of the Shimonoseki indemnity then due. Full particulars of the unsuccessful negotiations here referred to will be found in the Diplomatic Correspondence of the United States for 1875. It will be sufficient for our present purpose to refer to article XI. of the Tariff Convention of 1866, which reads as follows:—"The Japanese Government will provide all the ports open to foreign trade with such lights, buoys, and beacons as may be necessary to render secure the navigation of the approaches to the said ports."

The Japanese pointed out, in a memorandum to the British Government, that these and other public works

beneficial to foreign commerce had been carried out at an expense far exceeding their original anticipations, and at a time following a severe revolution of a national character. Indeed the cost of lighthouses alone, up to that date (the latter end of 1872), was said to have been more than a million of dollars. In a memorandum of reply to the representations of the Envoys, Sir Harry Parkes said, *inter alia*:—"The cost of construction or maintenance of lighthouses may be met with light dues." This suggestion has never yet been acted upon by the Japanese Government, although the system of lights, buoys and beacons, has developed largely since 1872, and commerce along the coast, especially in native bottoms, has also increased. In the forthcoming changes which treaty revision will render necessary, this matter will doubtless receive due attention. Meantime it may be well to inquire how other nations deal with the question; for, as we have frequently insisted in approaching such matters, the Japanese should adopt, as far as possible, the course which the experience of most civilised nations has found necessary, and not the opinions of this or that theorist, however distinguished. Thus in the case of quarantine, much pressure was used to induce the Government to adopt a kind of medical inspection in Japan, because a commission of distinguished doctors at Vienna believed (not at all unanimously, be it observed,) that such a method was as effective as quarantine. The reply to this was obvious: "It will be time enough for this country to think of adopting advanced ideas of the nature suggested, when they have been tested and accepted by the experience of your own nation. Meanwhile, as long as the so-called exploded system is retained all over the world, we shall also adhere to it."

The principle on which light dues are levied is, that lighthouses, buoys, beacons, &c., being established for the benefit and protection of ships, these latter should defray the cost of their erection and maintenance. In Great Britain, the Government have now purchased the rights of local corporations and private individuals in certain lights, and have placed them under the control of the Board of Trade, and more directly under that of the Trinity House. The whole system is governed by the Merchant Shipping Act of 1858, which provides that all the light dues of the United Kingdom shall form one imperial fund under the control of the Board of Trade, and that the fund shall be employed in the establishment and repair of lighthouses. The Privy Council also is authorized to revise the amount of these dues, as well as to fix others for any new lights that may be erected. It was long the practice in Great Britain, in pursuance of the policy of discrimination between British and foreign vessels, to levy higher charges on the latter than on the former; and also to compel ships, forced by stress of weather into a harbour of the United Kingdom, to pay these dues. Both these regulations—the latter of which has been correctly described as "most inhospitable," have, however, been entirely abolished. It is also stated that the present dues are so calculated that their amount will, as exactly as possible, cover the various expenses incident to lighthouses; and there seems to be no desire to derive any revenue from them. The charges on over-sea vessels is also much greater, for obvious reasons, than on those engaged in the coasting trade. The highest charge for the former seems to be one penny per ton of the ship's measurement for each lighthouse seen, while the average charge is about half of that amount. It will thus be observed that in Great Britain the amount of light-dues depends on the number of lighthouses passed by a vessel on her course, and that this is the same for all ships, native and foreign. In the United States, on the other hand, there is no charge on native vessels, but an



annual tax of fifty cents per ton registered tonnage is assessed on every foreign vessel leaving an American port, whatever her course or courses may be; and the money thus collected is expended on the light service. In France, although the system of lights is said to be one of the best in the world, no light dues, under that name, are levied; but there are certain harbour dues, which doubtless accomplish the same end as if the vessels were held to contribute directly to the maintenance of the light.

The general practice seems therefore in favour of levying these dues. The light system of Japan has been brought, in comparatively few years, to a high state of efficiency, and hardly a week passes, that the Minister of Public Works does not indicate publicly some addition or improvement. This must have cost the nation an enormous sum of money, and no objection could reasonably be offered by either native or foreign merchants or shipowners to the payment of such dues as would maintain the lights, buoys and beacons of the coast of Japan in an efficient condition. It is a question for the Government itself to decide, whether it can afford to dispense with certain charges which almost every other country in the world, including the most wealthy, has deemed it necessary to levy.

WHILE it was yet unknown in America that the severe and barbarous sentence of nameless mutilation and shame passed by the Chinese subduers of the revolt in Kashgar upon the guiltless descendants of their opponent Yakob Beg, a benevolent association in the United States was making exertions not only to have their sentence commuted—a work in which they had been preceded by the English Anti-Opium Society—but also to make permanent provision for them if the request should be granted. Mr. E. T. Gerry, president of the New York Society for the prevention of cruelty to Children, has addressed a memorial to the President of the United States, sketching the horror of the fate reserved for these innocents, praying for his intercession with the Government at Peking, and taking upon the Society of which he is the representative the charge of their education and maintenance. He says to Mr. Hayes:—"I appeal to you as Chief Magistrate of this nation, and earnestly implore your immediate action in the matter. If the Chinese Government will commute the sentence of these wretched children to banishment, this society stands ready to receive and place them at its own expense where they will be properly maintained, educated and cared for. I feel that I but echo the wishes and sentiments of all humane people in making this appeal on behalf of these miserable little innocents, whose helpless condition and dreadful sentence plead more piteously than any words of mine. And I am confident that your intervention in their behalf will very materially advance the great cause of humanity which pervades the age in which we live, and especially characterizes this nation, over which you preside."

THE directors of the Gas works at Noge are probably only in part aware of the valuable substances which they allow to go to waste daily. In similar manufactories in England it has been thought that nothing was wasted—every possible product of the chemical changes utilized. Yet science is every day discovering fresh application of the great law of nature that nothing need be dissipated, there being a use for all matter of whatever kind; and it is possible that their economic mission has not yet been accurately assigned to all the residues produced in the distillation of gas. As regards the manufacture of coke from coal, unnecessary extravagance has been exposed by an experienced chemist, Dr. Angus Smith. He says that the

ammonia which is lost in the process would make, each year, as much as 130,000 tons of sulphate of ammonia, enough to fertilize 1,300,000 acres of land. "The plan has been successfully applied in France. It certainly does seem absurd to import guano, nitrate of soda, &c., from abroad; and to let tons upon tons of a home-made fertilizer escape into the air, in which condition it acts as a blight rather than as a benefit to vegetation." Great economy might be effected, and considerable profit made, in the various towns of this empire in which gas is made and consumed, by utilizing products which are now treated as mere refuse. Here the question suggests itself:—Considerable quantities of coke being imported annually for the use of factories, would it not be remunerative to make from native coal, if suitable for the purpose, all the coke required in the country? The problem could easily and inexpensively be solved.

HIS Excellency Lau, ex-Viceroy of the Two Kwang, arrived in Hongkong without previous notice and quite unexpectedly, on the 24th of January, for no other purpose than to make a friendly call upon Mr. Pope Hennessy, the Governor of the British Colony. As soon as possible preparations were made for his suitable reception, and a welcome, none the less cordial that it was quite *improvisé*, was offered to him on landing. After a visit to Government House, where he was heartily received and introduced to the principal personages of the island, His Excellency was escorted to the Town Hall, the Public Gardens and other places of interest. The *China Mail* commenting on the occasion says: "This visit of His Excellency Lau Kwan-yih is an extraordinary mark of the recognition and approval which Mr. Hennessy's policy secures from all the head Chinese officials. It is the first visit of this kind that has ever been made to Hongkong by any Viceroy. Many years ago, the Hoppo paid a similar private visit to the then Governor; we forget in whose time. This may be taken perhaps as a return visit for a similar one paid to the Viceroy last year by Governor Hennessy." The *Daily Press* adopts an equally enthusiastic view of the occurrence, on which it comments thus: "We have good reason to believe that this visit was really what it purported to be, a mere friendly call, prompted by feelings of personal friendship for Mr. Hennessy. But considering that His Excellency Lau is the Ex-Viceroy of Canton, and the Viceroy elect of Nanking, and that in his latter capacity he will be *ex-officio* Superintendent of trade for the south of China, this visit not only reflects favourably on the principles which governed the Viceroy's past career, but indicates also the friendly tendencies which will no doubt mark his Government of the two Kiang provinces and give colour to his future superintendency of the trade of South China."

LAST year one of the most popular of Yokohama residents met his death through drinking copiously of water in the cholera infected districts through which he passed on his way home to his residence, from a tour in the mountains of the Hakone range. Now, as a warning to tourists in all parts of the world, one of the best known dietetic authorities, Sir Henry Thompson, in a letter to the *Times*, maintains that the only way for travellers to avoid effectually typhoid fever, and presumably other epidemic diseases, "is to abstain altogether from drinking any of the water of the countries through which they travel, till it has been boiled. Generally, he says, you can get good mineral waters, though 'the siphon' is hardly more trustworthy than ordinary water, being, indeed, often supplied by tainted water. But where such mineral waters are not to be found, and the traveller objects to wine, the best plan is to secure cold, weak tea from the landlord, offering to pay for it at the rate of a franc a head, only insist-

ing that the water shall have been properly boiled, just as it is in making tea." Now in Japan there is no difficulty anywhere in obtaining the compound recommended by so competent an analyzer.

JAPANESE editors may well take warning from the dealings of the law of England with their English confrères. In Great Britain the press is free. It does not follow that defamation and scurrility may be freely indulged in. The law of libel, properly applied, has an effect capable of including a vast number of offences, which leniency or contempt often allow to leave unnoticed. We have recently heard of the trouble, well merited, which malicious defamation by the *London Town Talk* has entailed upon its propagators. Nor are other instances wanting. We read that "a prosecution commenced against the editor of the *London Figaro* for defamation of character has been altogether successful; and the culprit has been sentenced to the very stringent punishment of a fine of £100 and three months' imprisonment. The object of the Court in pronouncing such a judgment as this was plainly, and in fact avowedly, that of deterring other editors from admitting into the columns of their papers any scurrilous remarks whereby the good name of private persons may be dragged in the mud, and pernicious calumnies spread abroad without justification or excuse. There can be no doubt that the practice has for some months—if not some years past—been vastly on the increase, and it has done incalculable damage, not only to the persons principally interested, but also to the public taste, which was beginning to look upon such personalities as a natural and inevitable result of freedom of the Press. Such an idea has now been roughly dissipated, and while welcoming the result we can only regret that the victim chosen for a public example was not one of the more guilty offenders. The *Figaro* has not, to do it justice, been persistently offensive and ill-natured in its comments; and the publication of some wild letters from a person who is not very sane was an act, as it appears, rather of carelessness than of deliberate malice."

COMMENTING on the case of Proband v. Langton and another, originating in Shanghai, and recently decided in the Court of Appeal in London, the *Examiner* remarks that, hitherto, "no complaints, no proofs that the trade was departing from Manchester, seemed to convince our manufacturers that honesty was the best policy. They continued to 'size' their goods and to sell starch for cotton. No wonder that the American and home-made pure goods successfully competed in the markets of China. Our trade has been dwindling for years. But what warnings could not affect will probably be done by the Courts of Law. Mr. Proband has refused to pay for some 27,000 bales of piece goods, worth about £9,000, on the ground that they were so largely adulterated by size (starch and chloride of magnesium and zinc) as to be mildewed before they reached Singapore. It is fortunate that dishonesty thus defeats itself. Had the adulteration been more ingeniously contrived, so that the goods would have borne a three months' voyage without apparent deterioration, Mr. Proband would not have recovered. As it is, the wares were such rubbish that they were rotten before they reached their first destination. What they would have looked like after a week's wear on the back of a Chinaman we can leave our readers to imagine. The result of this trial will, however, we hope, convince cotton-spinners that *est modus in rebus*, and that when they profess to sell cotton at least a respectable proportion of the article must really be cotton, and that starch and chemicals will not be accepted in lieu of it."

A correspondent in London of the *Hongkong Daily Press* relates how, in December last, while passing along the Strand, on his way to the Lyceum Theatre he was instrumental in relieving a luckless Chinaman from the torments inflicted upon him by a street mob. In the most civilized countries, celestials have almost as much reason to complain of their treatment, as foreigners in out of the way places in the Middle Kingdom have to lament the reception they receive at the hands of the natives. It must be remembered that, in each case, it is the "natives" who are to blame. Even justice as dispensed from the magisterial bench is not always equitable to the stranger, especially if he wears the queue—that badge of servitude first imposed by Manchu conquerors and since fondly retained. A contributor to a Sydney, New South Wales, paper writes:—"In the name of humanity, not to speak of Christianity, the recent conviction of a Chinaman for vagrancy at Parramatta ought to be exposed; and the innocent victim released from prison. These are the facts:—A blind Chinaman went by train from Sydney to Parramatta on the 5th instant. Through some mistake his friends failed to meet him at the station. He was immediately apprehended by a constable, brought before the bench, and without an interpreter, sentenced to prison for six months for vagrancy. The man was no vagrant. He was simply on a visit, and going on to Bathurst, and shortly to China. He is now treated as a common felon in Parramatta Gaol. If ever 'one of England's neglected roughs' received the same treatment in China there is no telling what might be the consequences."

#### MR. JOHN R. BLACK'S YOUNG JAPAN.\*

IT will be seen that this latest addition to the foreigner's library on modern Japan, has a lengthy if not imposing title; but the author, in his preface, modestly states that he does not claim for it a very ambitious scope. "To the dignity of history" his work "makes no pretension. It is a simple narrative of the prominent events that have taken place in the beautiful 'Land of the Rising Sun,' in which foreigners have been more or less interested, and with which they have been more or less connected during the twenty-one years that have elapsed since the existing treaties were entered into in 1858." Opening with a brief sketch of the earlier history of the empire, the remaining part of the book is devoted to a history of events which have transpired in this immediate neighbourhood during the past twenty-one years, the present, or first, volume bringing the record down to 1868. It was hardly to be expected, in view of the numerous treatises on the same subject, and annals of the same occurrences, which have been published of late years, that the present author should have produced much that should be new to those at all familiar with such literature. In fact he himself admits that some portions of his narrative might justly be called a compilation; but, he adds, a compilation from his own writings in the ephemeral press, a conductor of which he has so long been. Except for an avowal made immediately afterwards the critic might find ground to cavil at the limited extent of this qualification; but Mr. Black also cordially admits having derived much assistance from the labours of others who have published works on Japan or on Japanese subjects. Alcock and Olyphant, Lowder's "Legacy of Iyeyasu," Satow's papers, have avowedly been largely drawn upon, and, we must confess, to the greatly enhanced value of the whole structure. Not the least interesting portion of the book is the "interpolatory chapter," between the eleventh and twelfth chapters, which, for ten pages, is an extract taken by permission from Mr. E. H. House's pamphlet on Kagoshima. It is introduced to give an insight into the character of Shimadzu Saburo and

\* Young Japan. Yokohama and Yedo. A narrative of the settlement and the city from the signing of the treaties in 1853 to the close of the year 1879. With a glance at the progress of Japan during a period of twenty-one years. By John R. Black, formerly Editor of the *Japan Herald*, and of the *Japan Gazette*; Editor of the *Far East*, Illustrated Monthly Magazine. Also the Proprietor and Editor of the *Nishin Shinjishi*—the first newspaper (worthy of the name) ever published in the native language in Japan. In two volumes. Vol. I. London, Trübner & Co.; Yokohama, Kelly & Co. 1880. (All rights reserved.)

his probable animus towards foreigners, which Mr. Black, in common so far with the commentator from whom he cites, thinks was not unfriendly, at least previous to the Richardson tragedy on the Tokaido. The extract also contains the dramatic account of the conference and struggle between eight of Shimadzu's retainers and the chiefs of an insurgent and intractable band of anti-foreign *ronins*, in a tea-house at Fushimi, near Kioto, resulting in the death of the outlaw leaders, and the subsequent dispersal of their force. As Mr. Black supposes, it is more than probable that the main facts of this extraordinary episode, which equals in interest—and as an example of the extreme devotion of which feudal vassals were capable only a few years ago, when the death-knell of the system on which they depended had already been sounded,—anything that has been written in tales of fiction or the past history of this country, were derived from the personal narrative of one who bore no small part in the event. With such sources from which to draw, with files of newspapers and of blue books at his disposal, with a long personal experience in which he himself had no mean part in recording the events which were passing around him, it would be strange if Mr. Black's book did not prove an addition of some value to the standard references already existing upon the matters with which he deals. To those whose book-cases are already furnished with the results of the toil of his predecessors in the same sphere, "Young Japan" will prove a useful compendium, and refresher of the memory. To others who are not so supplied, or desire merely a work such as this professes to be—a narrative of the modern history of this empire in its relations with the foreigners who sought its soil, this volume will be of still greater value. For this reason, it is perhaps to be regretted that it was not first published in London. The title-page indeed shows that the well-known firm of Trübner & Co. are the metropolitan agents or publishers, side-by-side with the local firm of Kelly & Co. Whether the advantages, however, incident on getting up the first edition on the spot and under the immediate eye of the author counterbalance apparent defects in appearance, both external and internal, is for the person most concerned to decide; and the matter has probably had his full consideration. Our own opinion is that the illustrations, for instance, of which there are thirteen, suffer from the plan pursued. They are all photographs; and most of them are certainly not so good as engravings of no high standard of excellence. The clearest and best of them are, "A Samurai fully armed," and "Osaka Castle." Such a view as that of "The Plains of Heaven" gives a very imperfect idea of that glorious landscape, even on a grey day, and the likeness of "A Kuge, or noble of imperial lineage," is certainly out of place in a good literary work. In this respect, beyond a doubt, "Young Japan" in its present edition can hold no place beside "The Capital of the Tycoon," or the more recent work of Mr. Griffin—"The Mikado's empire." There is another evil in connection with the employment of sun pictures as illustrations—their frequent want of adhesiveness, and consequent liability to develop dog's-eared corners, or to leave the page on which they were erst pasted a soiled and ugly blank.

For the historical part of Mr. Black's narrative we refer our readers to his work itself. They will find that his opinions are pretty evenly balanced; and that he tries to be fair to both sides, in this respect differing from many previous historians who have shown a decided bias for one side or the other, thus quitting their legitimate *rôle* for the functions of a partizan. The adoption of the line followed by our author may imply an apparent loss of vigor: but it has the incomparable advantages which impartiality commands. Its pursuance in the present instance is the more creditable that the writer confesses that his own personal sympathies are strongly with Japan and the Japanese. He says:—"I would have been glad if I could have avoided some of the more sombre texts which I have been obliged to use but too frequently in the series of pictures I am sending forth. As it is, I know that there are many who will think I have occasionally spoken too favorably. But it is not so. In good truth it would be easier to go to greater lengths, both in blame and in praise, and still leave considerable margins." Thus, in the treatment of the Richardson affair, the action of the Japanese and the Powers, and the various troubles and quarrels, and difficulties which marked the early relations of Japanese with their unwelcome guests, he endeavours to hold the scales of justice evenly before he commences to weigh conclusions. One point is specially worthy of note on the part of those who ascribe to

America the peaceful attitude towards Japan which contrasts so beautifully with that of other western nations—Great Britain especially—like a suave and smiling sunset above a rude and roaring sea. Hear Mr. Black:—

That Commodore Perry and Mr. Townsend Harris concluded their treaties peacefully is admitted. But in both cases it was a triumph of might over right. The first came with a force sufficient to overawe the gentle beings, who were "compelled by foreigners for the sake of their cursed dollars, to open their country:" and it did overawe them. The second attained his end, by picturing to the said gentle minds the terrors to be apprehended from an English and French fleet recently victorious in China, bearing down upon Japan with ambassadors from their respective sovereigns, to enforce a treaty from Japan as they had done in China. So much for the "peaceful triumph." So much for the "gentleness, firmness and incorruptible honesty." No! Commodore Perry himself makes this manly avowal.—

"In conducting all my business with these very sagacious and deceitful people, I have found it profitable to bring to my aid the experience gained in former, and by no means limited, intercourse with the inhabitants of strange lands, civilised and barbarian; and this experience has admonished me, that, with people of forms, it is necessary either to set all ceremony aside, or to out-Herod Herod in assumed personal consequence and ostentation."

This was in extenuation of his having refused to anchor at Uraga or Kamakura, both of which were urged by the Japanese, and his insisting on conducting his business at some place nearer to Yedo than either. He carried his point, and Yokohama became the honoured spot; though what advantage there was in Yokohama over Uraga it would be hard to tell; except that it 'marked one' to the side of the "peaceful triumph."

Mr. Black does not claim for his countrymen that they were decidedly better, or worse, than others in the method of their early dealings with Japan. He is content to show that in the, from a purely moral point of view, always questionable proceeding of forcing their acquaintanceship and communion upon the people of these islands, they were very much in the same position as the republicans who had preceded them. He continues:—

In like manner, we see Lord Elgin's delightful experience, which ended in "many demonstrations of affection on both sides." That experience "had been marked by an interest and novelty not to be surpassed, and by a success, in a political point of view, scarcely to have been anticipated."

Lord Elgin had written home from China his oft quoted declamation against the injustice of his countrymen against Asiatics; and yet he arrives in Japan, and, like Perry, immediately sets the Japanese Government at defiance, by refusing to treat with them anywhere else than at Yedo; persists in going there in the teeth of the most strenuous opposition on the part of the officials; and having come so far, signifies that he has come to make a treaty, in such terms that the Government see plainly enough, that very little choice is left them. A yacht as a present from the Queen of England to the Emperor (Tycoon) of Japan is made the pretext for his visit to Yedo.

We repeat that, for the historical details of Mr. Black's "Young Japan," our readers are referred to the book itself, which we are happy to be able to recommend them to possess. Our present object is to give a fair notion of its scope. As a specimen of the style we will, in concluding this notice, quote the author's account of an incident which happened in 1872, on the occasion of a state visit paid by the Emperor to the first "exhibition"—one held in the Confucian Temple:—

I entered into conversation with a man who seemed to have a great deal to do with keeping the street clear; and I think the circumstance worth relating. He was in a very seedy kind of European dress, with certainly no pretensions to be called a uniform.

There were many police, with whom for some time he was busy, going from one to another and evidently either giving directions or suggestions. At all events they received all he said to them with great respect, and seemed to hear all he had to say as if he had a right to say it. At length he came and stood by me, and after asking my nationality and one or two questions with which Japanese often commence conversation with a foreigner, I remarked that it was a pleasant thing to see the Mikado driving about the streets among his people, as the sovereigns of other countries do. He, out of politeness, agreed with all I said; and having done so, began to give me his opinion. He thought that all this was as it should be; that the people were attaining an amount of freedom that could not have been thought of formerly; although everybody in the service of the late Shogun knew that he was devising schemes for introducing all the changes that have since taken place; not excepting the placing the Mikado in his just position as the *de facto* Emperor. "But," he said, "all that, might and would have been brought about without the violent upsetting of the



prospects in life of hundreds of thousands of men. The plan of Yoshi-nobu he believed to be to make the Mikado in most respects what he is now. He would either have established a parliament of daimios, or have allowed them to be a kind of upper house, with a parliament consisting of men of ability appointed from each province. There would have been no civil war; the reduction of nobles into mere commoners would have been unnecessary: everything would have been settled by the parliament; (he spoke in Japanese, but always made use of the word parliament); "and Yedo would not have been destroyed." I enquired to what he alluded in this last remark. He said, "Perhaps you did not know the city when we called it Yedo, before its name was changed to Tokio." I answered that I had visited it during that time.

"Then," said he, "you have only to look around and find a meaning for my remark."

He took me a few paces down the street and pointed to a large temple, very deserted and dilapidated-looking, that stood at the end of a small street at right angles with the street in which we were, and asked:—

"Do you remember this temple as it used to be?"

"Yes, very well indeed."

"Had it the appearance then that it has now?"

"No."

"Indeed, no!" he said, bitterly. "It was always in good repair. The people flocked to it all day long: the priests were numerous and had the means and the will to do their duty to the temple and to the people: but now you may stand here for half an hour and not see a score of worshippers, and very likely not a single priest. Ah," he added as one came from the back of the temple, "there is one, but if you only read his thoughts by his looks, you can trace the altered condition of his circumstances."

He proceeded to tell me how the present Government had been persecuting not only the Christian religion but the Buddhist, which for centuries had existed with Sintoism, side by side, in the most friendly manner, often occupying the same temples. He said indignantly:—

"Why should Shintoism, which, although the religion of the Emperor, is the religion of only a small minority of the people, attempt to put down Buddhism, which is the faith of a very large majority? It may be a punishment to us, because too many of us have ceased to have any religion at all. But be that as it may, this Government has put its foot upon the neck of Buddhism, and if you go from one temple to another throughout the length and breadth of Yedo several times, although the name had been changed, you will hardly find one Buddhist temple that retains the glory of other days. Tokugawa protected Sinto temples, why cannot the Mikado respect ours?"

We returned to the spot where we had commenced our conversation, and for some time he continued to harp on this subject of the priests: at length the current of our discourse was changed by an officer passing along the street, who made a very low obeisance to him, stopping before him to show this mark of respect. He was remarkably well dressed, and I asked what was his rank. He replied, "Oh! he is only an officer of the police—like myself holding a very different position to that he formerly held."

"May I, without impertinence, enquire what rank you formerly held?"

"No impertinence, at all. I am an old Tokugawa batamoto, and on one occasion was sent by the Tycoon to Kioto, the bearer of a missive from the Yedo, to the Kioto Court. Then, as I passed along the road, the people were obliged to bow down even more submissively than you will see them do to-day when the Mikado comes."

"May I ask whether you hold any office now?"

"A very small one. My salary is under twenty rios a month, and I'm glad to get it."

As he did not tell me what his particular office was, I supposed he preferred to keep it to himself, and did not press the question.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

#### THE FRENCH POST OFFICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—If the French Post-master displays as much activity in his new post in the Japanese Imperial service as he has shown in the French office, the Japanese are to be most certainly congratulated on the acquisition of such an energetic employe—one, too, combining urbanity of disposition with known courtesy to the public. They really have become possessed of a treasure in this, their latest addition to their European staff.

To give you an instance of activity it will suffice to say that the French mail arrived in the harbour at two o'clock this morning and the mails were probably landed shortly after, at least that is the course usually taken in mail steamers. I know of several firms who had not received their correspondence at 9.45 a.m. but then the weather is cold and the comforts of a warm bed are far more enjoyable than sorting letters early in the morning.

Truly our Japanese friends are to be congratulated at the grand prize they have drawn.

I am, dear Mr. Editor,

Yours sincerely,

CANAILE.

Yokohama, Saturday, January 31st, 1880.

#### WHAT WILL THEY DO WITH IT?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

SIR,—The first pronoun in the above sentence alludes to the Amateurs who advertise a prospective concert, and the second to the sum of money expected to accrue from the said entertainment. The question has puzzled me for the last two days and, as a last resort, I introduced the subject this evening with the postprandial Maraschino, but nobody seemed able to decide the point. We all agreed that, as ladies were to appear, the object must be a charitable one, but which of our worthy institutions was to be favoured on the present occasion none could tell. No. 1, a gay young dancing swell, who prides himself on knowing a good deal—immediately struck in with the answer that "everybody knew it was for the benefit of Madame Pernet," but, after much discussion we agreed that this could not be the right solution; as, however proper it might be for professional artists to take a "benefit" it would be entirely beneath the dignity of any Consular officer and his lady to ask or accept any charity whatsoever. Again, had not the omniscient *Gazette* stated distinctly that the Concert would have the benefit of Madame Pernet's valuable assistance, and not that Madame Pernet would have the benefit of the valuable proceeds? Further, did not the *Courrier* of this morning take special care to assure us that it had fallen into error when stating that Madame Claus was about to take a benefit? Lastly, in our community of Insurance agencies, is it likely that we should made up a loss to anyone who was so improvident as to remain uninsured, and thus induce people to tempt providence and save the premia? No. 2—hypochondriac, who carries a small mirror in his vest pocket, that he may periodically examine his tongue—suggested that "it" must be for the New Cemetery, but this suggestion was drowned with ignominy in a bumper to the Chairman's toast of *Dum riro bibo*. No. 3—a modest youngster and "honorary" Church member, who has got no farther at present than cigarettes and plain soda—said he believed that "it" was intended to augment the very miserable stipend of the new Incumbent. We all voted the object most worthy, and the idea gained strength, when No. 4 said he heard that two of the Church trustees were on the Concert committee. No. 5—a facetious punnist who will have his little joke—assured us that "it" was going to nourish that "Sleeping Beauty" whose present nap seems to have attained Rip van Winkle proportions.—our local Amateur Dramatic Corps. Several other suggestions were made but all voted "no thoroughfare:" and before the conversation changed into the sister art as exemplified in the recent Punch (Lord Glenlivet, Telemachus, and St. John the Bankist being freely discussed) it was unanimously resolved that No. 6 (your humble servant) should be deputed to write to you, in the hope that your musical critic might be induced to favor us with the correct answer to the conundrum.

Trusting that you will be able to set our doubts at rest,

I remain,

Your mystified and perplexed.

QUIDNUNC.

Yokohama, 5th February, 1880.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—In your Daily issue of the 6th instant, appears an anonymous communication signed "Quidnunc."

If the writer desires information upon the subject, about which he exercises so much painful wit, I beg to say, that I am in a position to furnish it to him upon personal application.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. DE BAVIER.

Yokohama, 7th February, 1880.



## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, February 3rd, 1880.

RUSSIA :—The semi-official *Agence Russe* declares that the reports of concentration of troops in Poland are unfounded. It is intimated that Germany will not resume sales of silver.

LONDON, February 6th, 1880.

Reinforcements are being sent to Kandahar.  
It is believed that Herat will be marched upon.

**The Japan Weekly Mail.**

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER:  
And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 2ND MONTH, 7TH DAY,  
DO-TÔ-BI.

## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

## BIRTH.

On the 4th instant, at 29, Concession, Kobe, the wife of JOHN ARELL, of a son.

We have but little mail news to report for the past week, the only arrival being the P. & O. steamer *Sunda*, on Wednesday morning last.

The shippers' Association steamer *Escambia*, left Shanghai for this port yesterday afternoon.

In consequence of Mr. A. O. Gay, who was elected Chairman of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce at the Annual General Meeting on the 2nd instant, being unable to accept the appointment, a fresh ballot was taken and Mr. J. J. Keswick elected. This will involve another ballot being taken for a Vice-Chairman.

It is pleasing to observe that the plan sometime since formulated by the Finance Minister for the gradual extinction of the national debt of Japan is being steadily carried out. In the introduction to the estimates for 1879-80 Mr. Okuma mentioned that 7,499,217 yen of the paper currency would be withdrawn during the financial year. This, we learn, has already been accomplished, and is another example of that strict accuracy in all dealings affecting the credit of the Empire which has given Japanese securities their present high position in the London market. As some misconception may possibly exist on the subject, we refer our readers to the notification which appears in our Japanese News, stating that the new paper money about to be issued is only to be used in substitution for kinsatsu already in circulation but torn or damaged by use or accident.

An attempt, which ought to be successful, is being made to float a lighterage company in Yokohama. The object of the enterprise is to establish an institution, with a reasonable amount of capital, which shall take charge of the conveyance of cargo from ships to shore, landing it on the latoba, and there handing it over to the consignees. This work has hitherto been done, with more or less success, by private firms or individuals. Any difficulty, when it has arisen in the business, has originated in a question of responsibility for the safety or integrity of the merchandise landed; and not unnaturally those consignees of cargo who have now and then had reason to complain of carelessness on the part of a landing-agent in taking delivery of goods deteriorated on board ship,—thus freeing vessel and insurance from responsibility,—or of damage to their packages in the lighters or on the wharf, have preferred to attach the onus to the agents of the ship rather than to one who was virtually their employé. Such a company as is now in course of formation should fill a useful place. It should

relieve captains, ship-agents, and consignees, of much anxiety and, simultaneously, secure a fair profit to shareholders on investment.

It is stated in the *Siam Weekly Advertiser* that the King of Siam contemplates visiting Hongkong and ports of China. In that case it would not be improbable that he would continue his travels as far as Japan.

The United States Consul General, observing that the Japanese Government has withdrawn the prohibition recently promulgated to import cattle from China, has notified the fact to his nationals, who had previously been enjoined to comply with the restriction while in force.

The *Courrier du Japon*, in its issue of the 2nd instant, writes :—"The delivery of the last French mail was delayed for some instants in consequence of peculiar circumstances, which arose in the following manner, if we can believe certain information which we obtained from a source whose authenticity we have no reason to suspect.

"The postal agent on board, in conformity, we are assured, with orders received from the Ministry of Post Offices and Telegraphs, delivered his despatch bags direct to the International bureau of the Imperial Japanese Post Office. Upon learning this fact the French Postmaster sent his clerk to the Japanese office to demand the surrender, to his own office, of the mail which had just arrived. Upon the refusal of the Superintendent of the International bureau, the Postmaster went himself to the Japanese Post Office, where a bag of communications coming from France, and addressed to the French Post Office, was handed over to him. The other bags coming from different countries of the Postal Union, remained at the Japanese Post.

"This fact leads us to believe, as we said in one of our previous issues, that there is some misunderstanding on the subject of the cessation of the French postal service to Japan."

On Wednesday night two burglaries were committed in the most populous and frequented parts of the settlement. Messrs. Bourne, and Annand's premises being both entered and robbed. As usual, no arrests have been made, and the experience of these and many similar cases certainly suggests something very defective in the police organization, as a means of preventing or detecting crime.

It is stated that a new code of rules are in course of preparation, for the regulation of the sampans plying in the harbour. Alterations will be made in the fares charged for passengers, luggage and goods.

We have received telegraphic information to the effect that another large fire broke out in Tachibana-cho, Tokio, on Wednesday night. Upwards of 2,500 houses are said to have been destroyed. It is reported that the conflagration was the work of incendiaries.

The following cases originally set down for hearing in the French Consular Court on Tuesday, have been postponed owing to the illness of Mr. Lévy:—Antoine r. Lévy, defamation; Harmand r. Lévy, defamation; and Lévy r. Harmand, threatening behaviour.

We learn from the *Hiogo News* that the *Sumida Maru* took on board at Hongkong a serpent of the boa species, about eighteen feet long and as thick as a man's leg, which was intended as a present from H. E. J. Pope Hennessy to the Mikado, but unfortunately it died, two days after leaving port. It seemed to be in a sickly state when put on board. There are a couple of fine storks a number of other birds on board also intended for His Majesty; these have done better, and seem to be likely to reach their destination safe and sound. The *Sumida* bears another present for the Emperor in the shape of a silver vase, but whether it comes from the Governor of Hongkong or from the British government we have not heard.

A correspondent signing himself "A Merchant, but not a Member of the Chamber of Commerce," writes us (*Hiogo News*) on the subject of the proposed change in the day of departure for Yokohama of the M. B. mail-boat. He entirely agrees with the correspondent whose communication on the same subject appeared in our issue of Saturday last, and says he knows of no one who

would be likely to suffer by the change save the hotel-keepers of the port and of Kioto and Osaka. We believe the principal objection to the change is that tea-men and those doing business with them would be kept at work, during the season, all day on Sunday, in order to get their shipments forward, were the steamer to be despatched on Monday evening instead of Tuesday evening. If it were not for this drawback, no doubt the change would be generally welcomed.

The police are on the track of two or three bad characters who were associates of the man whose murder we (*Mingo News*) reported yesterday, and who are suspected of having had a hand in his killing. The murdered man was a native of Awaji, and was about 29 years of age. He was released from the Kobe jail about six weeks ago, after undergoing a term of imprisonment with hard-labour, for larceny. The manner in which he met his death can only be conjectured, but it is supposed that he had got into bad odour with some others of the gang of thieves of which he was a member, and was waylaid and cut down. The police strongly suspect two or three men who lived near him, but who have been missing since the day the tragedy was enacted. When found, the body of the murdered man was lying in a shallow part of a pond in Shimoda Yamate Dori, Shichi-chome. A silk kimono of good quality was thrown over it loosely, but otherwise it was destitute of clothing. It bore 19 swordcuts.

The magnificent new wet dock, which has been in course of construction at Bombay for some time past, was formally opened with great ceremony by His Excellency Sir Richard Temple, Governor of the Bombay Presidency, on the 2nd Jan. ultimo and named "the Prince's Dock." In addition to the Governor's yacht, the following vessels entered the dock in pursuance of the opening programme;—

<i>Dalhousie</i> ,.....	990 tons, length 200 feet, breadth 28 feet.
<i>Cathay</i> .....	2,982 " " 330 " " 39 "
<i>Khandalla</i> .....	2,030 " " 316 " " 33 "

We learn from the *Bombay Gazette* that the dock, which is supplied with 100 ton hydraulic cranes, will now admit vessels drawing 20 feet of water, and this capacity will in a short time be increased so as to accommodate those drawing 23 feet.

The libels on Mrs. Langtry and Mrs. Cornwallis-West in *Town Talk*, have been an expensive amusement for both the proprietor and printers of that journal. Rosenberg, the editor, was sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment, and now we read in a home paper, that "Mr. William Wilfred Head and Mr. Henry Robert Marks, printers of the number of *Town Talk* containing libels on Mrs. Cornwallis-West and others, came up on Wednesday, at the Central Criminal Court, to receive judgment, and were sentenced to pay each a fine of £5 and the costs of the prosecution, fixed by Mr. Justice Hawkins at £600."

We notice in the *China Mail* an announcement that the following changes in the postal system between Hongkong and the Australasian Colonies:—New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand and Fiji, came into operation on the 1st of February instant:—

The postage on letters *via* Torres Straits, by whatever opportunity, is reduced to 12 cents per half ounce. Rates on other articles continue as hitherto.

Letter postage *via* Galle alone remains 24 cents per half ounce. Mails will be made up for this route by each *French Packet*, instead of by each alternate one as heretofore. The service from Galle is now fortnightly instead of every four weeks as before.

No mails whatever are despatched to Australia, &c., by British Packet.

Enquiries are frequently made if, when a steamer is going, say to Sydney only, correspondence can be forwarded for New Zealand, Tasmania, &c. It is notified that mails for every part of the Australasian Colonies are made up by every steamer which calls at any one of them.

An alteration has also been made in the mail service to the Mauritius, E. Africa, The Cape, St. Helena and Ascension; persons carrying on correspondence with those places are requested to notice that Mails will in future be forwarded by each alternate British Packet, commencing with that of the 28th instant, and not by French Packet as heretofore. Notice of these Mails will be given in the Hongkong daily papers a fortnight in advance throughout the year.

The necessity of employing very intense temperatures in cremation, so as to convert the body into ashes, appears likely to be done away with by the experiments of M. Lissagarry. The difficulty in cremation is to decompose and reduce to ashes, tissues containing 75 per cent. of water; but M. Lissagarry overcomes this by exposing the body, first of all to the action of superheated steam, which chars the tissues and enables them to burn easily in an ordinary simple furnace at a very much less cost of fuel and without the least unpleasantness.

Truth says:—"The steel corvette *Comus* was being prepared for the stowage of nitro-glycerine in her magazines, she having been sent to the port where she was lying on purpose to ship that dangerous commodity, when, lo and behold! "it was fortunately discovered by a lucky accident" that the temperature of the magazine was higher than that at which nitro-glycerine explodes, the compartments being conveniently placed in close proximity to the boilers. So now some thousands are to be expended in altering the *Comus*; but we are lucky indeed not altogether to have lost vessel, cargo, and crew. How boundless must be the imbecility of all concerned in this affair."

A writer in the same paper who is evidently a sportsman writes thus:—"I am glad to see that Lord Ailesbury has come forward to protest against the battues, which are disguised with the name of sport. It may be an exercise of skill to stand for an hour or two with a man behind loading one gun as the other is discharged, whilst pheasants and hares are being driven by beaters towards the gunner, then to lunch copiously, and after lunch to renew the exploits of the morning, but sport it is not, any more than sitting in an arm-chair and shooting hares tied to the legs of the dining-room table would be sport. The labourer, the farmer, and the landlord, said Lord Beaconsfield, divide the produce of the soil between them. To these three he ought to have added pheasants and hares. A rich man may spend his money on a whim, and possibly the whim of killing more pheasants at a battue than any of his neighbours is not more hurtful than many other whims; but then those landlords who are not rich, and who are crying out for relief, must understand that, so long as they insist upon keeping their woods stocked with excessive, and absurdly excessive, quantities of game, very little sympathy will be felt for them."

A novel point in mercantile marine insurance law was decided in the Court of Appeal on the 8th of December. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company insured for £20,000, with the Home and Colonial Marine Insurance Company, a steamer which they had purchased to repair their cables. In January last year the boiler burst, and the vessel was so much damaged that it fetched only £250. The defendant Company refused to pay the policy, on the ground that the boiler plates had been worn out by fair wear and tear, and their bursting was, therefore, not a peril insured against. Lord Justice Baggallay gave judgment for the plaintiffs, holding that a boiler was as much a part of the navigating apparatus of a steamer as the sails were of a sailing vessel, and that its bursting, moreover, was the result of neglect and not of fair wear and tear.

The following account of the storming of Moiroi's stronghold appeared in a recent issue of the *Times*:—"The attack was made from five different positions, all parties, leaving the camp for their respective places at the dip of the moon, about 1 a.m. of the morning of Thursday last, and by a quarter-past 4 o'clock the British flag was flying on the mountain. The storming parties consisted of the following:—Captain Allan Maclean, with 200 Fingoes, was at the rear; Captain Bourne and 170 riflemen at the side; Captain Montague at Commandant's Cave, with 175 men; Captain Hook at the gully, with 200 Fingoes and Tambookies; Lieutenant Muhlebeck, with the Wodehouse Border Guard and 40 Fingoes at the Lip. A landing was first effected by Bourne's troop, afterwards followed by Maclean at the Spring, and Montague at Bourne's Crack. The enemy rolled stones and dead carcasses down. A scaling ladder of 25ft. was laid against a sloping rock, and Lieutenant Springer, the first man up, was fired upon point-blank by the Baphutis. He received the shot in his hat and another tore away part of the rock. He immediately shot one of his assailants, and a small body of riflemen then rushed up a schanze and held the position until

the remainder came up. They then formed with the Fingoes, and made a grand bayonet charge across the top, cheering loudly. The Baphutis retired to the crest of the mountain, from which position they were driven into the front schanzes. Lieutenant Mullenbeck at once rushed forward into them. For ten minutes there was a constant rattle of musketry, with volleys from both sides. Some of the Baphutis, who numbered 200, fought to the last and died at the schanzes without asking quarter. Over 40 were counted dead. A great number, however, made their escape from the mountain. Six men and seven women were all the prisoners taken. The casualties on our side were—Private Schwach, No. 1 troop, C. M. R., wounded in the hip-joint dangerously; Private Schorfield, No. 9 troop, C. M. R., wounded in the shoulder-joint dangerously. One Fingo was killed, and two others were wounded in the legs. Mirosi was shot in the first assault; a bullet struck him in the neck and he was found dead in a cave into which he had crawled. Doda, his son, is said to be the only man of importance who was not killed."

We learn by letters received on Wednesday from Kobe, that the import merchants of that port and Osaka have again combined for the purpose of making no purchases of imported goods for the term of twenty days. This action on their part, they imagine, will have the effect of raising the value of yen *satsu*.

Mr. Labouchere, in conformity with the eccentric manner in which he conducts his journal, *Truth*, shortly before Christmas offered a prize for the best recipe for the manufacture of a plum pudding. In response to this invitation some hundred recipes were sent before the next issue of *Truth*, accompanied, in many instances, by samples. Pleased with the success of his idea, Mr. Labouchere, in an unguarded moment, announced that he would personally taste every pudding sent. Before the expiration of another week several hundreds more arrived, and he then saw when too late, the magnitude of the task he had so thoughtlessly undertaken. Let the sequel be told in his own words:—

"At length, then, I have to decide the all-momentous question, which of the hundreds of recipes for Christmas Plum Puddings sent up to me is the best. I will admit candidly that, could I have foreseen the trouble it would have caused me, I should not have made this particular matter a subject for competition; or, at all events, I would not have guaranteed to taste all the samples forwarded to this office. It is more than a little wonderful, I think, that I am alive and able to record the fact that I kept my word in the above respect, for some of the specimens received were made neither wisely nor well, if I may be allowed to say so. One rich-looking compound, which, after duly tasting, I handed over to one of the office-boys has seemingly had a serious effect upon that youth's normal health. Since the evening when he bore off joyfully the dark, heavy slab in question, his official place has known him no more. I merely mention this to show that the post of Puzzle Editor, nowadays, may become one of danger as well as of difficulty."

The prize recipe has been produced for the benefit of the public, and as it may be useful to some of our readers, we give here what has gained the first place after "the most exhaustive and exhausting process of judgment yet gone through":—

1lb. raisins; 1lb. currants; 1lb. suet, chopped fine; ½lb. stale bread-crumbs; ½lb. flour; ½lb. brown sugar; rind of one lemon chopped fine; ½ nutmeg grated; 5 eggs; ½lb. mixed candied peel; ½ pint of brandy. Well mix all the dry ingredients; beat the eggs, and mix the brandy with them; then pour over the other things, and thoroughly mix. To be boiled in a basin or mould for six hours at the time of making, and six hours more when wanted for use.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.  
PATIENTS DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1880.

Class of Patients.	Remained.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained Feb. 1st.	Total Treated.
1st .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
2nd .....	0	1	0	0	1	1
3rd .....	4	7	1	0	10	11
4th .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charity .....	2	0	1	0	1	2
Total .....	6	8	2	0	12	14

STUART ELDRIDGE, M.D.,  
Surgeon-in-Charge.

## PARIS LETTER.

PARIS, December 16th, 1879.

The frightful fall of snow is said to have had a great deal to do with keeping in the ministry, which is, be it said in passing, neither better nor worse than former cabinets. It was alleged to be impossible to turn out ministers on a day, when one would not send a dog into the street without a wrap or an overall; and the poor fellows arrived covered with snow, suggesting the winding sheet of penitence, or a retreat from Moscow. It was remarked, that a bat flew over M. Waddington's head, as he paced along the hall of entry to the Chamber. The Prime Minister has not shown himself blinder than ordinary mortals; he may be more cautious, prudent many would say; he takes in account that politics cannot be solved like an algebraic problem, but that the feelings of a respectable minority must be considered, and social prejudices treated with toleration. French republicanism aims to clear off old ways with a Haussmann energy, and then reconstruct. Now it is in the rebuilding that the rub consists and the difficulty of finding successors to form a cabinet constitutes another reason for bearing whatever administrative ills we have. By playing plucky, ministers have lost nothing, and have compelled their opponents, who are also unfortunately their supporters, to show their hand. The majority is not a triumph to celebrate by bonfires or a *Te Deum*; it merely means, do better for the future and act as a nest-egg.

Paris appears as if suddenly covered with a loose crust of Mont Blanc; such an avalanche of snow in a day and a night, has not been witnessed since the retreat of Beresina. The tramways are laid up as completely as the goat-carriages of the avenue of the Champs Elysées; a cab is as extinct as the dodo, and a special carriage, when obtainable, is a thing of beauty. The streets have the air of a battle field; deserted vehicles of all kinds, and railway vans in distress like great steamers disabled at sea, and compelled to heave to. Citizens look like black ants, and march in strings across a snow path like wild ducks; an inch to the right or left, pops you into a pile of snow knee deep or breast high. Another reason why traffic has ceased is, that drivers were falling victims to congestion, and it is not in any of their bonds, that they were to remain at their post till frozen to death. Such a clause suits only Arctic voyagers, who have glory—and frost-bites for reward.

Life is quite changed by the avalanche and a temperature worthy of a poet-laureate of Greenland. People are not ill-humored, as cold might produce, by freezing, the genial current of the soul; the small boys are in a Mahomedan paradise, as they instinctively think the inhabitants feel grateful to their efforts for making a clear spot somewhere. The police have other fish to fry; they insist on every house-holder sweeping before his door, and so having the foot-way as correct as a Dutch interior; but this contributes greatly to bringing down citizens with a most democratic uniformity, and only that the accidents are serious, one might be excused smiling at the variety of salaams and backward positions human beings can undergo. Old persons once down, rarely rise without a fracture, as their bones are as brittle as glass, and the number of single old persons in Paris, who daily go out to make their marketing and perform their own housekeeping, is very great. The iron doors to sewers, in the side walk are veritable traps in times of frost and mud.

It will cost the municipality at least a quarter of a million of francs to cart off the snow, and employ extra brigades of scavengers to chop it up into kennel water when the thaw comes, and run it into the drains. The Deputies when they arrived at the Chamber, entered a vestiary, where a valet brushed the snow off them: some reporters claimed to be candidates and senators, and were brushed accordingly. But they were punished on reaching the gallery, as the corridor where coats and hats are suspended allowed the snow to drift in very plentifully, and so many a black hat became white. The lad who takes the despatches to the telegraph office, two stories below, the "gallery," to save a tread-mill trotting secured an empty cigar box, tied it to a cord, and coiling it over the banister, let down the slips; he is a promising boy.

We have not all the advantages of St. Petersburg—sledges are rare; a vast number of these however conveyed numerous loving subjects of the Czar to their Church to return thanks for His Majesty's escape. The Greek Church, as peculiar to Russia has this advantage, that it can organize a special service in as many hours as other believers would exact weeks. When over, the congregation generally have in their families a substantial supper, perhaps as a doxology. I have spoken with several Russians, and they entertain the belief that the Nihilists will finish with the Czar in a tragical manner. Already they are killing him by inches, and he feels his life would be even less safe outside, than in Holy Russia. The Czar rarely can obtain, with all his means and appliances, forty winks in twenty-four hours: he eats little, rather likes champagne, which he mixes with new milk—Bismarck prefers stout and isolation—he is as melancholy as Jacques, but without a sprinkle of that personage's philosophy. He is naturally *triste*, and it was owing to the melancholy langour of her character, that the Empress won the Czar. But her health is at its lowest



ebb: chloral and soothing syrups give her no longer relief: the slightest noise brings on a crisis of the nerves and the wheels of her bath chair are even muffled with india-rubber to drown the noise, and the stretcher attendants wear felt shoes.

It appears that Prince Bismarck has still enough of events untold in his public life to justify a *Dane*.—M. Hansen—in composing a work on "behind the scenes." It is a very poor production—very inferior to the volumes written by M. Busch in point of style—and contains nothing new. He does not display even the inventive powers of M. Tissot, in that gentleman's amusing romance, "A voyage in the country of the milliards." M. Hansen has collected the hackneyed current anti-German views, that the Danes—until lately—as well as the French, entertained about the Prince.

St. Barbe is the patron saint of the artillery; St. Maurice is the worthy who presides over the whole army. The artilleryists had, in honor of their anniversary, an extra plate of meat, a pint of wine and a two sous cigar. Is it not strange, that the non-commissioned officers are prohibited from lighting a fire in their rooms in the barracks? This is one of the grievances which these valuable members of a regiment urge against a re-engagement, despite a rather tempting bounty.

The Skating Club is not yet in full organization: few members believed the snow was in earnest, or the frost likely to be continuous; then there is the difficulty to reach the pools in the Bois de Boulogne. When the Press Fête to relieve the musicians shall be finished, the Skating Club will give its ball on behalf of the poor of Paris. The latter are now fully employed piling up the snow: others sell snow-shoes, made of a stave of a wine barrel; not a few deal in cloth stockings, and some again vend charcoal bricks "all hot! all hot!" like tatoes. For a few sous, the purchaser has the case in which to place the useful brick. The cabs of Paris have sometimes foot-warmers, and the vehicle is then advertised as "heated." When the intense cold set in, caddy had two *boules* or pans, the cold one he left inside the vehicle, assuring the traveller it was "warm still," while he kept the hot one for his own seat; he of course, demanded an extra fare for supplying the boiling water.

Five suicides took place in one day in Paris alone; one pretty girl aged 14, the daughter of a baker, secured one of her father's old pistols and shot herself because he would not let her become a national school-mistress, as suited her talents; he wished her to mind his shop. In Corsica a poor baker's wife smelt a strong odour from the oven: on going down and looking in, she saw her husband in process of being cremated alive—the mode of suicide he preferred. A man was condemned to prison for two months for street fighting; he succeeded in obtaining a substitute, for the price of one franc per day to take his place in prison, which was successfully carried out; only the men commenced to blab over their cups! In reference to the number of young persons committing crimes, much must be attributed to evil company before entering prison for the first time; and, when once there, coming out a consummate scoundrel. Then the flood of bad literature obtainable for a few centimes is another source of moral degradation; and as much of this literature is illustrated, the pictures only intensify the filthy letter-press. Talking of bad prints, I am informed that an abominable traffic is being carried on under the name of "International Beauties." The photos of the beauties of European capitals, supply the "heads" of the ladies; these are then joined on to "bodies" in the most indecent attitudes, photographed, and clandestinely sold.

M. Charles Blanc, brother of Louis, and the Ruskin of France in point of criticism, deprecates the want of originality and real art in the models sent in of the statue to commemorate the Defence of Paris in 1870-71. He excepts no competitor, and his remarks have stung Gustave Doré to the quick.

A treatise has appeared on the "Fattening of pigs, poultry, and frogs"—anything to relieve distressed farmers is welcome.

Poor Madame O'Connell, who was once a leader of fashion in this city, and distinguished for her literary and painting talents, is now in a public lunatic asylum: she remains all day huddled up in a corner, covered with rags, and suffering it is said from elephantiasis, which explains her enormous bulk. A pressing appeal is made to raise funds to place her in a private hospital. Her husband is a Trappist; after morally killing his wife, he sought refuge in a convent.

The Abbe Liézt, when he promised to spend the evening with friends, and to play some of his compositions always sent in advance his own piano.

The Municipal Council of Paris, in renewing the lease of the Beaulieu Concerts, formerly the Musard, said they were the only out-door music in the Champs Elysees that a respectable lady could attend. The other establishments that also hold their leases from the City of Paris, intend taking an action for damages. Public bodies, here as elsewhere, "have neither bodies to be kicked, nor souls to be saved."

Game is scarce in the suburbs of Paris; speculators now provide hares for passionate sportsmen to blaze at, as pigeons are furnished for slaughtering.

According to the *Paris Marcia* journal, the first letter-carrier was the dove that brought Noah the olive branch.

"Zulu," is the name given to the bad wine produced this season.

A journal apologizes for interrupting an article on home politics, to draw attention to the duel between de Lesseps and ex-President Grant, respecting the Darien canal.

Three things without mercy—fire, time and a woman's revenge.

Of the total number of French Legislators, 325 are bald, viz: 116 Senators and 209 deputies.

Fortune tellers and somnambulists are now better advertisers, in Paris, than patent medicine vendors.

In honour of the anniversary of the total defeat of the Duc de Broglie and Co., a soft goods shop announces that all sales will be marked 60 per cent below first cost.

An invalid was asked how he could eat such quantities of pork preparations which he disliked so much when in good health: "I simply close my eyes, and imagine I am a Mahomedan." A man boasts of having the courage of his opinions; a neighbor replies, "I think nothing of your courage!"

## JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

#### Notification, No. 4.

It is hereby notified that the foreign mail interchange and system of carrying small packages by the mails, having been instituted between Japan and Hongkong, from January this year, an agreement, of which the enclosed is a copy, has been entered into between the Postmaster General of Japan and the Postmaster General of Hongkong.

(Signed) SANJO SANETOMI,  
Prime Minister.

February 5th, 1880.

#### Notification, No. 5.

It is hereby notified that the paper currency now in circulation, being of such a nature as to be easily torn and destroyed by use, new paper money of three different values, namely:—one yen, five yen, and ten yen, is to be issued in order to be gradually exchanged for that now in circulation.

N. B.—The printing of the new one yen paper currency having now been completed, samples are to be forwarded to every local Government.

SANJO SANETOMI,  
Prime Minister.

February 5th, 1880.

### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

We learn from the *Mainichi Shimbun* that the contemplated visit of His Majesty the Emperor to Kiushiu and Shikoku, which was originally intended to have taken place next March, has been postponed until May or June, no date having yet been definitely fixed.

Their Imperial Highnesses Prince Arisugawa, Prince Higashi-Fushimi and Prince Kita-Shirakawa; Their Excellencies Inouye, Okuma and Terashima; General Saigo, Admiral Enomoto and several other high officials waited upon His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa, on board the *Vettor Pisani* on the 27th ult., in order to take formal leave of the distinguished visitor to Japan. His Excellency Admiral Kawamura, the Naval Minister paid a similar visit on the 30th ult. The *Vettor Pisani* sailed on the 1st inst. for Kobe.

The Chief of the Colonization Department, General Kuroda, returned to the capital from Hakodate, on the 30th ultimo.

On the 30th ult. Prince Nabeshima left Tokio to visit Kobe.

Mr. Nomura, Prefect of Kanagawa Ken, went to Tokio on the morning of the 31st ult. in connection with certain business relating to the approaching meeting of Provincial Governors. It is hinted by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, that Mr. Makimura, Governor of Kioto, will, on the closing of the assembly, be transferred to a seat in the *Genro-In*, and that Mr. Kunishige, of Kioto, will be appointed to the government of his district.

During the session of the meeting of Provincial Governors, an officer of the Imperial Household will be in daily attendance, and will convey a report of the proceedings to the Emperor.

Her Majesty the Empress-Mother is reported to have been slightly indisposed of late, but to be now convalescent.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* announces, as a current rumour, that



General Oyama, Prefect of Police, is shortly to be promoted to the grade of *Sangi*.

His Excellency Ito, Minister for the Interior, who has lately returned from Atami, resumed the duties of his office on the 2nd instant. The *Echo du Japon* says that during His Excellency's journey from Atami, one of the escort was shot from a field adjoining the road. It was at first thought that an attempt had been made to assassinate the Minister, but enquiry proved that the gun had been accidentally discharged by a man who was out shooting.

The Hon. J. A. Bingham, the Minister from the United States, accompanied by His Excellency General Saigo, Minister of War, visited the Military College at Ichigaya, the day before yesterday, where they witnessed the riding drill of the cavalry officers, and a review of the cadets.

No representative from the new prefecture of Okinawa, will be in attendance at the forthcoming Local Governors' Assembly, owing to the state of the prefecture.

Governors Nomura, of the prefecture of Ibaraki, and Nagayama, of that of Niigata; and Secretaries Yoshida of Sakai, and Hirayama of Hiroshima, arrived in Tokio on the 1st instant.

We (the *Hochi Shimbun*) hear that His Majesty the Emperor attended the *Daijō Kwan*, at 10 a.m. on Tuesday and received information from the *Daijin* and the *Sangi* respecting the forthcoming Local Governor's Assembly.

Mr. Tanaka, Assistant Minister of Education and suite, left Kobe on the 27th ultimo, for Kiushiu.

Two hundred and eighteen police sergeants and men who took part in quelling the last Satsuma rebellion, have received rewards in money, varying from ten to one hundred yen according to their different services, at the Head Police Station.

His Excellency Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs gave a farewell banquet at the Shiba Palace yesterday, in honour of His Excellency Yoshida, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Government of Washington, who is shortly leaving for his post.

His Excellency Okuma, the Minister of Finance, is shortly leaving Tokio for Osaka, in order to be present at the opening of the Cotton and Sugar Competitive Exhibition, which is to take place on the 15th instant.

A private meeting of the Local Governors' Assembly was held at 10 a.m., the day before yesterday, and Mr. Matsuda, Governor of Tokio, was appointed the *Kanji*.

We (*Mainichi Shimbun*), have been informed that the Governor of Chiba Ken, has requested to be allowed to increase the police force of that prefecture, by one hundred and fifty men.

Mr. Nomura, the Chief Secretary of the Education Department, who has been inspecting the state of education in the prefectures of Yamaguchi and Hiroshima, returned to Tokio on the 20th ultimo.

As had been already recorded, the Local Governors' Assembly was opened the day before yesterday. Nine Princes of the Blood, all the *Sangi* and all the members of the Assembly, arrived at the debating Hall at about 9.30 a.m., and took their seats about 10.20 a.m. In the meanwhile His Majesty the Emperor arrived there, and opened the Assembly. His Majesty addressing the members said:—

"We have summoned you to this Assembly, and we in person now open it. We wish you to keep our will in your minds and state your opinions upon the matters brought before you." His Majesty then returned to the palace and the members dispersed. The regular meetings of the Assembly will be held from to-day.

His Excellency Sanjo, the Prime Minister, visited the Imperial Treasury in the Finance Department, the day before yesterday.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

Lieutenant-General Takashima, who has been travelling in France and Germany in order to investigate the military systems of those countries, is expected to return to Japan about the end of this month.

Lieutenant Nagamine, of the Japanese Army, who has been residing in France for the purpose of study, lately returned home.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* lately reported that the Military system of Japan is shortly to undergo revision. The above statement has been since contradicted.

The number of marines to be enlisted by the Naval Department during this year, will amount to two hundred and fifty men.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* tells us that Captains Hayashi Kiyoyasu, and Nirei Kagemori, were promoted to the rank of Rear-Admirals, on the 4th instant.

The Japanese man-of-war *Amaki Kan*, is to sail for Corea about the 20th instant.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the duties paid at the Yokohama Custom House during the past month, amounted to 175,136 yen, 99 sen, 9 rin.

It is reported in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that nine of the students who have recently succeeded in passing the final examinations at the Engineering College in Tokio, thus completing the educational course of that institution, are to leave for England by the P. & O. Co.'s steamer, sailing on the 14th instant.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* mentions that return tickets are to be issued henceforward on the Yokohama-Shimbashi railway line between the latter terminus and Kanagawa, and Yokohama and Shinnagawa, and *vice versa* in both cases. The double journey then will cost as follows:—Return tickets. Shinbashi to Shinnagawa, 1st class 38 sen, 2nd class 15 sen; Shinbashi to Kanagawa, 1st class 1 yen 28 sen, 2nd class 75 sen; Yokohama to Shinnagawa, 1st class 1 yen 13 sen, 2nd class 75 sen.

A fire took place at Shinsaruya-cho, Asakusa, Tokio, at 9.30 p.m. on the 30th ultimo, and rapidly spread to the three streets, Suwa-cho, Kurofune-cho, and Miyashi-cho, destroying 281 and damaging 26 houses. It was extinguished at midnight.

The Osaka Exhibition is to be opened for a hundred days, commencing on the 1st of next month.

Furukawa, Katauda, and seven other political offenders implicated with them, were sent from Osaka on the 21st ultimo overland to Tokio, under a strong guard of police.

It is reported that many cases have occurred lately in Tokio and its vicinity, of robberies having been perpetrated by armed men.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 1st February, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 7,191.32
Merchandise, &c. ....	796.56
Total.....	\$ 7,987.88

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 5,867.61
Merchandise, &c. ....	735.26

Total.....\$ 6,602.87

Miles open 18.

##### KOBE AND OOTZU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 1st February, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 9,918.92
Merchandise, &c. ....	1,682.40

Total.....\$11,601.32

Miles open 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$10,552.40
Merchandise, &c. ....	1,027.27

Total.....\$11,579.67

Miles open 47.

#### THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Annual General Meeting of the Chamber was held last Monday afternoon in the Hall of the Chamber,

Present: Messrs. Wilkin (in the chair), Rickett, Grüsser, Haselwood, Macpherson, Watson, Dunlop, Hamilton, Van der Pot, Reid, Dodds, Wolff, Merian, Stiebel, Blanc, Fraser, D'Iffanger, Taylor, and Heinemann.

The Chairman mentioned the objects of the meeting, and on his suggestion a similar course to last year was adopted,

viz., the minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and passed.

It was also agreed that the annual report of the committee be taken as read. The report was as follows:—

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, FOR THE YEAR 1879.**

The most important of the subjects which have occupied the attention of the Chamber during the past year, have been:—

**THE REVISION OF THE TREATIES AND OF THE TARIFF CONVENTION OF 1866.**

In April, the Chamber received from Sir Harry S. Parkes, H. B. M.'s Minister, a communication intimating that some steps had been taken by the Japanese Government in this direction, and inviting the expression of its opinions, and suggestions for modifications.

At a Special General Meeting, held on the 1st May to consider this communication, the General Committee were requested to draw up a Report upon Revision. This was according done, and their Report was presented to a second General Meeting, held on the 8th July. It was adopted with some slight modifications, and then forwarded to H. B. M.'s Minister.

Recently a document has been published which, it is understood, embodies the proposals of the Japanese Government respecting the tariff on imports; but further than this your Committee have no intimation that any progress has been made in the matter.

The standpoints of this Chamber in regard to Revision of the Tariff are, briefly:—that duties on Imports must fall on the consumer, and thus be a tax on the country: that protection to native industries which are only kept going by Government subsidies, would be burdensome to the people of Japan, and may be unfair to foreign trade: and that foreign nations, who have been working for twenty years under existing agreements, and to whom, in fact, Japan directly and indirectly owes so much of her progress, have rights under those agreements which cannot be ignored.

One step which the Chamber then advocated was shortly afterwards taken, although scarcely in the manner suggested. The Committee wrote thus in their Report:—"There would seem to be every reason why the Silver Yen should be recognized as on an equality with the Mexican Dollar, under guarantees for the maintenance of the present standard and of a sufficient supply; and always provided that it is accepted as current in China." Soon after arrangements were made by which the Foreign Banks, beginning with the 19th September, agreed to accept the silver yen on a par with the Mexican Dollar; or rather by these arrangements the latter coin was virtually excluded from circulation. It is somewhat to be regretted that this should have been done before currency had been obtained for the Yen in China, or at least in Hongkong. The result has been that our rates of Exchange, instead of ruling higher than those in Hongkong, have kept below them, and it may be said that in one sense the money held in Yokohama, has been depreciated to the extent of 1 or 2 per cent.

It will be unnecessary to add that the introduction of the Silver Yen has failed to arrest the depreciation of the Paper Currency; and it may be doubted whether it is worth discussing the effects of Tariffs upon the trade and prosperity of the country, in presence of the fact that the country is flooded with practically illimitable issues of inconvertible paper.

**P. & O. POSTAL CONTRACT.**—Under date 1st April, the Chamber received from Sir Harry S. Parkes, a copy of the reply of the General Post Office on this subject, embodying the reasons for the decision to which the Board of Treasury had come. These were that the expense of a British packet service between Hongkong and Yokohama seemed to be unnecessary, in view of the facts that there was a French fortnightly service,—"and that the most important portion of the correspondence between the United Kingdom and Japan is conveyed via San Francisco."

Seeing what little use can be made of this latter route for outward letters, it is to be regretted that the Board of Treasury should have been under such a misapprehension; and it must be matter of surprise that the British Government should be content to leave a trade which is by no means inconsiderable, and in which British interests have so much the largest share, to be sustained through mails carried by other countries.

After receipt of this reply, a Memorial on the subject, promoted by the Chamber, and generally signed by the mercantile community, was addressed to the Directors of the P. & O. Co., with a request that they would lay it before H. B. M.'s Government. Unfortunately, as it appears, the Directors considered that as they were interested parties it would not be becoming in them to forward the Memorial, and that anything of the kind should be sent direct. Thus several months further delay occurred.

A second Memorial, direct to the Board of Treasury, has since been prepared by the Chamber, and circulated for signature amongst the mercantile community. H. B. M.'s Chargé d'Affaires kindly consented to forward it to London.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED AT THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH CONFERENCE OF LONDON, 1879.**—The arbitrary and inconsiderate nature of some of these has attracted general attention, and the Chamber having first communicated with the Chambers of Hongkong and Shanghai, drew up a Protest, and circulated it in like manner for signature amongst those engaged in business. It has been now forwarded to the Directors of the two Eastern Companies.

**REGULATIONS FOR LANDING AND STORING DANGEROUS CARGO.**—In response to an invitation dated 1st September, from the Board of Foreign Consuls, a Memorandum has been sent in to that body with suggestions for provisional arrangements as to landing and storing Dangerous Cargo, which it is thought might

meet the case until general Harbour Regulations are devised and agreed upon.

During the past year, imports of Kerosene became so much in excess of the storage capacity of the Nakamura godowns, that consignees resorted to buildings in the settlement wherein to warehouse this cargo. This matter occupied the attention of the Chamber, but as the Fire Insurance Agents of the Port took it up, there was no necessity for action on its part. The result of the representations of the Fire Insurance Agents was, that some of the vacant ground on the Umechi was assigned for the temporary use of foreigners wishing to put up godowns for Kerosene:—and that later, additional godowns were erected by the Local Government on the Nakamura site, sufficient in all for the storage of 350,000 to 400,000 cases. As regards these latter godowns, it is, however, to be regretted, that they have been placed in such close proximity to each other that difficulty may arise as to Fire Insurance to a sufficient extent.

**LANDING OF CARGO AT THE HATOBA, &C.**—The Special Committee appointed to consider the question of landing of cargo at the Hatoeba and kindred subjects, were courteously afforded by Mr. Motono Morimichi, Superintendent of Customs, an opportunity of discussing various matters with him, and subsequently of presenting their views in a Memorandum. This, with Mr. Morimichi's reply, will be found in the Appendix. Some good has resulted from this interchange of ideas, although, it may be thought, not much actual progress was made.

**LISTS OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.**—The publication, under the auspices of the Chamber of the daily Customs Returns has been discontinued, but Lists of daily Imports and Exports are filed at the Chamber's rooms for reference.

**JAPANESE LAW IN RESPECT TO DEBTORS.**—In connection with the Takashima Coal Mine case, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. addressed the Chamber, pointing out the unsatisfactory position of the Japanese law in respect to Debtors, as it affected foreigners. This communication was forwarded by the Chamber to the Foreign Representatives.

Occasion was also taken to endeavor to enlist the support of the Tokio Chamber of Commerce in the same cause.

**SILK-REELING.**—Later on, at the commencement of the Silk season, a suggestion was made to the same body in reference to the probability that silk-reelers would over-supply the market with coarse sizes. In both cases the Tokio Chamber cordially responded to the communications.

**SHANGHAI MAIL STEAMERS.**—In October a request was made to the Directors of the Mitsui Bishi S. S. Co., that some arrangements should be made by which the Shanghai mail would arrive before the outgoing steamer. This request has received the usual courteous consideration of those gentlemen, and probably some modification will be arrived at:—although owing to the necessity of consulting the requirements of the steamers, and the convenience of the communities at the other ports, it appears to be not easy to make a change.

**THE TELEGRAM.**—Cost of this during the past year would appear to be somewhat in excess of that of 1878. The Rules and Regulations alluded to above, would from April next greatly increase the price of the message in its present form, at least until some re-arrangement of the method of transmission can be made. Even then, however, the fact would remain that this item draws heavily upon the funds of the Chamber. The actual cost per member is about \$49 per annum:—the augmentation of subscriptions to meet it, is only \$30. It is therefore absolutely necessary that a change should be made in some direction, and this meeting is invited either to decide what steps should be taken, or to appoint a sub-committee with power to decide.

Shall the Telegram be shortened, or shall it be less frequently sent? Shall it be given up altogether, and the annual subscription to the Chamber revert to the original amount of \$50, or shall the subscription be increased so as to fully provide for the cost?

It must be admitted that any such subscription as \$30 per annum is a very small sum to pay for the amount of information transmitted weekly by the message.

A further suggestion has been made that the ordinary subscription be limited to \$50, and that those members who wish for the Telegram should divide the cost among themselves: but it seems very undesirable, that in any association presuming working for the common good, there should be any such division of interests.

**FINANCES.**—The accounts are presented herewith, duly audited. The balance in hand again shews a diminution when compared with that of a year ago.

In accordance with the discretionary power given to your Committee at last Annual Meeting, the price of the Circular was raised on and from 1st July to 12½ cents, and notwithstanding a considerable reduction in the number sold, this measure, although in operation for only half the year, has been successful in maintaining the amount of income from this source.

Some small economies in expenditure, aggregating about \$200 per annum, have been effected:—but as already said, it is imperative that some decision should be come to in respect to the cost of the Telegrams.

**MARKET REPORT.**—The sale of the Market Report has not been adversely affected by the augmentation of price, indeed the number taken shews a slight increase during the last six months.

As regards the records of the Market Report, they shew a large business again in Cotton Yarn at gradually advancing prices: and amongst it, a notable increase in sales of Bombay 20's. In Grey Shirtings the deliveries are seventy per cent in excess of those of 1878, due chiefly to 9 lbs.:—Rather singularly, values have more or less steadily receded. In Woollen Goods there have been general complaints of dulness, but in average and excepting in one or two articles, there is little difference in the business recorded as compared with that of the previous year. The deliveries of Kerosene show that the use of this commodity still extends.

This was seconded by Mr. Haselwood, and carried.



The election of officers was then proceeded with. Mr. D'Iffanger and Mr. Haselwood acting as scrutineers.

Mr. Wilkin mentioned that he had no desire to serve again, either as Chairman or Vice-Chairman, and requested the members not to vote for him in either capacity.

The scrutineers announced the result of the ballot for Chairman to be as follows:—Messrs. Macpherson and Fraser equal, Mr. Wilkin, and then Messrs. Gay and Keswick also equal. The three first named gentlemen declined the position, and neither Mr. Gay nor Mr. Keswick were present. It was therefore necessary to have a fresh ballot which resulted in the election of Mr. Gay as Chairman of the Chamber for the ensuing year. Mr. Keswick was then elected vice-Chairman, and Messrs. Dunlop, Van der Pot, D'Iffanger, Wilkin, Wolff and Dodds, members of committee. There being a tie between Messrs. Stiebel, Walsh and Taylor for the seventh seat on the committee, a second ballot was rendered necessary, which resulted in favor of Mr. Stiebel.

The Chairman then read the notice of a proposed alteration in Rule III. which now read as follows:—"That merchants, bankers and agents for public companies shall be eligible for admission as members." The speaker mentioned that the conditions of the trade of the port had altered and it had been suggested that the rule be amended thus "That merchants, bankers agents for public companies and *others engaged in trade* shall be eligible for admission as members." He thought that the ballot was sufficient protection that no person would be elected a member who should not be; and that if their circular was altered so as to include other articles in which a large trade was now done, an increase might reasonably be expected in the members belonging to the Chamber. He therefore moved that the rule be amended in accordance with the notice given.

Mr. Dunlop asked if Chinese would be admitted under the proposed alteration?

The Chairman replied there was no exception stated. It would be a matter settled entirely by the ballot for admission.

Mr. Fraser wished to know if the alteration of which notice had been given, was the result of any expression of opinion by any particular persons.

The Chairman could not exactly say it was.

Mr. Macpherson stated that there were very large imports now which had grown up comparatively recently and the reports issued by the Chamber really gave no accurate idea of the trade of the place. There were now large transactions in kerosene, curios and in other articles and the persons engaged in those businesses would in many instances join the Chamber if the prices current gave details respecting these things. He thought they should also reduce the annual fee so as to make the Chamber as generally useful as possible. By this means, there would be more life in their meetings, a greater variety of opinions would be expressed, and the Chamber would represent the trade of the port more fully. He had therefore much pleasure in seconding the resolution moved by the Chairman.

On being put to the meeting the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The Chairman then said that he would like to make a few remarks before the meeting separated. At last Annual Meeting he had brought forward the subject of the Landing of Cargo by ships, but the matter remained in the same unsettled state as before, and had already been the origin of a lawsuit. In the local papers might daily be seen advertisements, inviting consignees to send in their Bills of Lading to the Agents of the vessel, and if they wished the vessel to land their cargo, to intimate that such landing would be at their own risk. This amounted to giving up the Bills of Lading without any security as to any damage or loss which might happen between the ship and the shore. He thought this was not a right state of things, and hoped the Chamber might see its way to suggest a method satisfactory to all concerned. On another point he would also like to say a few words. It might be thought that it was not within the province of a written report to discuss the internal affairs of Japan, but at least it would be quite in place that they should ventilate their views upon matters intimately associated with trade. Of these, the continued depreciation in the inconvertible paper currency, was a most important one, and indeed in its importance quite overshadowed the question of Tariffs. Already imported goods were costing the native consumer more than thirty per cent over par; and exports were realizing an equal

value above par. This result was, however, further complicated by what was taking place in the interior in respect to the purchasing value of paper. Hitherto,—and still to a great extent,—to the dweller in the interior, a Yen, paper or coin, had been much the same thing, but now the inevitable law of adaptation was beginning to take effect, and the necessities of life,—food and so forth,—had risen in value, that is they were costing so much more of the currency of the country: just as that currency where it comes into contact with coin is at a discount. The resources of Japan are comparatively limited in extent, and expedients which larger countries may adopt with more or less of impunity, may tell heavily on her. He could not help thinking that this was sometimes lost sight of by those who directed her affairs, and that in adopting measures which they saw in operation in other lands, sufficient account was not taken of the difference in circumstances or adaptation. The Japanese Government seemed to think that the introduction of the Silver Yen would prevent any great depreciation in the paper currency, irrespective of the fact that there was not more than one yen in coin (silver and gold) to every ten yen of inconvertible paper. It would be well if the failure of their hopes in this direction, suggested to them that the stern laws of cause and effect must take their course, and that no empirical schemes can avail to make the country rich and prosperous. The native press is doubtless doing harm in this respect by the crude and fallacious views it puts forth. The progress made by the newspapers in Japan is without doubt astonishing, but the theories of political economy which they at times propound, and which are probably readily accepted by their readers, are wildly absurd; and it is moreover to be regretted that they do not hesitate on occasion to make mendacious statements on matters of fact. Japan has also of late suffered from travelling politicians, who have been supposed to possess influence and power, as well as political wisdom, and who on the strength of such reputation have given much advice, and received much attention at the expense of the country. Another phase of this matter is the extent to which Government support is given to industrial undertakings, by loans (in paper money it is true), or otherwise. One cannot help thinking that this is done without always a full consideration as to whether the industry is at all adapted to the capabilities of the country. Nothing could be better than a wholesome encouragement of production and manufactories; but the crucial question is, do these concerns—or can they—pay when started? Are the silk-filatures, paper mills, yarn mills, glass factories, etc., which are under Government patronage self-supporting, or do they even pay their expenses? or are they kept going for the name of the thing, and to provide berths for Government attachés? If they were not self-supporting they were simply so much loss to the country. In conclusion, he remarked that to sojourners in Japan these subjects could not but be of interest, and discussion of them in a friendly, and no carping spirit, could not but be productive of good.

Mr. Macpherson moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Wilkin for the very able manner in which he had discharged the important duties of Chairman of the Chamber during the past year, alluding more particularly to the trouble Mr. Wilkin had always personally taken to advance the interests of the institution.

Mr. Macpherson's proposition was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Wilkin, in acknowledging the compliment, remarked that he was always glad to be of service in the community, and thoroughly believed in the benefits derivable from a judicious division of labour.

The meeting then terminated.

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### TREATY REVISION.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*.)

*Continued from last week.*

THE seventh article in the trade regulations attached to the early treaties provided as follows:—

CLASS I.—Goods free of duty.—Gold and silver, coined or uncoined. Furniture and books, not intended for sale. All articles brought for the private use of foreign residents in Japan.

CLASS II.—Goods subject to an *ad valorem* duty of five per cent.—Material necessary for building or repairing ships.



whale-fishing apparatus, salt provisions, bread and flour, live birds and animals, coal, timber for house-building, grain, steam-engines, lead, tin, silk-yarn, cotton and woolen fabrics.

Class III.—Goods chargeable a duty of thirty-five per cent.—Wines and spirits.

Class IV.—All import goods not enumerated in the above classes shall pay a duty of twenty per cent *ad valorem*. All goods exported from Japan, with the exception of gold and silver coin, and copper, shall pay a duty of five per cent.

The above-mentioned tariff was agreed upon with the full consent of the Foreign Plenipotentiaries who had come to this country charged with full power to conclude treaties, and was approved by their respective sovereigns or presidents.

Thus we see that a standard of twenty per cent duty on imports, and five per cent on exports, was fixed when the treaties were first signed. The rate was then considered equitable by the Envoys of the Treaty Powers, and approved as just by their monarchs and Congress. Moreover, when Mr. Harris, then the representative of the United States of America was drafting the form of the conventions, he very clearly expressed the opinion that the scale of dues there laid down would never injure either the export or the import business. Conformably to the same opinion, Lord Elgin (Great Britain), Baron Gros (France), Mr. Donker Curtius (Holland), Count Poutiatine (Russia), agreed to the tariff. Hence we must conclude that twenty per cent is a fair tax for Japan to levy upon imports. In fact, as the officers of the Shōgunate, when the treaties were first negotiated, did not say that their Government desired to derive a large revenue from their Customs, and entirely left the question of the tariff to the decision of the foreign ambassadors, not even hinting whether they considered that the amount proposed was too great or too small, the said twenty per cent basis was simply founded upon the sole proposition of the strangers; or, to be still nearer the point, it was the very amount which they themselves decided upon on behalf of their nationals engaged in commerce.

Such a scale of tariff as that which, to their own satisfaction, was regulated by the Plenipotentiaries of all the Treaty nations, was not so high as to create any disadvantages to the foreign merchants. A clear proof of this may be found in the fact, before cited, that the Representatives framed the schedule themselves. This being the case, how, then, did it happen that an equitable tariff was suddenly reduced and another established upon a basis of five per cent, on the signature of the convention of 1866? The cause was this:—The Tokugawa Government, being unable to comply with some treaty stipulation, consented to the reduction in order to compensate for a loss sustained by foreigners, which would not have occurred if the agreements had been properly carried into effect. For what reason the duties should be reduced to make up for an alleged loss, was not clearly mentioned in the tariff convention; but, according to what we heard at the time, several grounds for the disadvantages complained of were adduced. First; the Japanese Government was unable to open the cities of Yedo and Osaka, and the ports of Hiogo and Niigata, to foreign intercourse, within the period mentioned in the treaties. It had therefore prayed the western Powers to agree to a postponement of five years, during which time foreigners had been unable to gain the profits which would have accrued to them if the four places had been accessible to their trade. Secondly; the native authorities were unable to cause foreign money to circulate at par with Japanese, according to weight and kind—to cause the Mexican dollar to be taken as worth three bu; and they were also powerless to found a great Mint, where the demands of foreigners to have their specie received could be complied with. Hence another cause of loss. Thirdly;—the Government had prevented foreigners from having communion with Daimio and Samurai, thus closing possibilities of remuneration to them. Fourthly; the Japanese Government being unable to restrain the anti-foreign party from committing acts of violence upon the native merchants who had dealings with the strangers, had allowed commerce to fall to ruin. Fifthly; the Government being impotent to prevent swash-bucklers from murdering aliens and firing upon their ships had exposed the lives and properties of visitors to danger, &c., &c. Upon such pretexts as these was the reduction of the tariff demanded. The non-opening of the

ports and the failure to circulate the Mexican dollar, were the principal. The others were also held to have important bearing upon the question; but they related mostly to social and political questions and did not affect commercial transactions. Let us consider more closely this plea for diminution namely, "that the Japanese Government, being unable to comply with treaty stipulations, had thereby deprived foreigners of their dues," and make a few observations upon it. Granting that loss was incurred by foreign merchants through the delay in the opening of the four ports above mentioned, that cause of detriment vanished when the treaty stipulations were at length complied with. That is to say that, from 1861 to 1867 inclusive, or during seven years, the disadvantage indicated might have been experienced; but it disappeared from 1868 when the places agreed upon were thrown open; and from that time there was nothing to prevent the strangers from making gain. Or, once more, they may have been sufferers as regards the circulation of the Mexican dollar from the time of the opening of the ports in 1859 up to the end of 1870; but from the date of the establishment of the Mint at Osaka, in 1871, they could have found no difficulty in getting their money received. After that time, their plea of loss in this respect also became invalid. As for even the other pretexts, which refer, as we have said, to social and political matters, foreigners have never made any complaint since 1868. Such being the state of affairs, we find that any detriment incurred by foreigners owing to the postponement of the opening of cities and ports lasted only for seven years: that arising out of the disadvantage under which the Mexican dollar laboured in circulation was confined within a limit of thirteen years. It is only logical to state that from the opening of the four above mentioned places in 1867, and the foundation of the Mint 1871, our visitors have enjoyed all the rights and interests stipulated for in the existing treaties, without any exception whatever. But we can show that they have not actually sustained any loss or damage at all in their interests by the action of the Japanese Government. And if they have suffered no loss our authorities have no longer any reason for making compensation for any such loss. If the Government has nothing to compensate them for, there is no ground for adhering to the five per cent duty charged at the present time, and which was submitted to as a compensation. Indeed it would only have been reasonable that the duties should have been augmented in 1867 or 1871; but what has been the fact? The second article of the Tariff Convention provides:—"The Tariff attached to this Convention being incorporated from the date of its signature in the Treaties concluded between Japan and the above named four Powers, is subject to revision on the 1st day of July, 1872." Alteration in the tariff has thus been postponed as long as the revision of the treaties has been delayed. To put it otherwise, and Foreigners have derived profits which were not due to them, through paying only five per cent duty during the eight years which have elapsed since 1872. In reality, any loss which they might have sustained in former times were more than counterbalanced by the extra gains accruing from the five per cent tariff between 1866 and 1871. Then they have had an additional eight years enjoyment of the same privilege! Surely then it is clear that the balance of advantage must be on the side of the foreigners. If our readers will refer to the annual returns of exports and imports for the last eight years and estimate the difference between the five per cent duties actually paid by foreigners in that period, and the twenty per cent duty which would have been paid to the revenue during the same period if the first tariff had not been reduced, they will see that Japan has surrendered to other countries an enormous amount of money, and that the statement, which we have above formulated, is perfectly substantiated.

The Japanese Government had thus by the reduction of the custom's duties to five per cent in 1866, given to foreigners an opportunity of reaping profits to which they were not fairly entitled, and by the opening of the two cities and two ports to foreign intercourse in 1868, and the establishment of the Mint in 1871, effectually removed any ground there might possibly have been for the cry that foreigners were deprived of trade facilities promised them. It is therefore unanswerable that at the present time Japan has, by the reduction of the import duties from twenty to

five per cent for nearly fourteen years, amply compensated any losses which foreign traders may have sustained through the non-fulfilment at the appointed time of any of the treaty stipulations. It is also true that, as a matter of fact, foreigners have enjoyed during the whole of that period advantages of which they had no expectation and it is therefore only reasonable and what no Foreign Power should cavil at, that Japan should now abolish the five per cent duties, which were only established with a view of recouping foreigners for losses they had sustained.

It may perhaps be said that, as there was no specific mention in any of the treaties or conventions, that the duties were lowered with the object of making compensation, our argument founded thereon is without force. We will now reply to that objection. In the preamble to the tariff convention signed in June, 1866, it is stated, "And the Japanese Government having given the said Representatives" (of Great Britain, France, the United States and Holland) "during their visit to Osaka in November, 1865, a written engagement to proceed immediately to the revision of the tariff in question on the general basis of a duty of five per cent on the value of all articles imported or exported." It is evident from this that the reduction of the tariff was founded upon the agreement signed in Osaka, which was, of course, only intended as a temporary measure. After such a lapse of time it will be difficult to prove by documentary evidence that the Osaka convention was to be only of limited duration, but it was well recognized by everyone at the time that the Japanese authorities, finding themselves unable to carry the treaties into full effect, reduced the import duties to one-fourth of the original rate in order to fully compensate foreigners for any damages occasioned to them by the failure of the Government to fulfil their engagements. The Osaka convention was based upon the conventions of London and Paris, in which it was agreed to reduce the import duties to five or six per cent in return for a postponement of the opening of the two cities and ports, and also upon the convention of Paris (1864) in which the Japanese ambassadors agreed that the tariff should be reduced, as an indemnity for foreign vessels having been fired upon at Shimonoseki. All these are matters of public notoriety, and, although they do not appear in any official document, are incapable of contradiction. If any further example be necessary of the conventions so common in those days for compensating foreigners in respect of actual or constructive losses, we would refer to the final convention of Shimonoseki. The third article says; "However, the above named Treaty Powers have no desire to enforce the payment of money, their wish being to bring intercourse with Japan into proper harmony and to promote the interests of both parties. If therefore His Majesty the Taicoon shall, instead of paying the indemnity, offer to open Shimonoseki or some other suitable port in the Inland Sea to foreign trade, as compensation for the damages sustained by the Treaty Powers, then the Governments of the Treaty Powers will accept such offer, in lieu of the money indemnity, otherwise the indemnity already fixed shall be paid, if required." What this really amounted to was, "open a port or pay \$3,000,000." The practical position of Japan in the matter has been, that either the treaties had to be carried out, by ports being opened and foreign coin circulated at par with Japanese coin of equal weight and purity, or else a reduction made in the import duties as compensation. How therefore can it be affirmed that the duties were lowered for any other reason, than as a return for non-fulfilment of treaty stipulations?

Up to the present moment we are still burdened with the obligations entered into as compensation for old claims long since discharged, and, if the Japanese Government were now to abolish the five per cent duties, what Foreign Government would venture to interfere with the inherent sovereign right of this Empire to regulate and control its own customs' revenue?

If our opinion was asked; upon what basis the Japanese Government should revise the present import duties, we would at once reply:—"levy thirty-five per cent on wines and spirits, five per cent on goods for private use and twenty per cent on goods imported for sale." This would be in accordance with the tariff attached to the treaties entered into in 1858; the twenty per cent duty being then considered just and equitable by the Envoys of the Treaty Powers and confirmed by their respective Monarchs and

Congress. There can be no valid reason for apprehending injury to the import trade as a result of restoring the tariff to its former rates, and there certainly exists no reasonable excuse for Foreign Governments declining to accept now, a rate of duties with which they were not only fully satisfied, but actually fixed themselves, at the opening of trade with this country. The principal anxiety of the Foreign Powers appears to be, that the import trade will be destroyed by the imposition of prohibitory protective duties, but if those Powers were once assured that the sole desire and intention of Japan are to restore the imports to the twenty per cent basis fixed by the early treaties, as agreed both by the Envoys of Free Trade England and Protectionist America, then this anxiety would be removed and we believe no further opposition made to the accomplishment of our wishes. However, if we are mistaken in our view and, after receiving such assurance, the Foreign Powers still cling to the present ridiculously light import duty of five per cent, and selfishly attempt to continue their policy of self-aggrandizement and interference, utterly ignoring the independent sovereign rights of this Empire and the urgent need in Japan for an increased revenue, then we would say; "It is you foreigners who desire to discontinue friendly intercourse and trade relations with us: you attempt to persevere in your unjust system of greed and interference; therefore, we will now make a resolute stand against you, your meddling we will suffer no longer, and as to the treaties, they have already lapsed, and are as so much waste paper." What is it we have to fear? Why should we longer flatter and fawn upon these people, hanging our heads in their presence and by our timid and cowardly policy actually inducing them to still persist in their arrogant injustice?

As we have repeatedly stated, one of the main objects of the revision of the treaties is the increase of the duties. When our Government has once regained control of the tariff it will be advisable to re-impose the rate fixed by the early treaties; that is on the twenty per cent basis which was in force from the first commencement of trade until about the month of July, 1866. If this is done, no Foreign Power can, as we have already pointed out, reasonably object, no matter what selfish designs they may harbour or how much they may desire to preserve the present tariff, because, as their Representatives formerly agreed to the same duties, it cannot now be pretended that any injury to trade would result from their re-enforcement.

Thus it appears that the most judicious measures for the Japanese Government to adopt, will be to first insist upon a restitution of the independent sovereign right of the Empire to control the tariff, and then promote the interests of trade by establishing a system of import duties on the original twenty per cent basis acted upon for so many years. By following this course, not only will trade be sufficiently encouraged, but the Treasury of Japan receive very welcome and much-needed supplies. It will also be desirable to notify that the tariff, so fixed, will not again be altered, except by special arrangement. In making any such subsequent special agreement it will be particularly necessary to bear in mind, the "favoured nation" clause, which appears not only in the treaty entered into with Great Britain, but also in that made with every other nation. The article reads thus;—"when the Japanese Government shall hereafter grant a special privilege to a Foreign Government or its subjects, the same privilege shall also be granted to the British Government and subjects." This means that Japan has no authority to grant a concession to any Foreign Power or people, without the British, French and every other nation also participating. It therefore follows that we are deprived of the advantage of being able to enter into special arrangements with individual Governments, and as we never heard of any such clause being inserted in treaties made with any other country, it will be specially necessary to guard against any similar provision appearing in the revised treaties. We can then fix the general import duties on the twenty per cent basis and make any particular alterations which the interests of the trade of Japan may prove to be expedient. Thus, for example, if the United States of America should reduce the import duty on Japanese tea to ten per cent, Japan could reciprocate, by reducing to the same amount the duty on American kerosene oil, without any other country inter-

fering; and similarly, Japan might lower the duty on sugar from China to five per cent, on condition that the Government of that Empire made the same reduction on seaweed, awabi, and other marine products exported from Japan to China. We are strongly of opinion that by concessions of this kind our export trade would be very greatly benefited.

There are many persons who insist that the duties should be increased, without considering what the effect would be upon the import and export trade; there are others again who support a system of protection which would ruin the import trade altogether, and a third party exists who advocate special agreements with individual countries without any regard to a fixed basis for the calculation of import duties. We coincide altogether with none of these disputants. Our principal object with regard to the tariff is to shew, that Japan is entitled to exercise the inherent sovereign right of every independent nation to regulate and control its own affairs without let or hindrance. We therefore repeat that our Government should from henceforth reject all outside interference by Foreign Powers in the matter of tariffs, and assume in its own hands the sole control, thus recovering the sovereign rights of the country: that special attention should be paid to formulating such a tariff as would protect the interests of trade and not ruin it: that such tariff should be calculated on the twenty per cent basis of the early treaties: and lastly, that in order to foster the export trade, special arrangements for mutual privileges should be made with individual nations.

We have now concluded our observations on the tariff and shall next proceed to the vital question of extra-territoriality.

The question to be considered is:—Shall extra-territoriality be wholly abolished? This would, we think, be far the best course to adopt, but if it is found impracticable to do away with it at once—Shall measures be taken so as to gradually accomplished the same end? This would be pursuing a middle course. If extra-territoriality cannot be gradually got rid of, then we will still be in the unfortunate position of suffering under the provisions of the present treaties. It is much to be deplored that through the aggressions of foreigners Japan has been compelled to permit even the existing extra-territoriality agreements to be strained in their favour, and for ourselves we certainly blame the Ministers who have submitted to such injustice.

What does the word "extra-territoriality" mean? As we understand it, the original signification is "outside the local judicial limits." Thus all the foreign residents in Japan are subject to the laws of their respective nationalities and not to those of the country, and their residences in Japan are removed, as it were, from the judicial limits of the Empire. The reason why the extra-territoriality stipulations were inserted in the treaties was, that when these compacts were first entered into, the representatives of the Foreign Powers thought that on commencing intercourse with an oriental nation like Japan, where the manners, customs, religion, ideas and political system were so widely different from those of Europe and America, it would be injudicious and a source of great and constant anxiety, to confide the lives, property and liberty of their respective countrymen wholly to the protection of the Japanese legal system from the very commencement, and therefore the best course to adopt would be to keep them under the protection of their own laws for some time to come. In this the Foreign Representatives followed the precedent established by the treaties entered into between the western nations and China. The 6th article of the treaty made by Japan with the United States of America runs thus:—"Americans committing offences against Japanese, shall be tried in American Consular Courts, and when found guilty shall be punished according to American law. Japanese committing offences against Americans, shall be tried by the Japanese authorities and punished according to Japanese law. The Consular Courts shall be open to Japanese creditors, to enable them to recover their just claims against American citizens, and the Japanese Courts shall in like manner be open to American citizens, for the recovery of their just claims against Japanese." The 5th Article of the Treaty entered into with Holland runs as follows:—"Japanese committing offences against the Dutch shall be tried by the Japanese authorities, and

punished according to Japanese law. The Dutch committing offences against Japanese shall be tried in Dutch Consular Courts, and when found guilty shall be punished according to the Dutch law. The Consular Courts shall be open to Japanese creditors, to enable them to recover their just claims against the Dutch, and the Japanese Courts shall in like manner be open to the Dutch for the recovery of their just claims against Japanese." The 14th Article of the Treaty entered into with Russia provides as follows:—"When a dispute arises between the people of one country and that of the other, they shall be tried by the authorities of both countries, and when a Japanese be found guilty he shall be punished by the Japanese Court, and when a Russian be found guilty, he shall be punished by his own Consul, just as has been stipulated in the Shimada convention. Russians, committing offences in any port, when the Russian consul is absent shall be arrested by the Japanese authorities, and shall be sent to a Consul in the nearest port for punishment." The Treaty entered into with Great Britain provides as follows:—"Article V, Japanese subjects, who may be guilty of any criminal act towards British subjects, shall be arrested and punished by the Japanese authorities according to the laws of Japan. British subjects who may commit any crime against Japanese subjects, or the subjects or citizens of any other country, shall be tried and punished by the Consul or other public functionary, authorized thereto, according to the laws of Great Britain. Justice shall be equitably and impartially administered on both sides. Article VI. A British subject having reason to complain of a Japanese, must proceed to the Consulate and state his grievance. The Consul will inquire into the merits of the case, and do his utmost to arrange it amicably. In like manner if a Japanese has to complain of a British subject, the Consul shall no less listen to his complaint, and endeavour to settle it in a friendly manner. If disputes take place of such a nature that the Consul cannot arrange them amicably, then he shall request the assistance of the Japanese authorities, that they may together examine into the merits of the case, and decide it equitably. Article VII. Should any Japanese subject fail to discharge debts incurred to a British subject, or should he fraudulently abscond, the Japanese authorities will do their utmost to bring him to justice, and to enforce recovery of the debts; and should any British subject fraudulently abscond, or fail to discharge debts incurred by him to a Japanese subject, the British authorities will in like manner do their utmost to bring him to justice, to enforce recovery of the debts. Neither the British or Japanese Governments are to be held responsible for the payment of any debts contracted by British or Japanese subjects."

Similar provisions are also contained in the treaties entered into with France, Portugal, Prussia, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, the German Bund, and Austro-Hungary; and although in the treaties with Hawaii and Peru there are no such stipulations, yet the subjects of those countries can claim similar privileges and immunities under the "favoured nation" clause which appears in every one of the foreign compacts. The treaty with China is, however, different; it provides, (Article XI) as follows:—"The people of both countries shall strictly observe the laws, and, whether temporary or permanent residents, are under the jurisdiction of their own Consuls." And again, Article XIII:—"Any offenders who may be arrested, that is, those guilty of riot, robbery, or any unlawful act, or who have secretly gone into the interior or committed arson, murder, or robbery, shall, in any port be tried both by the local functionaries and the Consul; and in the interior by the local functionaries alone and the matter shall at once be reported to the nearest Consul." It thus appears that as between China and Japan the system of a "Mixed Court" has been instituted, but speaking generally it is correct to say that foreigners residing in Japan are, in point of fact, under the exclusive jurisdiction of the laws of their respective countries and not subject to those of this Empire.

It is now a very long time since extra-territoriality was first in force in some parts of the world. We read that when the Turks conquered the Eastern Roman Empire, seizing Constantine and making it their capital city, they entered into treaties of amity and commerce with various European nations. The Turks granted permission to the



subjects of those nations with whom they made treaties to reside at a place called Pera, in the vicinity of Constantinople but separated from it by a river. Here then the foreigners established themselves, just as they now do in Yokohama, Nagasaki and other places in Japan, and from that time to the present it has been the rule that the European residents of Pera are governed by their own laws. The example of Turkey has formed the precedent for extra-territoriality, although it is stated that the custom was known in the ancient days of Greece and Rome. Probably this was the case, but it is quite unnecessary for our present purpose to search the misty records of former ages concerning matters not definitely settled, this task we shall leave to students, the case of Turkey is sufficient for our contention. Authorities on the subject state that, it was not through any pressure brought to bear upon the Turkish Government that the right of extra-territoriality was granted to foreigners residing in their Empire, but it simply arose in consequence of the desire of the Turks to avoid difficulties and complications with Foreign Powers about their nationals, and was a voluntary concession on the part of the Turkish Government. In course of time, however, things changed; the Turkey of our day is not the powerful, aggressive Turkey of the middle ages and now extra-territoriality, instead of being a benefit to the country, is turned into a means of increasing the wealth and authority of European nations in the East. Whenever Western peoples have made treaties of friendship and commerce with Egypt, Persia and other Asiatic countries they have invariably followed the precedent established in Turkey and stipulated for extra-territoriality; they did so also in China and ultimately in our own Empire of Japan.

Thus under the immunities of extra-territoriality, the right of dealing with their nationals is reserved to the Foreign Powers and, by delegation, to their Consuls. Article IV. of the treaty with Great Britain reads thus:—"All questions in regard to rights whether of property or person arising between British subjects in the dominions of His Majesty the Taicoon of Japan shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the British authorities." Articles five, six and seven of the same treaty, which we have already quoted at length, are very similar in effect. Under the provisions of this treaty when a dispute arises between a Japanese subject and a British subject respecting a loan or any other civil claim, which is a matter of every day occurrence among people who have extensive commercial relations with each other, the question is under the control of both Governments; that is, when any civil claim is made by a Japanese against a British subject it is decided by the British Court, and by the Japanese Court when the claim is by a British subject against a Japanese. In criminal cases, however, it is different. Any criminal offences committed by a British subject is tried in the British Courts according to British law and the Japanese authorities or subject who may happen to be prosecutor has to resort to the British tribunal in furtherance of the complaint. This has now been the case for over twenty years, i.e., from the first opening of the ports up to the present, with many evil results as can very easily be demonstrated.

It may be as well for us to state, in order to avoid misconception, that the reason we have quoted so extensively from the English treaty is, that the document is very precisely worded, although as a whole, the treaties are pretty much all alike.

To return to the evil effects of extra-territoriality. How can they be shewn? In the open ports, the laws of every one of the fifteen Treaty Powers are now in force as far as regards their own subjects, and the laws of this Empire are inoperative with respect to foreign residents. In other words, the laws of this Empire cannot be enforced in portions of the national territory, as the Consuls of the Treaty Powers adhere to their own laws and entirely disregard those of Japan, even such as are admitted to be just, equitable and as well-suited to the condition of foreigners as natives. It thus frequently happens that a foreigner committing an offence against Japanese law escapes punishment, in consequence of there being no penalty prescribed by the law of the country to which he belongs for the particular crime of which he may be guilty.

(To be continued.)

#### ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

St. Petersburg, 3rd January.—At a grand review and dinner here to-day, the Czar and Czarevitch greeted each other in the most cordial manner. This is regarded as an indication that their late differences are at an end.

The Nihilist propaganda is spreading throughout the Russian army, and stringent preventive measures are being taken.

Constantinople, 3rd January.—A satisfactory interview has taken place between the Sultan and the British Ambassador, and diplomatic relations have been resumed to-day.

Capetown, 6th January.—Mr. Bok, Secretary of the Boer Committee, has been arrested on a charge of treason—bail has been accepted.

Allahabad, 6th January.—Magilla Khan, son of the late Arsalah Hisarak, who was harassing the line of communication between Surkhah and Juggdulluk, has been granted a free pardon by General Roberts, and has sworn on the Koran to hold the road free from thefts and annoyances.

London, 6th January.—A serious riot has taken place at Carraroe in Ireland, in consequence of the ejection of a tenant. The rioters were fired upon and afterwards charged with the bayonet. Several were wounded in the affray.

London, 7th January.—The Irish Government will advance £250,000 from the Church surplus towards relief works.

The Board of Trade Returns of Imports for the past month amount to £35,375,000 showing an increase of £8,750,000 as compared with the same period last year.

The Board of Trade Returns of Exports for the past month amount to £16,500,000 showing an increase of £2,000,000 as compared with the same period last year.

London, 7th January.—The *Times*, in a leading article, hints at the probability of the appointment of Sir Garnet Wolseley as Commander-in-Chief of India on the retirement of Sir Frederick Haines. The *Times* approves of the appointment.

#### QUEER STORIES.

##### A REPORTER À LA MODE.

Miles Oldstock was a worthy gentleman of Lancashire, who had remained a bachelor till he was forty, and then committed the slight error of marrying a fast young lady of eighteen. As he loved his wife, and fancied himself beloved by her, the disproportion between their ages did not strike him during the early part of his wedded life; it only began to worry him as an important fact when the pleasure of living *tête-à-tête* with him got to pall on Mrs. Oldstock, and induced her to seek amusements in which her husband did not care to join.

Miles Oldstock had married in order to get a quiet, comfortable home; and Ethel, his wife, had taken a husband in order to have the liberty to enjoy herself. This is an old story. The husband has had his taste of all the dissipations of life, and thinks that his wife, who has had no experience of them at all, should be content to forego them on his mere representation that they are but vanity. Ethel had not the same reason as her husband for disliking balls, picnics, and private theatricals. He was clumsy at dancing and talking, and had no graceful figure to justify him in posturing at *tableaux vivants*. Ethel, on the contrary, was pretty and vivacious, sprightly of tongue, and agile of foot. She could dance all a night through without tiring, and talk to anybody about anything by the hour. What is more, she had a will of her own, and was not to be dissuaded from any purpose she had in view by such a trumpery thing as an argument. When her husband began to grumble at her going out so frequently to parties, she reminded him that he need not attend these festivities with her unless he pleased; and when, taking the hint, he remained at home with a sulky face, she assured him tartly that he might sulk as long as he pleased, so far as she was concerned. He did sulk with a vengeance, and it made no difference. His wife kept going out night after night, till the soul of Miles Oldstock grew sad, and it repented him of his marriage not a little.

However, he loved his wife, and she loved him after a fashion of her own. She would have been pleasant to him if he had been "nice," by which she meant if he had let her have her own way in all things—if he had petted and fondled her, and sat serenely at home while she went forth on her amusements—she would have been to him as the most, delightful of consorts; but Ethel could not bear opposition, nor sulks, nor annoyances. The attitude which her husband assumed towards her roused her blood, and drove her on to a course of independence, which culminated in her going out, not only to such houses as she pleased, but to the houses of persons whom her husband most heartily disliked, even to those of people with whom he had quarrelled.

Now one evening Ethel mentioned to Miles that she had an invitation to go to a masked ball that was to be held at the house of Lady Northwaite, a woman whom Miles abhorred more than any one of his neighbours because of her flightiness and sarcastic tongue. Angry and frowning, he requested his wife to give up this idea; but she was deaf to his remonstrances; so at length he burst out:

"My patience is exhausted; if you will neither acknowledge my authority nor consult my wishes when affectionately expressed, it is of no use for us to live together. You had best go back to your parents."

"Very well, I'll return to my mother," said Ethel coolly, as she buttoned one of her white gloves. "I'll go to-night if you wish it."

"No, to-morrow will do," answered her husband, with cold



firmness. "Your boxes shall be packed while you are at this ball; and I will send a despatch to your friends announcing your arrival."

Ethel turned pale, for it by no means entered into her programme to be sent back to her parents in disgrace. She appreciated the luxuries and prestige of her married life too highly to part with them, and the idea of being cast out by her husband made her grow chill at the heart. If it had not been for false pride she would have flung herself there and then into her husband's arms and consented to forego her whims for his sake. But Miles had his pride too, and obstinacy made his features look hard.

So Ethel went out to the ball, and she danced there twice with a gay young dragoon, named Dangles, who took her to supper, and plied her with champagne till her brain got lively, and she began to see things *en couleur de rose*. Why should she be domineered over by her husband? Why should she allow him to tyrannise over her when there were so many men—like this Dangles—who proclaimed her a queen of beauty, and professed themselves ready to die for her sake? Then there was Lady Morthwaite, the hostess, who circled round Ethel, asking her to dance with this man and that, telling her that she was the belle of the ball, and goading her to flirt that the evening might pass off agreeably, so that in the end poor Ethel forgot all about her husband's wrongs and her own misdoings, and thought only of this: that she must assert her supremacy at home, and do what she pleased, without caring for the consequences.

But when the ball was over and the guests were going home; when Ethel went into the cloak-room on Dangles's arm, and remembered that she was going to drive back now to a house where her husband would be awaiting her with words of cold reproaches, her heart sank. She made of Dangles her confidant. He listened open-eyed, and his ears seemed to wag with excitement; then he ran off and told Lady Morthwaite. Now her ladyship, who had the most frolicsome temper imaginable, delighted in nothing so much as in putting wife and husband asunder. She laughed on hearing Ethel's account of conjugal troubles, and straightway imagined a little practical joke which it would be good to play on Miles Oldstock. "Why not frighten that foolish Mr. Oldstock into thinking that his wife has eloped, or disappeared? He might come to his senses then."

"How shall we do it?" asked Dangles, who was more ready to join in jokes than swift at conceiving them.

"Oh, we'll see," said Lady Morthwaite, hastening to join Ethel. "I propose that Mrs. Oldstock shall spend the night here and go to-morrow with us to pass a week with some friends of mine at Freeton Abbey, and we won't let her husband know where she is until he promises to behave himself."

Lady Morthwaite's scheme, when revealed to Ethel, was at first scouted; but by-and-by the temptress prevailed. Ethel was afraid to go home, with the prospect of being sent back next day to her parents, who were strait-laced people. So she agreed to sleep at Lady Morthwaite's, and next day, having been supplied with clothes by her facetious hostess, she started to visit "those nice people" at Freeton Abbey. Her husband, who was not even informed by letter of her intended movements, was left to draw the inevitable conclusion that she had bolted from home for good and all.

It so happened that the newspapers had not much to speak of at that moment. A provincial reporter, hearing of Mrs. Oldstock's disappearance through some tattling servants, telegraphed the intelligence to one of the London dailies, the *Knifboard Oracle*, and the editor of this widely-read sheet at once saw his way to printing a diurnal column or two of sensation about the matter. He despatched a correspondent to the scene of the "disappearance" with plenary powers to report on this mystery in the grandest style of high-falutin' and his parting instructions to this emissary were:—"Be spicy; there's nothing like spice."

Mr. Bagman had long dealt in literary spice. His articles were not always truthful or judicious, but they were readable. They abounded in metaphor, anecdote, and salt. They were the effusions of a man who knew the weak side of the public character, and unscrupulously played upon it. Writing for such a paper as the *Knifboard*, Mr. Bagman had never been called upon to address a refined circle of readers. He had merely had to amuse or startle an ignorant mass, who craved for coarse sensations. In the present instance, it was obviously his cue to make out that a shocking mystery lay open for speculation. Without consulting Mr. Oldstock but going straight for his facts to the impurest sources, Mr. Bagman wrote a first article, in which, under a thin veil of compassion for an unfortunate husband, lurked subtle suggestions of improprieties. Mrs. Oldstock had eloped with a dragoon, and had last been seen in his company at a railway station in Liverpool. The police were on the alert; detectives had been sent northwards, and the authorities in New York had been communicated with. All this pleasant trifling filled two columns.

Miles Oldstock was furious at being thus exposed to ignominy, but he was helpless. The Press must have an eye everywhere, said his friends, and the *Knifboard* was but doing its duty in helping to clear up an affair that interested the whole community. Mr. Bagman's second letter served to excite the public still more, while bringing out in bolder relief the mission which the Press is bounden to discharge in these times. The ingenious writer hinted that he had been wrong in his primary suggestions as to an elopement. There was no dragoon in this affair; on the contrary, there was but too much reason to fear that the poor lady had been decoyed into some house of ill-fame, where she was being kept as a hostage till her husband should pay a ransom for her release.

This letter and the first brought a regular flood of correspondence into the columns of the *Knifboard*. Hundreds of letters were received from persons who fancied they had met ladies travelling with dragoons; and then scores of letters were published from individuals who had something to say about houses of ill-fame. This

last delightfully toothsome subject was made the staple dish in the *Knifboard* for the next fortnight, and meanwhile Mr. Bagman continued to shoot in long letters in which his exuberant fancy ran riot among foul ideas, like the snout of a hog in a truffle-bed.

By this time every newspaper reader in the kingdom was wondering what had become of Mrs. Oldstock; and Lady Morthwaite, along with the dragoon Dangles, marvelled most of all. As may be imagined, these two lively persons had parted company with Ethel at the first sound of the storm that was breaking over their heads, and they had advised the misguided wife to go to her husband; but she, poor woman, overcome with terror and remorse, did not dare return to a now ruined home. Selling such jewels as she had about her, she went and took lodgings in a quiet country town; and there lived for a couple of weeks without venturing to communicate with any of her friends. She passed her days in trembling and weeping. The hue and cry raised against her by the *Knifboard* reached her ears as the yelping of a pack of dogs dining into the ears of a hare. At last she fell ill. She could no longer bear to reflect on her own foolishness, nor to think of the prospect that awaited her in life now that, thanks to the *Knifboard*, she was known to the entire kingdom as a wanton jade or a lunatic.

Fever took possession of her, and she became delirious. Then her landlady, ferreting among her pockets, found a card bearing her name, and hastened to communicate the fact to the *Knifboard*. Need it be said how quickly Mr. Bagman arrived on the spot, glorying in having got the earliest intelligence of the *dénouement* to the Oldstock drama, and burning to collect the materials for a fresh series of articles. On reaching Ethel's house, however, Mr. Bagman heard that the unfortunate lady was dying, and he was confronted by her indignant husband, who came down into the parlour to ask him what he wanted.

"This is your work, sir," said Miles Oldstock, with his fists clenched.

"Mine! How?" stammered Mr. Bagman, keeping at a respectful distance.

"It is your work, and having hounded my poor wife out of life you may console yourself by hearing me say that I consider her death a release. How could she ever have held up her head after those shameful articles of yours?"

"I had a public duty to perform," faltered Mr. Bagman, uneasily.

"You had to win pence for your knavish employers, and you've done so. Now get out of my sight, sir," cried Miles Oldstock, with a significant gesture.

Mr. Bagman took the hint, but when he had backed out of the room he met the slatternly, weeping servant-girl in the hall, to whom he said: "My dear, here's half-a-crown for you; you'll get twice as much if you get me a correct account of Mrs. Oldstock's dying moments and of her last interview with her husband."

There was a chinking sound on the floor and a report as of a slap on the face: then Mr. Bagman hurried out of the house holding a cheek in both hands, while the servant cried shrilly behind him: "You idle wagabone, you'll get worse from me next time if you come on such dirty work."

So Mr. Bagman had to draw his account of the dying moments from his own fertile imagination, though of course he gave them as truth.—*Truth*.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XXXV.

#### THE BATTLE OF THE OXEN.

The Heike army never rallied. Unconscious to the last that the noise of the terrible night onset had been nothing more than the heating of a million pinions, the troops by degrees so magnified the terrors from which they had fled that when they reached Kiyoto, they carried with them the news of a surprise by overwhelming numbers and of a contest in which the mountain gods had lent supernatural aid to the victors.

This retreat left Yoritomo undisputed master of the northern provinces. Returning leisurely to Kamakura, he busied himself for a time with the cares of government, renewing the seizure and augmenting the fiefs of those that had proved loyal, but visiting with merciless displeasure those that had held aloof from the standard of their fathers. For all this, however, he dared not yet place implicit trust in these fickle barons. On various pleas of political reform or military organization, the most powerful nobles of the eight provinces were detained at Kamakura, where Yoritomo's dream of a rival capital seemed likely to be soon realized, for such a parade of strength and magnificence had never before been witnessed in these remote regions. Temples were founded, palaces built and laws promulgated, while immense masses of troops, assembling under the pennons of their various liege-lords, formed a cordon of four hundred thousands swords about the new metropolis.

If the Taira chief made no fresh attempt to crush this

power which promised presently to become invincible, it was not from lack of foresight or inclination, but simply because reverses in another direction rendered it daily more doubtful whether his position in Kiyoto itself would long remain unassailed. After the unexampled disaster his arms had suffered in the north, allies and feudatories alike mustered with such reluctance that it taxed his utmost resources to detach a hundred thousand men for operations at a distance from the capital. Moreover an enemy, far more formidable on account of his great proximity, had appeared in the central provinces. This was no other than the village chieftain, Kiso Yoshinaka. In obedience to the crafty counsels of his lieutenant, Nei, he had abstained from active revolt until the northward march of the Heike host left him leisure to gain some preliminary success, and before the snow had blocked the mountain passes, his dashing raids and the gallantry of his beautiful wife, Tomoye, who was ever leader in the onset, and last in the retreat, won him such large fame that with an empty exchequer and as yet nothing but promises to reward his supporters, the early spring saw him take the field at the head of forty thousand troops.

To crush this rebellion the Taira chiefs resolved to strain every effort. One signal success might still restore their lost prestige and re-awaken the enthusiasm of their allies, so that from Shinano and Hida they could ultimately extend their operations against Yoritomo himself.

At first it seemed as though fortune had repented of her sometime unkindness. Yoshinaka's inferiority of force constrained him to act on the defensive, and while he manœuvred among the mountains or contented himself with occasional forays, his enemies overran the provinces on the western coast until rumour of their victories began to efface the memory of their reverses. But Yoshinaka's policy was based on sound considerations. He waited until the mischievous effects of too easily obtained success began to be apparent in the abated vigour of the enemy's operations, and then dividing his forces into seven columns, he commenced a sort of never-ending battle, carried on by day and night alike, and exhibiting every diversity of assault and strategem the difficult nature of the country suggested. In these encounters the Taira troops were almost invariably worsted. It was their misfortune to be perpetually found unprepared, and by degrees their morale was so shaken, that their thoughts began to turn upon safety rather than aggression. Drawing together the remnants of their shattered forces, they prepared for a final stand on the plateau above the pass of Kurikara. It was their intention if defeated to retreat westward and regain Kiyoto by routes leading through the districts where they could count on an unmolested passage. But Yoshinaka, better versed in the intricacies of the mountain roads, knew that if he could frustrate this design, the fruits of victory might be nothing less than the complete annihilation of the Taira army, for on the north their retreat was barred by impassable cliffs, while on the south lay the terrible gorge leading to the 'Valley of the Black Steep.' He therefore divided his army into two bodies, sending the larger round to cut off the enemy's retreat, and disposing the other to force their position in front.

Throughout the whole of this struggle the conduct of the Heike knights scarcely exhibits a single redeeming feature. Dismayed by the most trifling mischances, they seem to have placed no reliance either in themselves or their leaders and after Kiyomori's death their operations lost even the unity of design his guiding hand had imparted. The old chieftain expired a few months before the events we are now relating. He succumbed to a malady as fierce as the passions that had excited it, and it is recorded that his attendants could scarcely approach his couch so ardent was the fire of the fever that consumed him. In the moments of restored discernment, when disease recoils at the approach of dissolution, he gave utterance to his last and most solemn behest. For his body he had nothing to desire. The highest honours to which a subject may attain had fallen to his lot. Scion and sire of an Emperor, he had received homage little less than imperial, nor had any expression of his will ever lacked obedience. For his soul too he felt small solicitude. Meamer men might not gauge his acts by the standard of their own petty passions, for as the Gods had framed him, so had they found him. He therefore bade his liegemen neither

waste their time in mourning nor misuse their money in masses, but make Yoritomo's death the undivided aim of their lives. "Be assured," said the expiring man, "that until you have laid on my tomb the head of him whom it was my fatal error to spare, my soul will find no solace in the shades nor my body any rest in the grave."

When the news of the great chief's death was bruited abroad, men said that the last prop had been struck away from the falling house, and never did fulfillment follow faster upon prophesy. Three months later the outposts of the Heike army, looking down from the heights of Kurikara into the thick darkness of a summer night, saw a multitude of lurid flames leap suddenly into life, and move with marvellous rapidity up the rocky steeps. As the circle of fire drew nearer, unchecked by showers of shafts that rained on it from the ridges above, it seemed to the Taira knights that they could distinguish huge faces peering out at them from the haze of light, and hear the deep breathing of lungs no human being had ever owned. At the same time arrows aimed with deadly precision began to pour in from all sides, booming in their flight so that each one sounded like three, and to complete their confusion the defenders of the plateau presently perceived that these missiles were discharged from the rear as well as the front of their position. They were in fact attacked from both sides, and their terror discovered supernatural agency in the fashion of their assailants' approach. Of their whole force not more than five hundred men had patience to buckle on their harness and range themselves in battle array. To these, only restrained from immediate flight by the reputed perils of the Black Valley, a score of knights, conspicuous by their white armour, presented themselves, and bidding them take the southern path, rode ahead, as it seemed, to guide them. The five hundred followed without hesitation, and their comrades, seeing that they did not return, judged the route practicable and rode blindly in their tracks.

But they had been prevented from returning by a very different cause. Well did the gorge merit its title of the 'Black Steep,' for its gentle slope ended suddenly in a precipice twenty fathoms deep. Over this more than seventeen thousand of the Taira soldiers fell, some on horseback, some on foot, and a cycle's rain and rime scarcely carried down from the hill-side loam and leaf sufficient to bury the huge heap of bones that lay bleaching below.

This ended the campaign in the central provinces. Of the hundred thousand men who had marched from Kiyoto in the spring, scarcely a fourth made their way back unscathed in the fall. Neither did their numerical loss measure the full extent of their catastrophe, for though it was soon known that the elfin lights of Kurikara had been nothing more than torches tied to the horns of five hundred oxen, the appearance of the knights in white mail could only be attributed to supernatural influences, so that gods and men alike seemed to have made common cause against the House of Hei.

When therefore it became certain in the following spring that Yoshinaka's troops were actually marching on Kiyoto, the Taira nobles abandoned all idea of holding the capital, and taking with them the young emperor, a boy of eight years, retired hastily to their sea-side stronghold of Fukuhara. They would fain have obliged the ex-emperor also to accompany them, but the old monarch had no love for the men at whose hands he had suffered so many indignities. On the evening preceding the retreat he escaped secretly to the cloisters at Kurama, and remained there till he knew that Yoshinaka's knights had mounted guard on the palace gates.

Thus then in the north and south alike the Genji cause was triumphant, but the stability of its success was imperilled by a grave element of weakness. Its leaders were hereditary foes. With the overthrow of the Taira, Yoritomo's purpose was attained, Yoshinaka's, only commenced; and men knew well that though the battle cry was lulled for the nonce, a new and more desperate struggle was surely impending.

It came about in this wise. Yoritomo, chafing secretly at the victories which had won for his cousin the sobriquet of 'the Morning Sun,' cast about for some method of establishing relations with the court at Kiyoto. Most gladly would he have welcomed any pretext for sending thither a

portion of the splendidly equipped and highly disciplined army he had gradually assembled at Kamakura, but he was too politic to shew himself greedy of conquest for the sake of supremacy alone. Only one feasible plan suggested itself. The taxes of the north-eastern provinces had not been paid into the Imperial Treasury for four years. These he now determined to forward, placing them under the safeguard of Yoshitsune and a thousand of his best knights.

A more perilous mission could not well have been conceived, and it is not difficult to foresee what its results must have been, but fortunately Yoshitsune had not proceeded far on his journey when he was met by an envoy from the ex-emperor. Never even in the times of their most unrestrained lawlessness had the Taira liegemen been guilty of such excesses as were the followers of Yoshinaka. These had served long without reward, and they no sooner found themselves masters of the city than they inaugurated a system of plunder and rapine from which neither resistance nor submission could purchase immunity. Outraged wives and ruined householders carried their complaints in vain to Yoshinaka; his men, he said, deserved some recompense, and those that thought themselves ill-used were welcome to follow the Heike to Fukuhara. At last the ex-emperor himself interfered, but Yoshinaka, so far from punishing or restraining the rioters in obedience to the imperial commands, placed a guard upon the palace and kept its inmates in strict confinement.

Such was the report carried northward by an envoy despatched secretly from the palace, with a commission naming Yoritomo viceroy and authorizing him to take whatever steps he deemed necessary for the restoration of order in the capital.

This was the occasion so ardently desired. A large body of troops were immediately put in motion; thirty thousand under the command of Noriyori, Yoritomo's younger brother, and a somewhat smaller force under that of Yoshitsune. The two divisions set out together, but after a time difficulties of transit obliged them to follow different routes. The corps under Yoshitsune—whose campaigns were always remarkable for the celerity of his movements—soon gained upon their comrades, and arriving first on the banks of the River Uji north of the capital, found themselves face to face with an enemy very different from the faint-hearted soldiers who had fled from a flight of birds or jumped over a precipice to escape a herd of oxen.

The battle that followed is chiefly remarkable as an illustration of Yoshitsune's tactics. The immense forces employed in those days seldom achieved results at all proportionate to their strength. Divided into a number of different corps, each under almost independent commanders, they fought without any thought of unity or mutual support, so that these contests were for the most part nothing more than a series of skirmishes. Yoshitsune thoroughly appreciated this error. Largely as the factors of strategem and surprise influenced the sum of his successes, we never find him neglecting to concentrate his forces when the occasion permitted. Thus at the battle of the Uji his first care was to clear away all the houses and other obstacles that prevented his troops from approaching the river, and not until every company was posted on the bank did he suffer the fight to be commenced.

The enemy had destroyed the bridges and planted a network of stakes and ropes in the bed of the stream, but the northern troops made light of such difficulties. Indeed the true principle of military obstacles—namely, to detain an enemy as long as possible under fire—was little appreciated in those days, and we find that the Genji soldiers were suffered to doff their harness and cut a passage through the impediments in the river almost with impunity. Once within striking distance of their foes the issue was no longer doubtful. Yoshinaka's men fought with stubborn gallantry, but they were driven back by degrees or cut down in their places, with the exception of three hundred knights who, led by Yoshinaka himself and the girl warrior, Tomoye, held their ground so stoutly that at one time it seemed as though they might have stemmed the tide of victory.

Hitherto Yoshitsune had neither drawn sword nor bent bow in the battle. He had confined himself to directing the movements of his men, or providing for the support of those that fought in the van, but now placing himself at the head of a chosen few reserved for even such an emergency

as now presented itself, he rode at full speed against his cousin's body guard. On his right and left were Benkei and Saburo, while behind him charged the brothers Tadanobu and Sugimobu, whom men called the mightiest swordsmen north of Mount Fuji.

The blows dealt in that *mélée* made everything that had preceded seem like child's play. No man stayed to staunch his wounds, neither did any that fell rise again, and when Yoshinaka escaped with but seven knights out of the three hundred, few of his opponents were in a condition to pursue him. Yoshitsune had purposely avoided crossing swords with his cousin. To one whose skill enabled him to keep his blade always disengaged, the choice of an adversary was an easy matter, neither was this forbearance an undue concession to the memory of the past, but for all that he spared no pains to provide for the capture of the fugitives, and that same night Yoshinaka, seeking to baffle his pursuers among the hills at the head of Lake Omi, fell in with the vanguard of Noriyori's column and died a death not unworthy of his brilliant though short career. Tomoye had prayed hard for permission to accompany her husband in that last ride, but he knowing well what the end must be, obliged her to put off her armour and bade her make her way back to their old home, that some prayer might be uttered for his soul's peace who had neither been disloyal to his cause nor unfaithful to his love.\*

At Kiyoto, Yoshitsune was welcomed enthusiastically by Emperor and subject alike. The signal success that had attended his arms and the order that followed his coming made him at once a hero and a benefactor, so that all the pleasures of victory fell to his share without any of its pains. Yet he gathered small satisfaction from either the eulogies of his sovereign or the plaudits of the multitude. He had as yet achieved nothing of his life's purpose, but only wrought the overthrow of one to whom his family already owed a heavy debt of blood. Always at his side too was Saburo, reminding him by his prematurely white hair and shrunken features of the vengeance they had still to accomplish, though indeed no such tokens were needed to recall her fate who had left them so much to mourn. Hiromori had of course fled with the rest of the Heike party to Fukuhara, yet it was some satisfaction to know that he had not fallen in the campaign against Kiso Yoshinaka. Sooner or later the opportunity of meeting him face to face must come, and when it did, he might look for scant mercy at the hands of any of the three men who had carried Iné's body from the farmstead in the fatal valley.

Scarcely a month after Yoshinaka's death news came that stirred the capital again into a fever of excitement and apprehension. The Heike had not been idle since their last discomfiture. Large promises and a still imposing remnant of power had fixed the faith of the wavering and recalled that of the disaffected, so that from the southern provinces huge hosts had gradually been drawn to the red flag, and now intrenched in an almost impregnable position, they threatened at any moment to descend in overwhelming force on the capital.

When therefore the ex-emperor summoning Yoshitsune, bade him recover the Imperial insignia which the Taira chiefs had carried off, and put a final period to this harrowing warfare, not a few prophesied that this mandate would prove the young commander's death-warrant, and none supposed that he would attempt to carry it out without reinforcements.

Three days later the Genji troops marched out of Kiyoto; the main body, fifty thousand strong under Noriyori's command, the reserve of ten thousand men led by Yoshitsune.

Much surprise and many conjectures were caused by this extraordinary disposition, but the knights were beginning to understand that they followed no common leader. For the rest, graver questions than tactical considerations occupied the attention of the troops. Few of them had any certain knowledge of the district into which they were marching, but rumour had made them all more or less acquainted with its impracticability. The castle of Fukuhara, accessible only by a narrow defile across which a triple row of dykes and flanking towers had now been constructed, was a

\* Tomoye was subsequently summoned to Kamakura, where Wada Yoshimori solicited and obtained her hand, and the fruit of their union was the famous hero Asai Saburo. After her second husband's death she shaved her head and became a recluse, dying at the ripe age of ninety-one.



position so strong by nature that a handful of men might have held it against the stoutest army ever put in motion. What then but complete disaster could be looked for by assailants whose number the most favourable estimates only placed at a third of their foes? "We are not marching to assault but to invite assault," said the veteran knights, "for it were easier to bale the ocean with a rice-bucket than force a passage into Fukuohara, and unless the red flag comes out to meet us, our swords are likely to rust in their scabbards before we get within striking distance of our foes."

Yet these things were said rather in regret than apprehension, for the Minamoto men loved the battle as much as their enemies shunned it. Those who had devised stratagems to gain the chance of swimming their horses over a swift river obstructed by entanglements and snares, in the face of ten thousand foes, were not likely on the eve of a campaign to find any discouragement graver than the prospect of inaction. A brave leader, it is said, makes brave followers, but certainly in the army that marched from Kiyoto, amid so many misgivings, there was more use of a restraining than an inciting example.

(To be continued.)

### DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

To all and sundry we would now dispense  
These friendly tokens in their purest sense;  
Time-honoured custom does the practice teach  
That forth the hand of friendship we should reach  
When at this joyful season of the year,  
Ought but loving thoughts should disappear;  
And so we wish you now without alloy,  
Good-will, love, peace, contentment, health and joy.

1.  
You may not believe me, but it is the truth  
This light is simply nothing but a tooth.

2.  
Rank, reputation, dignity, or fame,  
Choose which you like, 'tis surely all the same,  
In buried cities you will find the name,  
What Eve had on her when she wise became.

3.  
This is a word of somewhat varied meaning;  
To vessel's masts it has a special leaning,  
A scraper too that gathers all before it,  
A debauchee, I'm sure you won't ignore it,  
And when our seamen strive their prize to earn  
'Tis thus they send their shot from stem to stern.

4.  
Her lover was a man of fabled strength,  
Who since he could not win his love, at length  
By force removed her, but his lawful spouse  
Her jealous passions did forthwith arouse,  
And never from her dread design relented,  
Until her faithless lord was circumvented.

5.  
Here first John Company, so we're told,  
In early days of India did make bold  
His well known bit of bunting to unfold.

6.  
To thee, in Roman character I write,  
To thee as well I dedicate this light.

7.  
'Tis one or other as the case may be.  
Look in your catechism you will see.

8.  
Saul spared his life, the prophet gave him fits,  
And then he hewed the wretched man to bits.

9.  
Three precious ladies, whose melodious voice  
Was wont to charm the object of their choice,  
So rapt in ecstasy were all who passed  
Their famed abode, they failed to break their fast;  
Ulysses broke the spell, for it appears,  
He passed in safety stopping up his ears.

FUJIYAMA.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF JAN. 31ST. BY "HOODLUM."

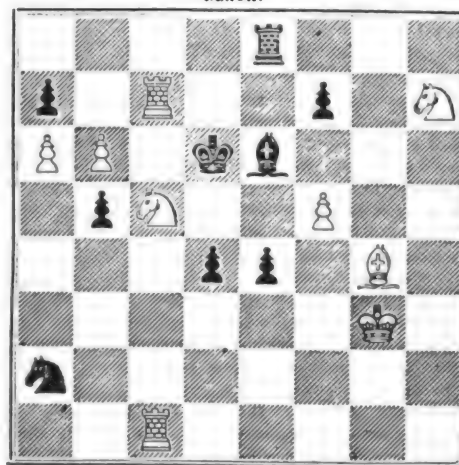
Chin		Chin.
C	osmeti	C
H	urra	H
I	barak	I
N	oblema	N

Correct answers received from Jumbuck, Rink, Zulu, Skate and B. N. Others incorrect.

† At the battle of Uji the Knight Genda had reached the river's bank first and was just about to force his horse into the stream when Takatsuna called out to him that his girths were loose, and while the other stayed to tighten them, rode past him and so won the distinction of leading the assault.

### CHESSE PROBLEM, FROM AMERICAN CHESSE NUTS.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESSE PROBLEM, OF JAN. 31ST, BY JOHN W. LEDAU.

White.	Black.
1—Q. to K B. sq.	1—K. takes R.
2—B. to Kt.	2—Anything.
3—Q. to K. R. 6, mate.	if
	1—K. to K. 2.
2—B. takes Kt., ch.	2—K. takes B.
3—Q. takes B., mate.	if
	2—B. takes B.
3—R. (or K Kt. 7) takes P., mate.	if
	2—K. to K. B. 3.
3—Q. to K. R. 6, mate.	if
	1—Kt. takes B.
2—R. takes P., ch.	2—K. to K. 3.
3—Q. to Q. B. 4, mate.	

Correct answer received from V.d.P.

### NEXT MAIL DUE FROM

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 1st
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 9th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Feb. 14th†
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 21st
HONGKONG .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 16th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Feb. 11th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 27th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 12th

\* Left San Francisco, 17th January, *Belgic*.

† Left Hongkong, 4th February, *Tanais*.

### NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Feb. 14th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 2nd
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 14th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Feb. 9th
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 21st
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 12th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 4th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 11th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

### LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

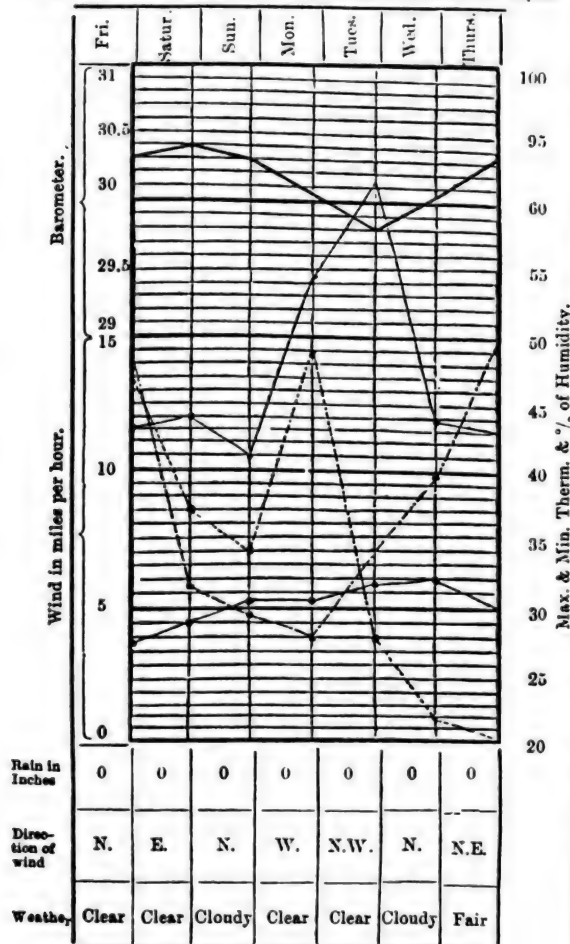
Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red): barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground): brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground): schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial vessels, with the vessel's national flag below as seen as it can be made out.



## METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 30TH, 1880.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujimicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.  
 Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.  
 Dotted line—represents velocity of wind  
 .....percentage of humidity  
 Max. velocity of wind 30 miles per hour on Thursday, 8 p.m.  
 The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.  
 The highest reading of the barometer was 30.466 inches at 10 p.m., on Thursday and the lowest was 29.715 inches at 7 a.m., on Tuesday. The range of the barometer has been considerable during the week, and it will be noticed that the high wind of Wednesday night and Thursday, was accompanied by a steadily rising barometer. Monday and Tuesday were characterized by unusually high maximum temperatures, and on Tuesday there was an extraordinary range of temperature amounting to 30°.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Feb. 2, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Feb. 1, Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, Pyne, 313, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Feb. 4, British steamer *Sunda*, Seaton, 1,029, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.  
 Feb. 4, Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru*, Frahm, 852, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Feb. 5, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,200, from Shanghai and way ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Feb. 5, British steam-yacht *Lancashire Witch*, Edlelsen, 211, from Kobe.  
 Feb. 6, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 946, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. H. W. Lea, Ochiai and Koide in cabin; 2 Europeans and 65 Japanese in steerage.  
 Per Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru* from Kobe:—Mr. Cook and 120 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Sunda* from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Friend: and 1 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and way ports:—Rev. C. F. Warren, Mrs. Warren and 3 children, Rev. Quimby and Mrs. Quimby, Miss Nishizima, Dr. Laurensen, Messrs. Bayfield, Scott, Kasui, Watanabe, Ishii, Nakamura, Tanji, Sakamonye, Kubo, and Ishimura in cabin, and 1 European, 2 Chinese and 137 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco:—C. Lucder, Esq., H. L. G. M. Minister to Columbia.

Per Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru* from Kobe:—Mr. G. Paw-nicker and 90 Japanese.

## OUTWARDS.

Feb. 1, British steamer *Glengyle*, Quartley, 1,263, for London via Kobe, General, despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Feb. 1, Italian corvette *Vettor Pisani*, H.R.H. Duke of Genoa, 1,800, 12 guns for Kobe.

Feb. 3, Japanese steamer *Shurio Maru*, Thompson, 524, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 4, British steamer *Killarney*, O'Neil, 1,060, for Kobe, General, despatched by Hudson & Co.

Feb. 4, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,260, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 5, H. B. M.'s *Swinger*, Lieut.-Commander Tudor, 430 tons, 451 H.P., 4-guns, for Kobe.

Feb. 5, Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Steadman, 661, for Kobe, Mails and General, M. B. Co.

Feb. 7, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christensen, 1,343, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 7, Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, Pyne, 295, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 7, Japanese barque *Kanagaica Maru*, Eckstrand, 606, for Nagasaki, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 7, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. J. Robertson, Miss N. Lawrence, Messrs. Higashi, T. Walsh, W. Tallers, Yoshida, Iwata, Wadda, Arima, Sassao, Miyeda, F. C. Spooner, D. Reynolds, Ota, W. Sagel, Fujeda, Yamakawa, and Takayagi.

Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, Messrs. G. W. Thomson, Kawase, Koyama, E. H. House, W. H. Taylor and Machida.

## CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—Treasure ... .. Yen 10,000.00

Per British steamer *Sunda* from Hongkong:—Transshipment ... .. 448 pkgs.  
 Local ... .. 3,666 "

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure ... .. \$ 30,726.00

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai & ports:—Treasure ... .. \$126,904.81

## REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* reports: Left Hongkong at 4 a.m., 24th January, arrived at Kobe at 6 p.m., 31st January, arrived at Yokohama at 4 a.m. on the 2nd instant. Experienced from Hongkong to Kobe very strong N.E. monsoon, from Kobe to Yokohama light E. winds fine weather.

The Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru* reports: Left Kobe at 8 p.m. 30th instant. Experienced variable winds with fine weather first part; afterwards thick rainy weather. Arrived at 4 p.m. 1st Feb.

The British steam-yacht *Lancashire Witch* reports: Left Kobe at 4 p.m., 3rd instant. Experienced moderate N.W. winds to Rock Island; thence to port strong N. wind with fine weather throughout.

The Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru* reports:—Left Kobe 4th inst. at 9 p.m. Experienced fresh N.N.E. winds with overcast sky throughout. Arrived at Yokohama at 9.15 a.m. 6th inst. Passage 36 hours.

## NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 7th February, 1880.)

	Yen Satz.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
	A.M.	Noon	Closing.				
1880.							
Monday.....Feb.	2 545	546	547	378	326	113	102
Tuesday....."	3 550	552	551	—	—	—	—
Wednesday....."	4 550	552	551	—	—	—	—
Thursday....."	5 552	552	550	—	—	—	—
Friday....."	6 551	550	549	—	—	—	—
Saturday....."	7 548	550	550	—	—	—	—



## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Hiroshima Maru	Haswell	Japanese steamer	1,200	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Lancashire Witch	Edlefsen	British stm.-yacht	211	Kobe	Feb. 5	
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Jan. 22	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru		Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13/78	M. B. Co.
Sunda	Seaton	British steamer	1,029	Hongkong	Feb. 4	P. & O. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	Jan. 31	M. M. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Jan. 18	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Campaie Glen	Smith	British barque	490	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Jan. 26	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Kate Davenport	Mallett	American ship	1,248	New York	Jan. 30	Frazier & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm		German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Lenard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	" 24	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Nimrod	Clark	British barque	696	Nagasaki	Jan. 28	Mitani Bussan Kwaisha
North Star	Janseen	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Oakland	Purinton	American ship	1,237	New York	Oct. 27	Fearson, Low & Co.
Otago	Isacsen	Russian schooner	46	Bonin Islands	Jan. 28	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 27	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Titan	Barry	American ship	1,240	Cardiff	Jan. 19	M. M. Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH.—Hornet ...	4	584	506	Gun-vessel	Kobe	Com. J.S. Eaton
FRENCH.—Champlain ...	10	1,901	—	Corvette	Chefoo	Com. Michaud
AMERICAN.—Alert ...	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ...	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostock	Captain Schance
" Craysser ...	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Cruise	Captain Nazimoff

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ...	Volga	M. M. Co.	Feb. 9th, at 7 a.m.
Hongkong ...	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 21st, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco ...	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	About Feb. 14th.
Shanghai, &c. ...	Hiroshima Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 11th, at 4 p.m.

## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**IMPORTS.**—Again a large business in *Yarn* at higher rates and sales of spot cargo and 'to arrive' have been freely made at quotations. *Shirtings* dull and depressed with a fall of 2½ cents all round. *Velvets* on the turn downwards. *Lawns* scarcely yet in season. *Woolens* of all kinds nominal.

**COTTON YARNS:—**

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$28.00 to 34.00
" " Good to Best ... "	\$35.00 to 36.50
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... "	\$30.50 to 32.25
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... "	\$36.00 to 37.50
" " Good to Best ... "	\$38.00 to 41.00
" 38 to 42 ... "	\$39.00 to 40.00

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—**

Gray Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.62½ to 1.82½
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.82½ to 2.25
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.10 to 2.57½
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.65
Drills, English: 14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— " 13 " 44 in.	\$1.80 to 1.82½
Prints:—Assorted " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Satens Black 32 in.	\$0.11½ to 0.14½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.35 to 1.55
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.50 to 1.65
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.**

Velvets:—Black ... 35 " 22 in. per piece	\$8.75 to 0.75
Victoria Lawns:— " 12 " 42/3 in. "	\$0.78 to 0.80
Taffetas:— " 12 " 43 in. "	\$1.75 to 1.80

**WOOLLENS:—**

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 yds. 32 in.	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Cords ... 29-30 yds. 22 in.	4.00 to 5.25
Monselins de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in.	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 yds. 30 in.	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.40 to 0.60
Presidents ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.55 to 0.60
Union ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs ... per lb.	0.35 to 0.41

**SUGAR.**—But little doing. The *Lord of the Isles*, *Chinto*, and *Anna Bertha* are loading at Takao for this port.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... per picul	\$5.60 to \$5.20
" " in basket ... "	\$5.20 to \$5.00
Taiwanfoo in bag ... "	\$5.20
do. in basket ... "	\$5.00
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ... "	\$8.00 to \$9.00

China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fah per picul	\$6.25 to \$8.00
Daitong ... "	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... "	\$2.60 to \$3.00
Kerosene Oil ... "	\$1.65 to \$1.70
Newchwang Peas ... "	\$2.20 to \$2.25

**KEROSENE.**—During the past week this market has been almost at a standstill; we hear of the sale of 6,000 cases only, at \$1.65.

## EXPORTS.

**SILK.**—At the beginning of the week under review the renewed activity in our silk market, of which there had been signs for some days previously, was fully confirmed; many parcels for which buyers and sellers had been in treaty were finally settled, and prices which about a fortnight ago had become a little weak and unsettled, hardened and fully regained anything they had lost.

During the past two or three days, however, buyers have been less inclined to operate and the market has become somewhat quieter again.

Sales since the 1st inst. about 370 shipping bales; Stocks in Yokohama about 4,700 Japanese bales.

Total export to date 14,401 bales against 14,934 bales at the corresponding period last season.

	In London at 3/9½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85, per kilo.		In London at 3/9½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85, per kilo.
Hanks, —Superior, nom...			Kakeda, —Extra ...	\$730 to 750 24/9 to 25/4	frs. 68 50 to 70 00
" Best ...	\$680 to 690 23/1 to 23/5	frs. 64 00 to 65 00	" Best ...	\$690 to 710 23 5 to 24/1	frs. 65 00 to 67 00
" Good ...	\$660 to 670 22/6 to 22/10	frs. 62 00 to 63 00	" Good ...	\$610 to 660 20/11 to 22/6	frs. 58 00 to 62 00
" Good Medium ...	\$640 to 650 21/10 to 22/2	frs. 60 50 to 61 50	" Common ...	\$780 to 800 26/4 to 27/	frs. 73 00 to 75 00
" Medium ...	\$610 to 620 20/11 to 21/2	frs. 58 00 to 59 00	Filatures, —Extra ...	\$730 to 770 24/9 to 26/	frs. 68 00 to 72 00
" Common, In'r ...	\$570 to 590 19/7 to 20/3	frs. 54 00 to 56 00	" Best ...	\$640 to 710 21/10 to 24/1	frs. 60 50 to 67 00
Oshius, —Best ...	\$650 to 660 22/2 to 23/1	frs. 61 50 to 57 50	" Good ...		
" Medium ...	\$610 20/10	57 50 to 64 50	" Med. & C'n ...		
Hamataki ...					

## EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9½
" " 6 " " "	3/9½ nom.
" Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
" Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
" " 6 " " "	3/10½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight	4.71
" Private 6 ms. sight	4.86
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	1 % prem.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight	½ % prem.

ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72
" Private 10 days sight	72½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	90½
" 30 days sight Private	92
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	91
" 30 days sight Private	92½
Kinsatz	550
Gold Yen	377

## SHIPPING.

**SHIPPING.**—The *Glengyle* and *Killarney* have both left for Kobe. The American ship *Richard Robinson* will leave shortly for New York, via Hongkong.



# FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF JAPAN.

Capital - - - - - Yen 1,500,000.000.  
Reserve Fund - - - - - „ 275,000.000.

HEAD OFFICE—TOKIO.

BRANCHES:—Osaka, Yokohama, Kobe, Saikio,  
Morioka, Sendai, Ishinomaki, Fusan, (Corea.)

SUB-BRANCHES:—Furukawa, Akita, Yokote,  
Honjow, Miyako, Ichinoseki.

Agencies:—SHANGHAI, HONGKONG.

Agencies—(For Exchange only):—

Nagasaki, Hakodate, Nagoya, Fukuoka, Yamaguchi, Akamagaseki, Okayama, Kochi, Wakayama, Oita, Gifu, Yamanashi, Fukushima, Mayebashi, Tatebayashi, Kirew, Nagahama, Otsu, Matsuyama, Matsuye, Akashi, Kishiwada, Obama, Fukui, Idsuhi, Tottori, Kawanoishi, Sayegi, Sendai, Awomori, Morioka, Hiroaki, Ichinoseki, Akita, Tanabe, Nagaoka, Yonezawa, Mihar, Tsurugaoka, Koriyama, Tokushima, Kuwana, Kameyama, Hikone, Tsuwano, Tamashima, Itsuhara, Tsu, Handa, Yodo, Tsuruga, Nakatsu, Saijo, Uwajima, Yamagata, Obi, Choshi.

## THIRTEENTH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Court of Directors to the Proprietors,

For the Half-year ending 31st December, 1879.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the Proprietors was held at the Head Office, on 18th January, 1880, at which the Directors had the honour to submit the annexed General Statement and Balance Sheet of the affairs of the Bank, as at 31st December last.

The net profit of the Head Office and Branches amounts to Yen 198,793.668 (deducting remuneration of the officers, their travelling expenses, and all other payments, inclusive of interest). Adding to this sum the unappropriated balance of last Half-year, namely, Yen 36,772.855, and Yen 80,000 set aside as a special reserve for bad and doubtful debts, the total comes to Yen 315,566.523. From this sum Yen 36,371.575 will be taken to extinguish the bad debt of Onogumi; Yen 50,000 will be set aside as a special reserve for bad and doubtful debts; and Yen 24,200 will be given to the officers as a bonus; and the remainder is Yen 204,994.948, from which Yen 50,000 will be added to the Reserve Fund, Yen 120,000 will be divided amongst 15,000 shares, being Yen 8 per share, which is at the rate of 16 per cent, per annum, and the balance, Yen 34,994.948, will be carried forward to next half-year.

The debt incurred by Onogumi has been written off, and amounted to Yen 36,371.575, taken from the Special Reserve of Yen 80,000, which has been supplemented by the addition of the sum of Yen 50,000, an amount which, the Directors are of opinion, will amply suffice to meet any further contingencies that may arise.

SHIBUSAWA YEICHI,  
Chairman.

### General Statement and Balance Sheet of the First National Bank of Japan, for the Half-year ended 31st Dec., 1879.

#### LIABILITIES.

	YEN.	YEN.
Deposits .....	960,018.107	
Bills Payable .....	227,252.962	
Loans .....	755,000.000	
Total due to Government...		1,942,271.069
Notes in Circulation .....	1,196,440.000	
Fixed deposits .....	861,166.569	
Current deposits .....	1,046,823.377	
Post Bills in Circulation .....	546,927.933	
Bills Payable .....	103,285.885	
Other deposits .....	691,875.105	
Due to Agencies .....	265,384.222	
	3,516,163.091	
Total due to the Public .....		4,712,603.091
Capital .....	1,500,000.000	
Reserve Fund .....	225,000.000	
Special Reserve Fund for Bad and doubtful Debts .....	80,000.000	
Balance brought forward from last half-year .....	36,772.855	
Balance of Profit and Loss Account .....	198,793.668	
Accounts not yet Realized .....	19,919.386	
	2,060,485.909	
Yen .....		8,715,360.069

#### ASSETS.

	YEN.	YEN.
Gold, Silver, and Copper Coin and Paper Money .....	1,366,110.703	
Gold and Silver Bullion .....	34,744.538	
Government Bonds lodged in the Finance Department, to secure notes in circulation .....	1,088,531.400	
Government Bonds on hand .....	442,706.917	
	2,932,093.558	
Loans receivable, and other sums due to the Bank .....	5,107,667.720	
Bills discounted and Bills receivable .....	201,227.619	
Premises .....	31,299.390	
Due by Agencies .....	442,071.782	
	5,783,266.511	
Yen .....		8,715,360.069

#### RESERVE FUND.

	YEN.
By Balance brought forward from last account .....	225,000.000
By Transfer from this Profit and Loss account .....	50,000.000
YEN .....	275,000.000

#### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	YEN.
Cr.	
By Balance brought forward from last half-year .....	36,772.855
By Net Profit for the half-year ended 31st December, 1879 .....	198,793.668
By Special Reserve Fund brought forward from last half-year .....	80,000.000
Yen .....	315,566.523

	YEN.
Dr.	
To loss for writing off a bad debt .....	36,371.575
.. the special reserve fund for bad and doubtful debts .....	50,000.000
.. Bonus to the Officers .....	24,200.000
.. Addition to Reserve Fund .....	50,000.000
.. Dividend on 15,000 Shares .....	120,000.000
.. be carried forward to next half-year .....	34,994.948
YEN .....	315,566.523

SHIBUSAWA YEICHI,  
Managing Director.

SASAKI YUNOSUKE,  
Accountant.

MITSUI TAKAYOSHI,  
SAIONJI KINSHIGE,  
SAITO JUNZO,  
MITSUI HACHIROJIRO,  
Directors.

NAGATA JINSICHI,  
Director and Manager

Tokio, December 31st, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

PAID-UP CAPITAL ... .. \$5,000,000.  
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,200,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. SASSOON, Esq.  
Deputy Chairman—WM. H. FORBES, Esq.

E. R. BOLLIOS, Esq., H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq., H. HOPPIUS, Esq.,  
Hon. W. KEWICK, Adam Lind, Esq., Wilhelm Reinert, Esq.,  
W. S. Young.  
Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

## LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. PHILLIPS, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.  
E. F. DUNCANSON, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. GIBB & Co.  
Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

## SHANGHAI.

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo, Hankow,  
Saigon,  
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

## YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

I teres allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.  
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o  
" " " " 6 " " 4 "  
" " " " 3 " " 4 "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description  
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,  
India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

A. M. TOWNSEND, Acting Manager.  
Yokohama, April 13, 1878. 6mly.

## MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA, (HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

PRIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class,  
let at the rate of from 50 *sen* to 80 *sen* per day, and  
from 12 *yen* to 20 *yen* per month.

## BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class.....	{ 1.50 <i>yen</i> per day, or 40.00 " " month.
3rd class.....	{ 1.00 <i>yen</i> per day, or 28.00 " " month.

All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or  
small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates,  
for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood  
of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged  
from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

  
**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tl

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.****TOKIYO MEETING.**

A GENERAL MEETING will be held at the  
**SHOHEIKUWAN, SEIDO, TOKIYO,**

—ON—

*Tuesday, the 10th February,*

AT 4 P. M.,

The following papers will be read:—

"NOTES OF ANALYSES OF JAPANESE CLAYS,"  
by R. W. ATKINSON, Esq.

"ON JAPANESE CHRONOLOGY AND CALEN-  
DARS," by W. BRAMSEN, Esq.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL.

Tôkiyô, February 6th, 1880.

## THE

**YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE,**

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the  
Subscribers to the Brigade, will be held at the

**Y. U. CLUB,**

*On Monday, 9th inst., at 4.30 p.m.*

By Order,

ALEX. W. GLENNIE,  
Hon. Secretary.

Yokohama, February 3rd, 1880.



## "Star in the East" Lodge, 640 S. C.

A REGULAR MEETING of this Lodge will be  
held at the

**MASONIC HALL,**

ON

*Tuesday, the 10th February,*

At 8.30 P. M. precisely.

By command of the R. W. M.,

DRUMMOND ANDERSON,  
Secretary.

Yokohama, February 3rd, 1880.

**CHINESE NEW YEAR.****NOTICE.**

THE BANKS and MERCANTILE OFFICES will  
be CLOSED to public business on MONDAY,  
TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY next (9th, 10th, and  
11th instant.)

Yokohama, February 5th, 1880.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## W. & A. GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS.

**W.** & A. GILBEY have special facilities for carrying on an extensive Foreign Trade, having held for many years in their Excise Bonded Stores, for the purpose of their Home Trade, a stock of not less than 12,000 Casks of Wines and Spirits, which are equally available for Export. These stores are by far the largest private Duty Free Warehouses in the World, and are under the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially attached to these Warehouses.

THE EXTENT of W. & A. Gilbey's purchases enables them to give the best VALUE to the public, as a twentieth part of the Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom is supplied from their stock. In the year 1876 W. & A. Gilbey paid duty on 1,881,049 gallons of Wines and Spirits, and the average quantity bottled and sent out by them daily was 3,050 dozens or 36,600 bottles.

QUALITY is guaranteed by W. & A. Gilbey, and is the same whether the Wines or Spirits are obtained direct from their Head Establishments or from any of their Agents. The purity and genuineness of every article in this list are guaranteed in accordance with Act of Parliament, 38 and 39 Vict., Cap. 63.

W. & A. Gilbey have always adhered to the *standard* of Bottle Measure recently recognised by the Government, namely—

6 bottles contain one gallon; 12 half-bottles contain one gallon.

SECURITY is ensured to the purchaser, each bottle bearing W. & A. Gilbey's seal and label guaranteeing quality and measure, and the strength also in the case of Spirits.

### W. & A. Gilbey's Head Establishments:—

**England.**—(Offices) Pantheon, Oxford Street, London; (Warehouses, Duty Paid) Oval Road, Camden Town, London.

**Ireland.**—(Offices) Upper Sackville Street, Dublin; (Warehouses, Duty Paid) Upper Sackville St., Dublin.

**Scotland.**—(Offices) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh; (Warehouses, Duty Paid) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh.

**France.**—Principal Establishment, Chateau Loudenne, near St. Estephe, Medoc.

**Excise Bonded Stores.**—Warehouses, Nos. 1 to 5, North-Western Goods Station, and Bonny Street, Camden Town, London.

**Distillery.**—James Street, Camden Town, London.

**Printing Department.**—Poland Street, Oxford Street, London.

**J. J. GARGAN,**  
ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,  
No. 88, Creek Side.

*Machinery of all kinds overhauled and Repaired.*

**House Building and Repairs Contracted for.**

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

NOW READY.

## YOUNG JAPAN,

BY

J. R. BLACK.

Vol. I.—Price \$5.

KELLY & CO.

Yokohama, February 6th, 1880.

## NEW RULES OF THE ROAD AT SEA, &c'

ADOPTED by Great Britain, the United States of America, France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Portugal, Belgium, Denmark, Netherlands, Spain, Austro-Hungary, Greece and Chili.

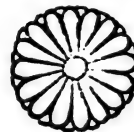
ON SALE IN SHEET FORM.

Price, 25 Cents.

"JAPAN MAIL" OFFICE,  
No. 16, Bund.

And at SARGENT, FARSAI & Co.,  
No. 80, Main Street.

Yokohama, December 24th, 1879.



## NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 13th Year of Meiji, (1880.)

## CHÔDAIU ROCK BEACON.

MEKARI SETO, INLAND SEA.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that a Beacon has been erected on the sunken Rock called Chôdaiu, situated about 3½ cables to the north-westward of the northern point of Hososima, Province of Bingo.

According to the British Admiralty Chart No. 132, it is in North Latitude 34 degrees 22 minutes 19 seconds, and is 133 degrees 8 minutes 11 seconds East of Greenwich.

The following bearings are taken from the Rock:—

Centre of Kusirajima ..... N. 26° 15' E.  
North-eastern point of Hososima... S. 72° 10' E.  
North point of Kosaki Sima..... S. 78° 45' W.

Bearings true.

The Beacon is built of granite, conical in shape, and is surmounted by a hemisphere which stands 17 feet above high-water spring tides.

It is painted with red and black horizontal bands.

YAMADA AKIYOSHI.

Minister of Public Works.

Tokei, 5th February, 1880.

## MISCELLANEOUS

# J. & E. ATKINSON'S PERFUMERY,

CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained the following

## EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA, 1872. PHILADELPHIA, 1876. VIENNA, 1873.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY,"  
PARIS, 1878.

## Atkinson's Choice Perfumes for the Handkerchief,

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang Ylang, Stephanotis, Opopanax,  
Jockey Club, Ess. Bouquet, Trevol, Magnolia, Jasmin,  
Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,  
And all other odours, of the finest quality only.

## Atkinson's Florida Water,

A most fragrant Perfume, distilled from the choicest Exotics.

## Atkinson's Quinine Hair Lotion,

A very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

## ATKINSON'S Ethereal Essence of Lavender,

A powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

## ATKINSON'S

Quinine Tooth Powder, Violet Powder, Macassar Oil, Glycerine Cream,

And other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the Manufacturers.

**J. & E. ATKINSON,**  
24, Old Bond Street, London, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

**CAUTION.**—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, "a White Rose on a Golden Lyre;" printed in seven colours.

ESTABLISHED 1799.

July 26, 1879.

12m. 26in.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.

Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,  
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,  
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED CHEESE,  
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,  
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,  
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,  
PLUM PUDDINGS,  
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.

## CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars they should invariably be destroyed when empty.

Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.

All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles, Jars and Tins.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL,**  
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,  
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

52 ins.

**H. MacARTHUR.,**  
No. 179.

LANDS, <sup>AND</sup> SHIPS, & CLEARS  
CARGO,

AT MODERATE RATES.

Yokohama, January 12th, 1880.

1f

## THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach." "Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years. Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

### CAUTION.

Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

**ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.**

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,  
BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.  
Manufacture all kinds of

**IRON WORK,**  
Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges, Arch  
Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some  
thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.  
ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.  
*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.*

**ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.**

*See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.)  
with 1,300 designs.*

Railings. Balcony Panels.  
Gates. Street Posts.  
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.  
Balusters. Newels.  
Crestings. Terminals.

Columns. Column Capitals.  
Brackets. Gratings.  
Windows. Casements.  
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.  
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

**SMITH'S HEARTHES & PORTABLE FORGES**  
12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.*

**Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,**  
**LONDON.**

26 ins.

**NOTICE.**

**TRANSLATIONS** from JAPANESE into ENGLISH  
or *Vice-Versa* undertaken by the advertiser, a  
Japanese who is well versed in the English Language, and  
familiar with Commercial and Legal technicalities.

Enquire at

**H. MacARTHUR'S Office,**  
**NO. 179.**

Contracts, Letters, Advertisements, or Legal Documents  
promptly translated at small cost.

Yokohama, January 13th, 1880.

tf

## MISCELLANEOUS.

<b>SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION</b>  <b>MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD</b>	<b>SAVORY &amp; DUTURATULA</b> <b>FOR INFANTS</b> <b>MOORE'S ASTHMA</b> <b>FOR THE ROYAL NURSERIES.</b> <b>THE MOST DIGESTIBLE,</b> <b>CONTAINS</b> <b>THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF</b> <b>NOURISHMENT IN THE</b> <b>MOST CONVENIENT FORM.</b> In Tins 1lb., 2lb., 4lb., 6lb., and 10lb. <b>143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &amp;c., everywhere.</b>
---	---

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE



MARK.

**ELLWOOD'S**

PATENT AIR CHAMBER

**HATS AND HELMETS,**  
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION  
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters  
and Wholesale only of

**J. ELLWOOD & SONS,**  
**LONDON.**

Beware of Useless Imitations.

**DINNEFORD'S**

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY  
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,  
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



**DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists**  
**London,**

**N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.**

**FLUID**  
**MAGNESIA.**

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout  
the World.

March 30, 1879.

1y.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**E. P. & W. BALDWIN,**  
WILDEN WORKS.  
STOURPORT, ENGLAND.

**SHEET IRON,**  
BRANDED  
"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."  
**TIN PLATES,**  
BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"  
"ARLEY," "STOUR."

*Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,  
and Close Annealed.*

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane, London, E.C.  
April 6, 1878.

**KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES,**  
COUGHS,  
ASTHMA,  
BRONCHITIS,  
ACCUMULATION OF PHLEGM.

Composed of the purest articles. These Lozenges contain no opium nor any deleterious drug, therefore the most delicate can take them with perfect confidence. Their beneficial effect is speedy and certain. The old unfailing family remedy is daily recommended by the most eminent Physicians. (In use nearly 60 years).

## MEDICAL TESTIMONY.

July 25th, 1877. 22, Cold Harbour Lane, London.

Sir,—Your Lozenges are excellent, and their beneficial effects most reliable. I strongly recommend them in cases of Cough and Asthma. You are at liberty to state this as my opinion, formed from many years experience.

J. BRINGLOE, M.R.C.S.L., L.S.A., L.M.

Mr. T. KEATING, Indian Medical Service.

Dear Sir,—Having tried your Lozenges in India, I have much pleasure in testifying to their beneficial effects in cases of Incipient Consumption, Asthma and Bronchial Affections. I have prescribed them largely, with the best results.

W. B. G.—, Apothecary, H.M.S.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are sold by all Chemists, in bottles, of various sizes, each having the words "KEATING'S Cough Lozenges" engraved on the government stamp.

**KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,**

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.—SOLD IN BOTTLES BY ALL CHEMISTS.

Proprietor, THOMAS KEATING, London,  
Export Chemist and Druggist.

April, 1879.

**ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,**  
5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,  
MANCHESTER,  
ENGLAND.  
CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND  
EXPORTERS

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

**MACHINERY.**

May 4, 1878.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## THE GREATEST

**WONDER OF MODERN TIMES  
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

Sir SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakay that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

**SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!  
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.**

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcers of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcers, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

Mr. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock"

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World  
May 17th, 1878. tf.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA  
EXHIBITION, 1876."

**OAKEY'S  
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH.**

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

**OAKEY'S  
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS.**

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

**OAKEY'S  
SILVERSMITHS SOAP.**

[NON-MERCURIAL],  
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTROPLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

**OAKEY'S  
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD.**

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 3D., & 4D. EACH, & 16. BOXES.

**JOHN OAKEY & SONS**  
MANUFACTURERS OF  
EMERY CLOTH  
BLACK LEAD  
CABINET GLASS PAPER  
&c.  
WELLINGTON EMERY & BLACK LEAD MILLS  
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.

July, 1879.

53ina.

Printed and published for the Proprietors by the Manager  
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16 Bund  
Yokohama.

# THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF  
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

Vol. IV. No. 7.]

Yokohama, February 14, 1880.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.

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## SILK.

**R**ESUMING our researches into the present condition of this great export staple we come into the subsidiary paths of Silk Waste<sup>1</sup> and Silkworms'-eggs.

By the Chamber of Commerce statistics we find that the export of Waste Silk and Cocoons has enormously increased of late and that at present the quantity of these combined articles, purchased and shipped from this port exceeds even that of Raw Silk itself. The figures (in piculs) for the past six months, and for corresponding portions of 1876 and 1878 added for purpose of comparison, stand as under.

	1879.	1876.	1878.
Waste .....	10,838	3,618	1,767
Cocoons .....	3,858	3,768	3,402

The Cocoons mentioned are of course those known in the trade as "Pierced";—those which are unfitted for reeling by the puncture of the moth in its exit from the dormant state. We notice here the great and rapid increase, especially in the kinds denominated Waste. Below we give the figures for whole years with the estimated value.

	1879.	1876.	1878.
Waste.....piculs	17,084	6,539	3,789
valued at \$1,407,754		\$566,893	\$435,729
Cocoons .....	4,737	3,789	3,784
valued at \$446,021		\$497,901	292,459

From this table we see that, while the particular class known as Pierced Cocoons has remained comparatively

1. It is well known that Silk is properly of two distinct kinds:—1st, that which is known to commerce as "Raw Silk," being reeled or wound off the cocoon in one continuous thread, which subsequently passes through the various processes of throwing, drying and weaving into Silk goods. 2nd, that which is commonly called "Silk Waste," prepared from the punctured misshapen or inferior cocoons. This is not reeled into a continuous thread, but comes to market in pieces of greater or less length, which must be carded and spun like wool before the product can be used for weaving purposes. We reviewed the former class in our issue of the 17th of January, and now offer a few remarks upon the second kind.

stationary during the last six years, the other sorts (classified generally as Waste) have increased in a wonderful ratio, the average value during 1879 shewing but a very small reduction on the famine rates of 1876. The total of both kinds last year reached the large sum of \$1,853,775.

The term "Waste" is perhaps somewhat ambiguous, and calculated to lead to misconception of the nature of this important article. It is not exactly *refuse*, as the word would seem to imply; but a substance prepared from those cocoons which, through "piercing" or imperfections in shape or texture, are not suited for reeling into thread in the ordinary way, while they are capable of being drawn out into short strands (like cotton or wool) and must be cleaned, carded, and spun like those staples before they can be employed in the loom. Doubtless the profitable use of this inferior product of the Silkworm's cocoon has been known in China and the East generally for centuries past; and we are confident that, in addition to the padding of clothes, etc., they had found out how to spin yarn from the short fibres, upon their primitive spinning-wheels. In fact we have positive evidence of the use of "Mesenito"—a yarn made from Mawatta—by the Japanese in the weaving of goods. They even tried to reel silk from pierced cocoons; but this kind of thread had so many knots and proved so unworkable that the "Tedor" gradually fell into disuse. On the other hand, during the last century we find the inhabitants of the South of Europe spinning their "Gum Waste" into yarn, although it was not till the present century had opened, and the wool-stapling industry became firmly rooted in Yorkshire, that the silk spinning mills of Brighouse and Leeds rose side by side with the great woollen factories in the same county.

The improvements in machinery for the preparation and spinning of silk-waste in Europe have made great strides of late, and whereas a few years ago one never heard of anything-but "Spun silk" hosiery, handkerchiefs or some other little article of similar make, the whole world now rings with the "Schappe" velvets of Crefeld, the "spun" ribbons of Basle and the laces of Nottingham, while the king of silk-spinners—Lister of Manningham—has even produced machine-twist of excellent quality from the unlikely material. No doubt the recent bad silk crops in Europe have stimulated the faculties of inventors in this direction. The dictates of fashion, calling for mixed fabrics, have also opened a wide door for the introduction of *nouveautés*, which the ingenuity of the present day has not failed to take advantage of; and the material is largely used in the production of sprigs, brocades, damassés and flowered goods generally. Indeed, sometimes appearing as "Organzine," at other times filling in as "Tram," the use of silk yarn is now well nigh universal.

Let us turn to the market for the supply of the raw material, and compare the facilities of twenty-five years ago with those of to-day. Then the European spinner had simply the choice of Canton Gum Waste, China Curlies, Bengal Chassum, Persian Balls, or Italian Knubs and Gum,

with what little Engine-waste he could obtain from throwsters of China raw silk at home. This last indeed was often so lightly valued by the owner of the throwing-mill that the operatives were allowed to use it for cleaning machinery. Now we find that Japan alone furnishes at least four well-known kinds and in such quantities as those mentioned above. Possibly a slight description of each may be of interest.

1.—Degaramai (Pierced Cocoons.) These, as before explained, are the cocoons spoiled for reeling by the passage of the insect from the chrysalis to the moth. In the magnaneries those cocoons only which are intended for breeding are allowed to be spoiled in this way; those intended for reeling are baked, the germ of life is thus destroyed, and the reeling proceeds at the leisure of the operator, without any fear of the cocoon being rendered useless.

2.—Kibiso (Knubs or Curlies,) prepared from the inferior outside layers of the cocoon which are taken off before the true reeling commences. Mixed in with this also is the "Kuzu-ito," or Winder's Waste, made by the reelers in searching for the regular thread either to commence the reeling or repair a breakage at the bassine.

3.—Noshi-ito. This name seems to have been formerly confined to a kind of wild produce which was run into a continuous coarse uneven thread known to Europeans as "Doppioni." It is now commonly used to designate the better classes of "Kibiso," of which it contains the longer strands; and the winder's waste of the modern "filatures" is also generally included in this grade.

4.—Mawatta, for many years known in China by the name of "Floss" silk and familiar to the merchants of Europe as "Caps." To this day every "Book" of China or Canton raw silk going to Europe has two of these caps for the protection of the gums or ends of the book, and for many years these coverings have been sold by tender at stated intervals by the Dock Companies in London. This is the best and finest of all classes of Japan Waste, and forms a special article of production in some districts, the most celebrated being made in Kokunimura, a village of Iwashiro. It is used by the Japanese as wadding for dresses, counterpanes, etc.; and is prepared from the "Kuzumai" (thin or distorted cocoons) Tamamai (doubles) or even Degaramai (pierced.) The mode of preparation is somewhat curious. The cocoons are boiled in a lye or solution of silkworm *feces*, calcined and mixed with water. When sufficiently boiled they are cleansed by rinsing in pure water, and stretched over a "Watta-dai" into the characteristic sheets or "caps" as they appear on our market.

Touching the prices of these various kinds, we append a table of quotations of some of the principal sorts, showing that in spite of the large quantities coming forward the values have steadily increased. The quotations are taken at the 1st January of each year.

	1878.	1879.	1880.
Tegara.....Oshiu	\$ 75/ 80	80/ 85	90/125
Shinshiu	70/ 75	75/ 80	90/110
Joshiu	70/ 75	75/ 77½	85/105
Bushiu	65/ 70	70/ 75	80/100
Kibiso .....Kikai	80/ 85	87/ 95	100/145
Oshiu	80/ 85	80/ 85	180/140
Shinshiu	70/ 80	75/ 80	120/125
Joshiu	50/ 60	50/ 65	50/ 75
Bushiu	18/ 40	14/ 45	16/ 50
Goshiu	60/ 70	65/ 75	90/100
Noshi .....Kikai	105/115	110/125	160/165
Oshiu	115/120	125/135	125/175
Shinshiu	110/115	120/127	185/145
Mino	110/115	120/125	140/145
Joshiu	105/110	110/115	125/145
Bushiu	100/105	105/110	100/180

	1878.	1879.	1880.
Mawatta ...Oshiu	170/175	175/185	190/215
Shinshiu	165/170	165/170	170/175

It will thus be seen that Japan Waste, equally with Japan Silk, is fast becoming first favorite in the race. Indeed it need not be pointed out that one controls the other to some extent, and that the better the growth and culture of the worm the greater will be the improvement in the Silk produced, whether "Raw" or "Waste."

Before concluding let us turn for a moment to Silk-worms' eggs, and see how matters stand there. The statistics for the last *semestre* run as under:—

	1879.	1878.	1873.
Export in cards.....	818,849	1,025,000	1,400,000
Value in dollars.....	488,000	1,040,000	8,400,000

These figures shew a marked contrast to the former tables, and while silk produce of both kinds furnishes gratifying results the export of these "germs" of prosperity fall off lamentably both in quantity and value. Thus, while in 1878 the average price of a "carton" was about \$2½, the value in the past year has been only 60 cents. It is much to be regretted that the Japanese still persevere in the suicidal policy of giving away the "initial" germ of their prosperous commerce in silk. We have endeavoured to show that there are large and increasing markets for the produce of Japan in this direction, and that the opposite course of growing the seed here would bring a large profit to the country. Let us suppose that for next season the export of seed should stop, and that the \$488,000 should be lost to the country. That would indeed be a dire mishap, but *en reranche* the year's silk crop would fetch an average of \$200 per picul more. Let us put the export at 20,000 piculs (a figure easily attainable under such circumstances.) The increment would be some four million dollars; or, deducting the value of cards sacrificed, \$3,500,000. Is the very paternal Government blind to this state of things? Can it not see that the true mission of Japan for many years to come must be the supplying of raw material for use in the factories of the West, and that this path alone will lead to prosperity? There are some things such as growing tea, silk, rice, which are eminently suited to the genius of the people, as well as to the climate, of this land. These are the branches of trade which should be encouraged, and not the chimerical endeavours to manufacture shirting and cloth which can be done much cheaper and better for them in Manchester or Connecticut. Why strive too soon after the development of enterprises requiring great capital and machinery (which the natives of this country cannot hope to possess until they have gradually amassed the means by patient industry and frugal toil), and which may too surely end in the nation over-reaching itself; thus leading to ruin and disaster financially, with perchance revolution politically. It may be retorted that under the existing treaties the Government, however much inclined to protection, cannot prohibit the export of Silk-worms' eggs. Granted; but are the Japanese people themselves so unpatriotic, are they so incapable of being touched by an argument addressed to the pocket, that they will continue to throw away four millions to obtain half a million dollars? Further, is there not a good prospect of increasing the four into forty millions in years to come by careful painstaking work? What is to hinder the constant growth of the out-turn of Japan Silk in the future, if once the hampering restrictions and foolish export of seed are done away with? Is the Japanese trader so blind to his own interests that he cannot see these things when put before him in the proper light? We think not.



## THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

NO subject has attracted more attention of late years in Europe and America, than the persistent and to some extent successful attempts which have been made to adapt electricity to illuminating purposes in such a simple and economical manner as to supply the wants of the masses. As far as Japan is concerned we believe we are correct in stating that the only occasion on which public exhibition of the light was attempted, resulted in a most conspicuous failure; and as the generality of our readers may not have followed closely the progress that has been made of late years towards introducing electricity as a substitute for other illuminating agents, it may perhaps be interesting to refer briefly to the improvements which have recently been effected, and at the same time examine to what extent they seem likely to lead to the solution of difficulties hitherto insuperable.

The electric light, although known for many years previously, was first brought into general notice at the London Exhibition of 1862, when its intense brightness and power of illumination were repeatedly demonstrated. Owing, however, to a fitfulness and uncertainty, which had not then been successfully overcome in even the slightest degree, and to the great expense involved as compared with other methods of lighting, it was universally admitted that very much indeed remained to be accomplished, before electricity could hope to compete successfully in the new field which appeared to be opening to increase its sphere of usefulness. The years went on, and, with the exception of occasional notices in the records of learned societies, nothing shewed that scientific and patient workers were steadily engaged in endeavours to solve the great problems remitted to their labours by the advocates of lighting by electricity. During all this time, the idea of so utilizing the subtle fluid was looked upon by most people, more especially the shareholders in gas companies (to whom the wish was indeed the father of the thought) as a mere idle dream; the crack-brained fancy of wild enthusiasts, or a means adopted by shrewd pretenders to extract money from the pockets of the unwary. In this fool's paradise the "vested interests" rested supremely happy and unconscious of coming evil until the year 1878, when they were rudely awaked by the announcement that the celebrated Russian electrician—an engineer officer—Colonel Jablockhoff, had invented, and patented in Paris, a method of utilizing the electric light, theretofore so unmanageable, which would revolutionize the whole system of public and domestic illumination. Jablockhoff's invention was a great step in advance. It had indeed long been known that carbon was practically the best material to employ for the purposes of the electric light, but the great difficulty was the necessity of continually renewing the carbon as it burnt away. This, Jablockhoff obviated in great measure by the invention of some most delicate and ingenious machinery, used in connection with what is known as "the Jablockhoff candle;"—carbon pencils insulated by kaolin. As may be imagined when such vast interests were at stake, the announcement of Colonel Jablockhoff's discoveries created an immense sensation among the public and the shareholders in the numerous gas companies which exist all over Europe, and, in fact, the whole world. In Paris the matter was enthusiastically received. The French had not forgotten, apparently, that the English were the originators of gas lighting: France would introduce the new light and claim the gratitude of posterity. A company was accordingly formed, the required capital eagerly subscribed, and preparations commenced with a view of bringing the great discovery into practical

operation. After the lapse of some time it was announced that the Avenue de L'Opéra would be illuminated by means of the electric light, and in point of fact this was accomplished. Then the success or otherwise of the attempt was subjected to thorough investigation. The advocates of the system claimed that it was cheaper, cleaner, and better in every way than gas. There was no smell. Neither carbonic acid nor ammonia was produced in using it: nothing in fact that in gas is sometimes found so offensive. The adherents of gas, on the other hand, scouted the claims of the electric light. The intense brightness and deficiency of actinism would inevitably produce irritation of the eyes: a steam engine was a necessary adjunct to the new competitor for public patronage, and few people would care to exchange the harmless gas meter for the dangerous boiler of a steam engine. Then the boasted economy was all a myth: what did it consist in? and they triumphantly pointed to the result of the investigations made at the instance of the authorities of the parish of Chelsea, who, although desirous of adopting the electric light in one of their principal streets, found that they could not consistently do so as, during the first year, an extra expenditure of more than £3,000 over that necessary to defray the gas bill would be required, while every subsequent year there would be a smaller but still considerably increased outlay. Further improvements continued to be made during all this time, and the public grew familiar, at any rate with the names, of the Lontin, Weston, Siemens, Gramme, Serrin, Brush, and other descriptions of electric lamps. Numerous efforts to utilize these discoveries were made; and, when the result of all the investigations and experiments came to be analysed, it was generally admitted that, for the purpose of out-door illumination and large enclosed spaces, (theatres, factories, &c.), in both cases under favourable circumstances, the new light had an assured future, but that nothing then discovered warranted the conclusion that it would supersede gas as an illuminating agent for domestic purposes and use generally; because gas was cheaper, more easily managed, always under control, and required no skilled labour to attend to it when in use. The insuperable objections to the electric light at the time we speak of were, that no means had been discovered of dividing the electric current or of regulating the light—it was either total darkness or intense brightness wanting in actinism. During the period which elapsed while investigations were being conducted, shareholders in gas companies were exceedingly uneasy; and it was with a sense of relief that they hailed the verdict, which we have quoted, respecting the future of the two methods of illumination. The real difficulties that existed in connection with the general employment of the electric light, and the extreme improbability of their being successfully surmounted, were apparent to the meanest capacity when the great "boom" came sounding across the Atlantic, "Edison has solved the great problem. The electric light will shortly be in general use." Then, although Mr. Edison was known principally from his connection with several scientific toys such as the telephone, phonograph, &c., an era of panic set in, which, as subsequently discovered, was sedulously fostered by speculators. Shares in gas companies fell in value at an alarming rate, and the decline was estimated to represent in Great Britain alone no less than the enormous sum of over thirty-five millions sterling.

Let us now see what Mr. Edison has done to fulfil an announcement, fraught with such serious consequences, and for which he must, in all fairness, be held primarily responsible. The difficulties standing in the way of the employment of electricity for domestic and general lighting

purposes have already been alluded to, and it was Mr. Edison's self-imposed task to overcome them. Has he done so? A brief review of what has transpired since this gentleman's success was positively proclaimed, may assist us in coming to a correct conclusion on the subject.

About twelve months ago the New York *Herald* contained a long and very enthusiastic account of Mr. Edison's discovery. It was detailed at great length, and with much minuteness, all that the reporter witnessed on the occasion of his visit to the great genius who had revolutionized the illuminating agencies of the universe. The "modest inventor" was described as intent on his labours when the representative of the *Herald* presented himself. "In a corner of the spacious workshop were what looked like two large cylinders, but were in fact the generators of electricity; an ordinary looking lamp was on a plain table." After some casual conversation, the interviewer asked to be allowed to witness the wonderful lamp. "Here 'she' is," said Mr. Edison, and as he spoke he touched a small button, and immediately the workshop was suffused with a beautiful, soft, light, rendering the whole place as bright as day; a light as obedient to the button "as gas is to the tap. Viewed from after experience the utter absurdity of the whole description is laughable, but public interest, which had begun to flag, was aroused anew; and it was again announced that the problem was solved, one slight and altogether unimportant matter of detail being alone requisite to being the discovery into completely practical operation. Time went on, and notices appeared at intervals, inspired probably by Mr. Edison or his assistants, in the public journals recording progress. The following is one of the latest, and was published just before the *dénouement*, which apparently opened the eyes of some of Mr. Edison's admirers as to the actual value of his so-called discoveries:—

"An elaborately descriptive and illustrated article in the New York *Herald* gives the very gratifying intelligence that at last Mr. Edison has completed his electric lamp and will give a practical illustration of it on New Year's eve at Menlo Park. The final result is simplicity itself. Mr. Edison takes a scrap of paper, submits it to a heat of 600 Fahrenheit, so that all the volatile substance is removed, leaving nothing but the pure carbon. This he bends into a horse-shoe shape, and exhausts the globe around it. How this result was at last attained reads more like a tale of fiction than of fact, and is as exciting as anything in the annals of great inventions or discoveries. The very simplicity of the means to be used is the most marvellous of all. After exploring the continent for a sufficient supply of platinum, and exhausting all known methods of treating that metal, it is at last abandoned, and a simple cotton thread suggests and proves the solution. Accompanying this discovery, and as a necessary complement to it, is Mr. Edison's invention for measuring the amount of electricity consumed. It is a wonder of mechanical nicety and ingenuity. It is now in the near future when electricity will supersede oil and gas for illuminating purposes."

About the same time there was supplied to the *Scientific American*, usually an admirably conducted and most reliable journal, a very sanguine account of Mr. Edison's proceedings, avowedly dictated either by himself or some of his collaborators. This communication was distinguished by some most extraordinary misstatements. For example, the assertion that "Mr. Edison has so improved the Sprengel pump that he is able to obtain with it, in twenty-five minutes, a vacuum which physicists have previously taken forty-five hours to produce," will probably excite the amusement, if it does not arouse the indignation, of Messrs. Mawson and Swan, of Newcastle, England, who

have for some years past manufactured and sold Sprengel pumps capable of producing high vacua in fifteen minutes. Then again there is really nothing very novel in the idea of electric illumination by means of incandescent carbons in vacuo, since, as far back as 1845, Mr. Edward A. King obtained a patent for the process in England.

At length the exhibition at Menlo Park came off, and the result certainly does not encourage any expectation of a speedy realization of Mr. Edison's hopes. Fifty lamps, we learn, of a total capacity of five to seven hundred candles, were "operated" by power derived from an eighty horse-power engine (more than a horse and a half to each lamp) transmitted to an electric generating apparatus by the double five-inch belts, which drove ten and twelve-inch pulleys at the rate of six hundred revolutions per minute! Not a bad beginning this for a cheap, safe and manageable light! It was pointed out by some Yankee Didymus, who should have been sacrificed on the spot for his scepticism, that the generating apparatus might possibly employ, under such conditions, more than half the power of the engine, or an amount of power which, if applied to the Lontin, Siemens, Gramme, or other forms of apparatus, would yield from one hundred down to fifty times more illuminating power than Edison's boasted machinery, according to the mode of application. Mr. Edison, however, disposed of this gentleman entirely to his, (Mr. Edison's) satisfaction. He asserted that his peculiar carbons were indestructible, and that he could therefore afford to expend the excess of power! But in opposition to this assertion it has long been known that the duration of the life of carbon in vacuo is inversely proportional to the intensity of the electric current employed in rendering it incandescent. Mr. Edison is of course perfectly well aware of this, and accordingly, notwithstanding the boasted indestructibility of his carbons, he evidently exercised the utmost care to preserve them in a condition of comparatively low incandescence. The following description of the apparatus employed at the Menlo Park exhibition is taken from a New York journal:—"His" (Mr. Edison's) "lamps are each connected with two wires leading respectively from opposite poles of his generating apparatus. These two wires may be considered as the side-pieces of a ladder, and the lamps as a series of rungs affording parallel paths for the flow of the current from one wire to the other. If a considerable number of these paths should be obliterated, as, for example, by the removal of some of the lamps, the current would all be forced to pass through the remaining paths, and would at once overheat the carbons in the remaining lamps, and with a greater or less rapidity destroy them. To guard against this, during Mr. Edison's exhibitions, one of his assistants, with the aid of a Thompson galvanometer, carefully observes the indications of resistance in the circuit which are manifested whenever a lamp is removed, and immediately shuts off a portion of the current from the circuit, taking constant care that the quantity of the current supplied to the circuit shall be just that, and no more, which can safely be permitted to flow through the number of lamps which are in operation." It is plain that the gentleman who performed this function, although probably not a prominent object at Menlo Park, was one of Mr. Edison's most important factors in obtaining a result which at present cannot be justly estimated to be anything more than the repetition, upon a somewhat enlarged scale and at great cost, of an old laboratory experiment. In short, the exhibition at Menlo Park has, comparatively speaking, proved just as great a failure as did the ludicrous attempt made here on the occasion of the entertainment to General Grant. Every one of Mr. Edison's vati-

cinations in the matter of electric lights has been falsified by results, his lamps have cracked, his indestructible carbons have crumbled away. Even the very lamp itself—the wondrous “she” of the *Herald* interviewer—has been claimed by another, as we are informed by a telegram from Europe to New York, that “Count Dumoncel who is recognised here (Paris) as the highest authority on electric science, writes to the *Temps* saying that the new lamp is not *new*; and he warns the public against pompous announcements from the New World.” The result of the Menlo Park fiasco fully bore out the provision of Count Dumoncel; and, if further evidence were necessary to prove the complete, utter, and disastrous failure of Mr. Edison up to the present, it is supplied by the announcement made on the 16th of January last, that “he has given up manufacturing the lamps, and that matters at his workshop are at a standstill in consequence of the breaking of fifty of his carbon horse-shoes from some cause he is unable to discover.” We must however, in justice, add that “Mr. Edison and his assistants are not downhearted. They hope to overcome the newly arisen difficulties in time, and to introduce the lamp into practical use in New York city before next winter.” Nearly two years have elapsed since it was grandiloquently announced:—“Edison has solved the problem”; and now the practical test has been postponed for another twelve months. We confess that we do not place much faith either in Mr. Edison’s solutions of difficulties or in his discoveries. There is no denying the fact that the electric light has not advanced one step forward as a means of supplanting gas as an illuminating agent in private houses, for domestic purposes, and for the lighting of ordinary streets. The two illuminants stand in precisely the same relative positions as they occupied before the Edison “boom” was wafted over the ocean, striking terror into the ranks of shareholders in gas companies. For large spaces, where steam or other power is available and expense no deterrent, the electric light has incontestible advantages; but for all other purposes, and where a cheap, safe, manageable and always available light is required, gas still maintains, and seems likely to preserve, its old preëminence.

**R**EAD in the light of subsequent events, the following extract from an article entitled “The political and social development of Japan, during the last ten years, is instructive. The paper was published in a recent number of *Nord und Süd*, a leading German magazine. The writer, who takes the *nom de plume* of *Asiaticus*, was once, it is well-known, a distinguished member of the German Legation in Tokio. The article from which the excerpt is taken was sent home as a report to the German Government, which, in accordance with its usual custom, presented it to the editor of a friendly journal. It is hardly necessary to say that it was written before the *Hesperia* affair. The whole essay would well repay perusal; it deals with the advances in almost every department of government, which this country has made since the restoration, and is, on the whole, very amical to Japan. From the sentence respecting newspapers, the writer would seem to have the same opinions on this subject as the American Government has expressed, and the British Government is said to hold.

Free, unrestricted intercourse with foreign countries has become the condition of its (Japan’s) further development. But in all directions extra-territoriality prevents the realization of its wishes. This makes it impossible to admit foreigners into the interior, which would be for their own interests as well as for those of Japan: to use their capital for the improvement of mines and land; or even to work in the mines or on the soil. This restrictive action of extra-territoriality on economical development is peculiarly

distasteful to the Japanese. It must deeply wound their national susceptibilities to see States, which are in no higher or in even a much lower stage of advancement, such as the republics of Central and South America, and the negro republic of Hayti, in possession of complete judicial control in their own territories . . . . Under no circumstances, however, can extra-territorial privileges result in the Japanese Government being prevented from compelling obedience on the part of foreigners to their Quarantine and Shooting regulations, or that they must tolerate, from foreign newspapers in Japan, slanderous and abusive criticisms on the condition and manners of the country, and the actions of high, and even the highest, personages in the land.

**I**N the *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 15th of last February, we published the Finance Minister’s statement of the actual income and expenditure of the Government for the fiscal year between July, 1875, and June, 1876. To-day we commence the publication of a still more important document, namely, the national debtor and creditor accounts for the preceding portion of the present reign, being for seven and a half years between the commencement of 1868 and the 30th of June, 1875. We take this present instalment from the *Tokio Times* of this morning, and propose to continue the translation of the several numbers as it appears in that journal.

**A**FTER collating the opinions and statements of several of the most influential French journals on the question of the imbroglio with the Annamite Government, and the project, said to be entertained by France, of an annexation of other provinces to Cochin China, the *Indépendant de Saigon* sums up the case. It finds that, certainly, the question of annexation is the order of the day; but thinks it improbable that any military operations will be undertaken immediately. It is apparent, the writer maintains, that the most simple method of defence which could be adopted by the Annamite rulers would be to stir up revolts and risings in the French dependencies, which means that the colony could not be deprived of the troops stationed there. Thus reinforcements would be necessary to undertake the conquest; and the troops which are stated to be en route in the *Themis* from Europe, added to those which arrived in a former transport, and supplemented by the normal strength of the garrisons, would be insufficient to hold, though perhaps enough to take, Tonquin. It is added that, in order to operate effectively in the rivers of that country, strong vessels of light draft are required. Such craft are not available; and it is useless to depend upon the Cochin China gunboats, for which the water will, in a few weeks only, be far too shallow. The writer believes that, for the present, proceedings will be confined to negotiations, preliminary to more vigorous action at a favourable time of the year, namely, at the season of high waters, if in the mean time France has not obtained, without striking a blow, the satisfaction which she has the right to demand.

**W**E reprint, in another part of our issue to-day, from the columns of the *Japan Herald*, the Customs tariff proposed by the Japanese Government. This publication should remove all doubts as to the intentions of Japan in this respect; and although modifications, more or less important, may be introduced during the negotiations, it is probable that there will be none likely to affect, materially, the policy whereon the scheme is framed.

**T**HE Times correspondent at Shanghai, writing on the 31st of October, comments on the approaching opening of another port—Gusan—in Corea, to trade with Japan.



He attaches no importance to the commerce which has already existed between the two countries through the depôt at Fusan-Po; but thinks that the new port may attract the attention of other foreign countries in addition to this empire. He says that some people think "the concession may have a political interest much greater than its commercial one. That may well be, for, as far as we know with our limited sources of information, Corea produces few articles except ginseng for export to Japan. Such mineral resources as she may have are quite undeveloped and the gross amount of the foreign trade at Fusan-Po has hardly amounted in any year since 1876 to half a million of dollars. A Japanese settlement is to be set apart at the new port, a custom-house established, and a limit of 25 miles from the port assigned within which the Japanese residents at Gensan may wander freely. The opening of Corea by Japan has not as yet had sufficient results to arouse the interests of European nations in one of the few remaining *terre incognite* of our globe; but the proximity of the new port to the capital may draw to it that attention which the petty trafficking between Fusan-Po and Japan can hardly be expected to excite. At present the Coreans do not smoke opium. They supply themselves from Newchwang by the way of the Korean gate with foreign cotton goods and Chinese comestibles, and there is little prospect of a large market for these important commodities being found through the ports opened to the Japanese. The event I have noted is interesting only as a step in the career of young Japan."

**P**RA PREECHA has been beheaded; but the sentence of whipping before decapitation, which was part of the judgment pronounced against him, was remitted by order of the King of Siam. His case is still the subject of some comment in the foreign newspaper published in Bangkok, and by correspondents of the *Straits Times* in that port. One resident who claims to have resided for many years in the Asiatic kingdom, says of its monarch that he "is a deservedly popular sovereign, beloved by all his own subjects, and, with the exception of one house, honored by all the Europeans here. Outside his own country he won the esteem and goodwill of both Europeans and natives by his intelligence, frankness, and general courtesy." With reference to the unhappy alliance of the disgraced and beheaded noble, it is asserted that the chosen bride being the daughter of a powerful Englishman—powerful from his official position and the known opposer of His Majesty—it was not likely that the royal approbation would have been accorded to the union; and old custom, imperious in most eastern lands, rendered such approval a matter of necessity. "Indeed Pra Preecha himself said, when questioned by a European as to why he ran the risk of giving offence by marrying without asking His Majesty according to custom, that he did not ask because he knew consent would be refused, and that as he was determined to marry he dared not ask. Why he should be so determined to marry who already had many wives, was proved by after events." It is positively asserted, by the writer from whom we quote, that it was much more than mere discourtesy in Pra Preecha leaving Bang-pa-in without seeing the King. It was there before he married that written complaints were laid before his master some sixty in number, from the people of his governorship at Pachim. After receiving these the accused was sent for by the king, "but he had the audacity not to answer the royal summons, and left Bang-pa-in. No doubt he was eager to accomplish the marriage, to ensure the protection of the English Consul before he again appeared before His Majesty." The correspondent affirms that the Governor's rule was a very

oppressive one, and that "great joy was manifested by the people at his execution: that the authorities put the body into a sack intending to bury it; but that the people took it by force, using many indignities to it, and finally hung it up on a tree. It was thus exposed for three days, when it was taken down and buried. For miles down the river, the people came out to salaam and prostrate themselves before the steamer in acknowledgment of the good service done them. It is premature to say anything about Pra Preecha's father and mother. The Government has been robbed, and that family had considerable wealth from unknown sources, as evidenced by the palatial residences recently erected by them. They are awaiting their trials, and have the best wishes of all that they may be able to clear themselves. In the meantime, according to the custom, they are degraded and put down from being members of the Privy Council. How could it be otherwise under the circumstances?" It is tolerably clear that things were not exactly of the aspect in which they were represented when the dénouement took place; and that the British Government acted with customary prudence when it abstained from interference in what, after all, was a merely domestic matter pertaining to the jurisdiction of Siam. We observe that Mr. W. G. Palgrave, a tried Consular officer, and a writer whose vivid and accurate descriptions of several eastern countries have obtained a wide reputation, has been appointed Consul-General in that kingdom.

**O**UR third article on the Military Power of China is unavoidably held over until next week.

#### REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.

I, Okuma Shigenobu, respectfully present herewith my report upon the actual revenues and expenditures for the eight fiscal years, beginning with the 1st year of Meiji (1868) and ending with the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji (June, 1875).

Considering the limited numbers of years which have elapsed since the restoration, we have made considerable progress; and old inherent abuses have already been expunged. Among other changes, our system of national finance has undergone great development; and the rules on which it is in future to be conducted have been all but completed. But the presentation of a statement of the accounts of the actual revenues and expenditures during these eight fiscal years have been delayed until now. I, who fill the office of O Kura Kio, cannot evade the responsibility of this procrastination; but, may it please Your Excellency, I desire to give an explanation of the inevitable circumstances which have caused it.

In the early days of the restoration we were very eager to correct the errors committed in the latter period of the shogunate, and thoroughly to reform our financial policy. A civil war had broken out in the north-eastern provinces at the time of the restoration, and all affairs were in great confusion. Owing to these events, we could not occupy ourselves in preparing minute accounts of the revenues and expenditures. Afterward, in the 8th month of the 4th year of Meiji (September, 1871), a great financial reformation was inaugurated. By this reform our financial operations became something like an established business transaction, but a proper method of book-keeping was not yet perfected; and the old established system of records called *Kanjio Cho* (account books), *Meisai Cho* (minute books), etc., was retained. The report also was only what is called *Kokuwa*



*Jio* (a kind of financial statement of general facts, not necessarily giving the amounts of money received or disbursed). Moreover the creations, abolitions, separations and amalgamations of Kuwan, Sho, Fu and Ken were of constant occurrence. The growth of home and foreign business, the development of the army and navy, the reformation of the judicial department, and the initiation of various works of public utility, such as railroads, telegraphs, etc., followed each other in quick succession. Especially in the governments of the different localities numerous improvements were made; and in fact it is next to an impossibility for men to remember all the changes. The countless alterations were all, more or less, connected with financial affairs. The plan on which the accounts were kept was too concise, and it is therefore now almost impracticable for us to ascertain the exact state of the finances at that period. However, after exerting the utmost efforts of which I am capable, at last to-day I have the honor to present this document to Your Excellency. I most sincerely hope that its accuracy may satisfy you. In addition to the report, I offer to Your Excellency an appendix showing the order observed in rendering these actual accounts, the rules of our financial operations, and the creations, abolitions, separations, and unions of Kuwan, Sho, Fu and Ken. I respectfully express the hope that it may be of service to Your Excellency, and aid you to comprehend the difficulties involved in preparing the statement.

OKUMA SHIGENOBU,  
O Kura Kio,  
(Minister of Finance.)

To His EXCELLENCY SANJO SAN'EYOSHI,

*Daijo Dai Jin.*

Tokio, Meiji 12th year, 12th month, 27th day,  
(December 27th, 1879).

#### INTRODUCTORY REMARKS TO THE REPORTS OF THE ACTUAL ACCOUNTS.

These actual accounts begin with the 27th day of the 12th month of the 8d year of Keio (January 21st, 1868), when an imperial treasury was established at Saikio, and end with the 30th of the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji (June 30th, 1875). Indeed during these terms seven and a half years have elapsed; but we have counted ninety-three months. (The year being twelve months, seven and a half years would be ninety months; in the first and fourth periods there was an intercalary month; and including the 12th month of the 8d year of Keio, we obtain ninety-three months.) The method of drafting the estimates during those years was not anything like that which has ruled since the 8th year of Meiji. Since then we have developed a scheme for the management of our financial operations; but before that year our fiscal laws were in an embryonic stage, and the records were in a very confused condition. When one term had not ended, the next term had already begun. Thus, during those eight fiscal years, there was no definite end for any term. It was just like the links, overlapping each other, which form a chain. These years might, therefore, be treated as one term; but, in accordance with the method then adopted, we divide them into eight periods, in order to afford greater facility to the reader.

During the time referred to two changes took place in regard to the division of the fiscal year. This accounts for the different number of months in the different terms, the third, sixth and seventh of which were of the ordinary length. The fifth was a long one, and consisted of fourteen months. (The 11th month of the 5th year of Meiji, viz., December, 1872, is not reckoned, because only two days of that month were included in the term). The first and fourth periods were also long. They consisted of thirteen months. (The reason why they were so long, is that there was an intercalary month in each of them, according to the

lunar almanac then used. The 12th month of the first term was not reckoned in, because only four days of that month were included in the term). The shortest terms were the eighth, which consisted of six, and the second, of nine, months.

Although we make the 30th of the sixth month of the 8th year of Meiji (June 30th, 1875) the termination of these actual statements, yet as a matter of fact it is impossible to close the accounts with that very day. There were some amounts received and disbursed after that time, the real settling extending to the 30th of the 6th month of the 11th year of Meiji (June 30th, 1878). As to the receipts and disbursements after the 7th month of the 8th year of Meiji (July, 1875), we have compiled an account specially for that term. The one and the other must, therefore, not be confounded.

If we collate the revenues and expenditures of these eight terms into actual accounts, we ought to adjust the incomes and disbursements accurately term by term; but for three or four years after the restoration, the method of book-keeping was too concise, and Cho (governmental offices) were created and abolished, amalgamated and separated in rapid succession. In consequence of these facts the accounts do not connect explicitly. It would be in vain, to-day, to endeavor to ascertain the exact condition of the income and outlay of each fiscal term during those years. Accordingly, adopting the best available plan, we have rendered these accounts chronologically from the original account-books, after examining them carefully. We have, therefore, been obliged, for instance, to include certain taxes which had belonged to A term, and paid in B or C term, in the accounts of B or C. In regard to the expenditures there have been similar occurrences. This will explain the fact that certain taxes or expenditures are large in one term and small in another.

Thus we have compiled these actual accounts from the original books of revenues and expenditures. Yet there are many accounts which might be regarded as extraordinary;—such outlay, for instance, as that for the Kuwangio (encouragement of business) in the home department; mint expenses; the cost of paper-money manufactured in the finance department; the grants for mining, railroads, telegraphs, light-houses, and public industrial domains in the department of public works. These items cannot be regarded in the same light as the ordinary expenditures for the various departments themselves. With reference to these expenditures, we first examined the special accounts in regard to them, and then compared them with the original accounts which are kept in the several departments. Pursuing this method we made out the statements. Among the items of receipts there are some such sums as surpluses refunded when found to remain after the necessary expenses had been paid, and others returned on discovery being made that they had been erroneously expended. Again, among the expenditures there are amounts which were reimbursed after being mistakenly received. As for these items, we referred to the original sums which had been recorded as received and disbursed before, examined them one by one, and endeavored neither to deal with any of them twice nor to omit anything, we thus striving to arrive at an accurate statement.

There are three important facts which claim our careful attention: First, the extension of the financial control of the government. Before the abolition of the Han (a kind of clan system) the limit was narrow, but it has subsequently extended. We will cite an example from the number of koku (the unit of rice measurement, being a little more than 5 bushels). Before the seventh month of the 4th year of Meiji, when the abolition of the Han was declared, the number of koku which came under the direct control of the national treasury was 8,906,000 in round numbers. After that event it increased to 32,805,000 in round numbers. Secondly, the old method of the management of local finances. Before the 4th year of Meiji it was the rule that the Fu and Ken, which were under the direct control of the government, collected taxes in money and kind, and forwarded the receipts to the exchequer after deducting the sum sufficient for their own expenditures. Therefore, in these actual accounts the sums which belong to the period before the 4th year of Meiji are that actually paid into the treasury, and that paid out specially for the expenditures of Fu and Ken. The sums which were kept in Fu and Ken and spent directly for local purposes are not accounted for in the national revenues and expenditures. Thirdly, the fluctuation in the price of

rice. In rendering these actual accounts we have, of course, to express in terms of money all the rice which was received and given out, but the price of rice fluctuated annually; so in the year when the average price of rice was high, the portion of the income which was received in rice and the portion of the disbursements which was given out in rice were necessarily high; and when rates were low the reverse was the case.

Now we will state briefly the method of transforming rice accounts into money equivalents, in order to explain what has been said in the preceding paragraph. It is a well known fact that the price of rice fluctuates from year to year. Even in the course of the same year the rate varies according to different localities and changing seasons. In the infancy of our financial book-keeping, the clerks only entered the quantity received and expended; and when both quantities balanced they were satisfied, and the fluctuation of price was left out of the question. So then, if we want to know the exact rate of the variations in the value of rice we are utterly at a loss, and it is impossible for us to know the exact difference in different localities. We therefore, doing the best we can, have adopted as a standard the average of the selling price of rice in the store-houses situated in Asakusa, Tokio, which we have also, as far as possible, compared for purposes of correction with the rates obtaining in other places. Adopting this plan we have calculated the prices for each term, obtaining the following results:—

First term .....	Price of rice per koku.....	Yen 5.421
Second term .....	" " " " " " .....	" 7.476
Third term .....	" " " " " " .....	" 7.488
Fourth term .....	" " " " " " .....	" 4.682
Fifth term.....	" " " " " " .....	" 3.172
Sixth term.....	" " " " " " .....	" 3.861
Seventh term.....	" " " " " " .....	" 5.917
Eight term .....	" " " " " " .....	" 5.896

Such statements as these cannot be made to coincide exactly with the average of the price of the quantities actually received and expended; yet as we fixed the same price on each side of the accounts there cannot be any difference left between the two. That portion of rice which was sold in different localities does not come under these valuations. It was accounted for in the statement of local business at the actual selling price.

There occurred also in the actual transactions purchases of rice and Mexican dollars and sales of the same. These accounts cancel each other, yet prices differed much at different places and times, and this produced a considerable discrepancy. This is inevitable in such financial operations. If we were to mention in every fiscal term the loss thus incurred and gain thus obtained, we should see a large item in the budget; but virtually these accounts cancel each other. So in rendering these actual accounts we have omitted these items from the beginning until the eighth term, when we brought the balance into the statement. For the same reasons the receipt of ingots and old coins for remittance is not mentioned as receipt until the fourth term, from which time, however, we insert the balance, which proves favorable to the government account, and figures among the items of revenue.

In the third year of Meiji a fund was established and should have been used for the recall of the paper money previously issued. Since that time this fund has been treated under the name of *Jinbibu* (special reserve). Having accumulated, it has grown into a considerable sum. In fact it is only a nominal distinction between sundry receipts and disbursements of the national treasury. If we consider these from the standpoint of general finance there is no distinction. And if we were to insist upon making a minute analysis of them, our statement would become more complicated than would be convenient in regard to the general features of finance. Therefore in these actual accounts we cancel receipts and expenditures into each other, and only give the result of the operation.

During these eight terms among the receipts in each were a great number of entries of what is called *Yenno*. Among disbursements were many cases of what is known as *Tsukin*. We will briefly state the actual circumstances attendant upon them. Most of the *yenno* were caused by delay in payments to the government. Many of the *tsukin* were not actually delay of paying what was due from the government, but were mostly renderings of actual accounts of sums

which had been previously disbursed for temporary expediency. These confusions arose out of the facts that, during the early days of the restoration everything was in a state of infancy, and before we had had a chance to settle our affairs we were met with that great reconstruction, namely, the abolition of the *Han* and establishment of *Ken*; and creations and abolitions, separations and unions of *Kuwan*, *Sho*, *Fu* and *Ken* were numerous and constant. Owing to these changes, the rules of rendering accounts were amended in many respects, and the affairs of different *Kuwan* and *Cho* became considerably intermingled; and each differed from the other in regard to the length of the fiscal term.

We will now proceed to explain the outline of the analysis of items in these actual accounts. Among revenues and expenditures there are ordinary and extraordinary. These are the two great divisions. The ordinary revenues are subdivided into seven sections, and extend from the first to the seventh in the accompanying table. (See bk. 1, ch. 1, pt. 1.) The extraordinary revenues are subdivided into five sections, and extend from the eighth to the twelfth. In like manner the ordinary expenditures are subdivided into nine sections, and extend from the first to the ninth. The extraordinary expenditures are subdivided into seven sections, and extend from the tenth to the sixteenth. If we had given an analysis of each section of revenue and expenditure, we should arrive at a great many items. In compiling these actual accounts we collected similar items under one head and made of them one section.

In the twelve preceding paragraphs we have briefly stated the manner and order adopted in rendering the actual accounts for the eight fiscal years considered, and we will here shortly state how this report is arranged and what it contains. It consists of two books and an appendix. In the first book we shall see an agglomeration of the revenues and expenditures for these eight fiscal years, similar items arranged under one head, and important financial affairs stated. In the second book we shall find explanations of every section of the actual accounts for each of the eight fiscal years, and a comparison of actual accounts with each other for the last three terms, namely, the sixth, seventh and eighth, and explanations thereof. The appendix details the successive reforms in the management of finance, and creations, abolitions, separations and unions of *Kuwan* and *Cho*.

The contents of the first book are:—

I.—Statistics of the actual accounts of revenues during the eight fiscal terms.

II.—Statistics of the actual accounts of expenditures during the eight fiscal terms.

III.—Important events in relation to the national finance.

The contents of the second book are:—

I.—The actual accounts of the revenues and expenditures for the first term, extending from the 12th month of the 8d year of Keio (January, 1868) to the 1st month of the 2d year of Meiji (February 11th, 1869).

II.—The actual accounts of the revenues and expenditures for the second term, extending from the 1st month of the 2d year of Meiji (February 11th, 1869) to the 10th month of the same year (November 4th, 1869).

III.—The actual accounts of the revenues and expenditures for the third term, extending from the 10th month of the 2d year of Meiji (November 4th, 1869) to the 10th month of the 8d year of Meiji (October 25th, 1870).

IV.—The actual accounts of the revenues and expenditures for the fourth term, extending from the 10th month of the 8d year of Meiji (October 25th, 1870) to the 10th month of the 4th year of Meiji (November 12th, 1871).

V.—The actual accounts of the revenues and expenditures for the fifth term, extending from the 10th month of the 4th year of Meiji (November 12th, 1871) to the 1st month of the 6th year of Meiji (January, 1873).

VI.—The actual accounts of the revenues and expenditures for the sixth term, extending from the 1st month of the 6th year of Meiji (January, 1873) to the 1st month of the 7th year of Meiji (January, 1874).

VII.—The actual accounts of the revenues and expenditures for the seventh term, extending from the 1st month of the 7th year of Meiji (January, 1874) to the 1st month of the 8th year of Meiji (January, 1875).

VIII.—The actual accounts of the revenues and expenditures for the eighth term, extending from the 1st month of

the 8th year of Meiji (January, 1875) to the 6th month of the same year (June, 1875).

IX.—Comparison of the actual accounts of the last three terms, being between the 1st month of the 6th year of Meiji (January, 1873) and the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji (June, 1875).

The contents of the appendix are:—

I.—The order observed in dressing these actual accounts.

II.—Rules for receipts and disbursements in financial management.

III.—Creations, abolitions, separations and unions of Kawan, Sho, Fu and Ken.

### BOOK I.

[This refers to statistics of the actual revenues and expenditures for the eight fiscal periods, and important facts in connection with the national finance.]

### CHAPTER I.

#### STATISTICS OF THE ACTUAL RECEIPTS FOR THE EIGHT FISCAL YEARS.

#### PART I.

The grand total of the government revenues collected during the period between the 1st year of Meiji (1868) and the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji (June, 1875), amounts to Yen 406,350,853.516, of which the sum of Yen 282,870,871.982 comprises ordinary, and the sum of Yen 123,479,981.584 extraordinary, receipts. Subjoined is a table showing the totals of the revenues collected from various sources during these eight fiscal terms.

TABLE No. 1.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE ACTUAL ACCOUNTS OF THE REVENUES FOR THE EIGHT FISCAL TERMS, EXTENDING FROM THE 1ST YEAR OF MEIJI TO THE 6TH MONTH OF THE 8TH YEAR OF MEIJI.

Section I. Land tax ..... Yen. 282,711,465.416

Section II. Customs, etc. .... 8,497,665.084

Section III. Tax on hereditary and other pensions 2,949,839.147

Tax on official incomes ..... 123,844.360

Mining tax ..... 44,492.287

Dues from foreigners 786,767.484

Tax on saké, etc. .... 3,971,148.830

Stamps on legal documents ..... 1,006,497.051

Postage stamps ..... 894,888.841

Tax on silk-worms, egg cards and raw silk ..... 1,034,892.209

Stamps on silk .... 98,075.712

Ship licenses ..... 228,938.719

Anchorage dues .... 151,313.752

Tax on male and female servants, carriages, etc., horses, kago and pleasure boats .. 142,187.660

Tax on vehicles .... 96,578.207

Shooting licenses .. 90,242.132

Horse and cattle dealers' licenses ..... 141,058.521

Tax on shibori abura 147,666.550

Miscellaneous taxes, such as unjio or miyaga, etc. .... 4,354,102.211

Tribute from Riu Kiu Han ..... 127,236.513

Koku Yeki Kin ..... 841,360.481

17,215,520.717

Section IV.

Receipts from mines 1,379,250.893

Receipts from railways ..... 1,554,817.469

Receipts from telegraphs ..... 250,563.230

Receipts from iron factories, dock-yards and other manufactories .... 1,217,278.674

Receipts from mint .. 2,374,192.643

6,776,102.899

Section V.

Repayment of ordinary loans, advances for relief, etc. .... 2,551,952.366

<sup>1</sup> See Part IV.

#### Section VI.

Sales of wild horses in government domains and sundry produce ..... 265,487.932

Sales of land, wood, stone, etc. .... 2,536,003.938

Sales of houses and warehouses ..... 518,815.392

Sales of ships ..... 406,302.665

Sales of mines and government works 820,200.000

Sales of articles not needed by government ..... 2,019,376.326

Various fees on governmental advances ..... 290,031.000

6,286,320.253

#### Section VII.

Quantity of rice received over the legal measure or weight ..... 1,011,047.206

Profit on coining gold and silver ..... 2,863,102.004

Levy on Han for war fund ..... 2,794,357.129

Levy for building a palace for the Empress dowager .... 133,254.229

Interest on temporary loans ..... 736,516.684

Fines, confiscations and receipts from the work done in convict prisons .. 808,311.409

Miscellaneous receipts ..... 885,356.586

8,731,945.247

Yen.

Total of ordinary revenues ..... 282,870,871.982

#### Section VIII.

Issue of paper money by Daijo Kawan .. 48,000,000.000

Issue of paper money by Minbusho .... 7,500,000.000

Issue of paper money by Finance and Colonization Departments ..... 9,300,000.000

Issue of new paper money ..... 8,525,444.100

73,325,444.100

#### Section IX.

Temporary, domestic and foreign loans .. 5,643,983.568

Old foreign loan .... 4,782,400.000

New foreign loan .... 10,833,600.000

21,259,982.568

#### Section X.

Repayment of loans for encouragement of industries .... 11,283,424.719

Repayment of loans advanced in proportion to the amount of rice production ..... 4,195,053.462

Interest on loans due to the government and profit from Ten-sho-shi .... 945,273.985

Repayment of advances for brick buildings in Tokio Fu ..... 109,937.802

16,533,689.968

#### Section XI.

Fund for redemption of paper money issued by the Han .. 3,455,048.914

Funds left by Baku-fu and Han ..... 2,162,674.243

Reserves of Han .... 1,533,809.277

Repayment of, and interest on advances made by Baku-fu and Han 1,481,202.168

Ku Han Guwni Koku Sai Tsui Cho ..... 448,830.912

9,071,565.514

#### Section XII.

Donations from daimios and other individuals ..... 1,280,147.955

Fines on Han ..... 504,232.750

Hikioi<sup>2</sup> and recovery

<sup>1</sup> See Part XI of this chapter.  
<sup>2</sup> See Part XII of this chapter.

of lost money....	274,930.072
Receipts from gov- ernment steamers	444,740.817
Indemnity received received from the Chinese govern- ment.....	785,247.790
	3,289,299.384
Total of special receipts.....	123,479,981.534
Grand total of receipts.....	406,350,853.516

Before proceeding to give a statement in outline of each section of the above table, it will be necessary to make some explanations in regard to certain items in some of the sections.

The tax on saké, etc., mentioned in the 5th item of Section III, being imposed according to the revised rule, was collected since the 5th year of Meiji (1875), and the dues levied prior to that year were not included, having been collected under the name of *unjio* or *miyoya* (dues for distillation), and accounted for under that head. Item 8 refers to the tax on silk worms' egg cards and raw silk; item 9, to the stamp tax on silk. An impost on silk had been collected before the rule was revised. The stamp tax on the article was raised after the revision, or since the 6th year of Meiji (1878). Item 12 refers to the tax on male and female servants, carriages, etc., horses, kago and pleasure boats. The tax on vehicles in item 13, was collected from the 1st month of the 8th year of Meiji (January, 1875) on an amended basis. By this reform the tax on male and female servants, carriages etc., kago and pleasure boats was abolished. The interest on the temporary loans due to the government described in item 5 of the Section VII, was paid on funds advanced to banks, etc., to help the circulation of money; and the interest on Chitau-roku and other bonds purchased by the government at the request of their holders, is also included in this item. The principal from which the above two items accrue, is considered permanently as one sum; so that receipts in, and disbursements from, it are not specially accounted for here.

The old foreign loan mentioned in item 2, and the new foreign loan in item 8 of Section IX, are not exactly in accordance with the nominal value of the bonds, inasmuch as the issue price of the old was 98, and that of the new 92½; one pound sterling being considered equivalent to Yen 4.88 in both cases.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, February 11th, 1880.

The previously alleged discovery of Russian correspondence at Cabul has been officially confirmed.

The New York *Herald* is subscribing to the Irish Relief Fund.

(From the *Straits Times*.)

London, 19th January.—It is expected that Her Majesty will open Parliament in person.

The first Lord of the Admiralty has disavowed any intention on the part of the Government to annex Afghanistan.

The *Invalide Russe* asserts that the measures which are being taken in Poland are of a purely pacific nature.

The affray at Kalisch is officially denied.

London, 20th January.—The Council of the Russian Empire is discussing the advisability of introducing Municipalities.

London, 22nd January.—The Turkomans have defeated the Russians at Chikilar.

The Home-rule Members have resolved to assume an independent attitude in Parliament, and have passed a vote of sympathy with the Irish peasantry.

London, 23rd January.—In the Federal Council, Prince Bismarck has introduced a bill to increase the German army by 60,000 men. He urges that the strength of the neighbouring states justifies and necessitates this proceeding.

The report of the Russian defeat is not yet confirmed.

London, 24th January.—Sir William Robinson, the late Governor of the Straits Settlements, has been appointed Governor of Western Australia.

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 2ND MONTH, 14TH DAY, DO-YO-DI.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

##### DIED.

On the 12th of February, at his residence, 68, Bluff, Capt. G. T. M. CURVIS, R.N., aged 53.

The O. & O. steamer *Belgie* arrived from San Francisco on Sunday last, and was followed by the M.M. steamer *Tanis* on Thursday morning. The *Volga* left for Hongkong with the home mails on Monday at 9 a.m., and the P. & O. steamer *Sunda*, for same destination, to-day at noon. The mail for San Francisco, per P. M. steamer *City of Tokio*, will close at 11.30 p.m. on Monday.

The French ironclad man-of-war *Thémis*, flying the Flag of Admiral Duperré, in command of the squadron of the Republic in the waters of the Eastern Pacific, has arrived at Singapore. The official landing of the Admiral took place on the 25th of January.

The esteem in which Mr. Marcus Flowers, Her Majesty's Consul in Hiogo, is held by his fellow residents has been practically shown on the occasion of his departure for Europe. On Saturday last he met, by invitation, a number of the most influential members of the foreign community, who presented him with an address expressing all sorts of good will. The document was accompanied by a valuable testimonial.

It seems more probable than ever that the young Teuton Prince who was so lately the guest of the Japanese sovereign and nation in the capital of this empire, will soon stand in the direct order of succession to the throne of the Kaisers. His elder brother is a delicate lad; and, even if he lives, it may be deemed advisable, in pursuance of the policy of modern and consolidated Germany, to make his brother presumptive head of the family. We read in home papers that the eldest son of the Crown Prince, and grandson of the Queen of England, Prince Wilhelm, has met with an accident. While skating he fell and severely injured his foot, which a year ago was hurt in a similar manner at Bonn. "It is said that the health of the Prince is not very strong, and that it is intended to give Prince Heinrich, his younger brother, a political education in case of his being called upon to succeed to the throne."

Although the gates of the profession of medicine in Europe have been occasionally, though reluctantly, opened to the passage of women, the stony paths of the Law Courts are not yet to be trodden by the feet of "sweet girl graduates with golden hair." The Council of the Incorporated Law Society has replied, to the application of a lady candidate for solicitorial examination, that the members "do not feel themselves at liberty to accept the notice of any woman." A request of another young lady to be admitted to the preliminary examination at one of the Inns of Court has met with a direct and emphatic refusal.

Punch recently suggested that the editors of the Yokohama newspapers should go out and perform the laudable work of mutual extermination. The difficulty is only to find perfect unanimity on the part of the persons who would be principally concerned, and probably chiefly interested in the transaction. Our French *confrères* even, while perfectly, willing to destroy each other, have not agreed how to do it; though one would opine that a couple of bottles of that abominable which plays a part in the pending suit for defamation, consumed with becom-



ing rapidly, might prove as satisfactorily lethal as duelling pistols. In the not very distant French colony of Saigon there has been a disagreement between the rival conductors of two local journals. It differs from the *Courrier-Echo* episode principally in the fact that one *réducteur*, meeting the other in a *Café*, assaulted him. In other respects it is not dissimilar to the quarrel which now awakens a languid interest in the French community of this locality. One man professed a desire to fight: the other declined; and now the matter is to be decided by a tribunal in Saigon.

On the evening of Thursday, the 12th instant, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a very fair audience assembled at the hall of the Tokio Christian Association, to listen to a lecture on Micronesia and the Micronesians by Rev. L. H. Gulick, M.D., of Yokohama. The lecturer began by saying that Micronesia is a name applied to the groups of small islands, situated in that part of the Pacific Ocean, lying north of the equator and west of the one hundred and eightieth meridian, and embracing several groups, of which the most important are the Ladrões, Caroline, Marshall and Gilbert. These islands, as regards their geology, are of two kinds, basaltic and coral. The manner in which the coral islands were formed on the sides and summits of submerged islands, was very clearly described, with the assistance of diagrams. Several varieties of coral were exhibited, some of which, were very beautiful. The natives of these islands differ, in many respects, from those of the islands lying south of the equator, who are really negroes; and also from those living in Polynesia, which lies to the east of Micronesia. Their appearance and customs, and many words in their languages seem to indicate that they may be remotely connected with the inhabitants of Japan, and the comparative study of the Japanese language and the languages spoken on these islands would be a very interesting one. The inhabitants of the various groups do not use the same language; but on islands lying only two or three hundred miles apart, languages are used so different, that the inhabitants of other islands cannot understand them. The dress of the people is chiefly cocoa-nut oil; but on special occasions, an apology for clothing is worn, which is, however, more for ornament than use. Two or three dress suits of the natives were exhibited, which were quite unique in style. The food of the people consists of fish, rats, bread-fruit, yams, bananas, etc. The people living on the island, where Dr. Gulick resided for many years, were never cannibals. Notwithstanding the very low mental and moral condition of these islanders, when they were first visited by missionaries, yet it has been conclusively shown that they were not in so low a state, that the Gospel of Christ could not raise them to a condition of Christian civilization. Of this fact their numerous churches and schools, and the consistent lives of thousands of the Christian natives of these islands, at the present day, are indisputable proofs.—[Communicated.]

The annual meeting of the Yokohama Fire Brigade was held on Monday afternoon, at the Yokohama United Club, when the following report was presented to the members:—

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE, 1879.

Your Committee have now the pleasure to place before you the Annual Report, together with the Accounts of the Hon. Treasurer, which it is hoped will meet with approval.

The subscriptions for 1879 exceed those of 1878 by \$125, amounting in all to \$2,665. This increase is due to extra contributions from insurance offices, the amount contributed by private firms being exactly the same as in 1878. The Chinese Guild, we regret to say, has again failed to subscribe.

The period under review has but little of interest to notice with regard to the working of the Brigade, the demand for whose services has again, we are glad to say, been limited. The number of fires at which the engines have attended amount in all to seven,—four in the Settlement and three in the Native Town,—and of these the only two of consequence were, one on 11th May, totally destroying the stores on No. 55, occupied by Messrs. Hohnholz & Co. and Messrs. Wagen Frères, and the other on 23rd July, entirely consuming the Central Hotel and two adjoining buildings. The remaining fires were of small extent.

The Committee are glad to be able to report all the engines in good working order, with an ample supply of new delivery hose. The suction hose of the American and small hand engines will, however, shortly have to be renewed.

The Committee take this opportunity of thanking the other Fire Brigades, and the officers and men of the various men-of-war in port, for the assistance they so willingly render on all occasions of fire.

It is with regret they have to mention an accident which happened to Mr. Gabaretta, engineer of the steam fire engine "Relief," who, while placing the engine in position, unfortunately fell, the wheel passing over and badly crushing his left foot; he is still unable to walk, but can attend to his duties.

The present members of the Committee—Messrs. Fraser, Allen, Playfair, Dunlop, and Glenzie, now beg respectfully to tender their resignations, with the hope that their action during the past year may have met with the approval of the subscribers.

#### LIST OF FIRES, 1879.

Jan. 12.—Fire in Native Town, Homura.  
May 9.—do. do. Benten dori.  
" 11.—Stores on Lot 55, entirely destroyed.  
July 23.—Central Hotel and two stores entirely destroyed.  
Oct. 17.—Livery stables, Lot 162, entirely destroyed.  
Nov. 3.—Fire in Native Town, Honcho dori.  
" 9.—Coal sheds, Lot 172, sheds destroyed, coal damaged.

#### THE YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH A. W. GLENNIE, YOKOHAMA.

Dr.—1879.	
March 21—To Ground Rent Lot No. 238 to 1st Feb. 1880.	\$87.28
" 28—, "Japan Herald" printing reports.....	10.00
" 28—, "Advertising Meetings.....	12.00
April 24—, Bank Draft, Shand, Mason & Co., balance of Acct. 11th Feb. £17 10s. 9d. at Exchange 316½ .....	101.28
" 24—, Seitz & Co. landing 3 cases Hose, &c.....	5.00
" 24—, Chinese Shroff, collecting Subscriptions.....	2.00
Dec. 31—, Engineer's Wages for 1879, 12 months at \$70 .....	\$40.00
" 31—, H. A. Towse, Superintendent, 12 months at \$30 .....	360.00
" 31—, 150 new coats for F. B. coolies .....	125.00
" 31—, General working expenses and repairs .....	526.44
" 31—, Balance in the H. & S. Bank .....	1,153.01
	<b>\$3,222.01</b>

Cr.—1879	
Jan. 1—By Balance of Account Current 31 Dec., 1878.	\$526.46
March 31—, Subscriptions from Fire Insurance Cos. ....	\$1,850.00
" 31—, Subscriptions from Private Firms .....	815.00
" 31—, do. do. Chinese Guild .....	00.00
" 31—, Interest on daily balance at H. & S. Bank, 2 per cent. ....	30.55
	<b>\$3,222.01</b>

#### DEPENDENCY.

Dr. Eldridge, Medical Attendance .....	\$50.00
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R. & O. E.

ALFRED W. GLENNIE,  
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer,  
Y. F. B.

Yokohama, 31st December, 1879.

The following gentlemen were elected as the Committee for the ensuing year:—Messrs. Allen, Dodds, Dunlop, J. A. Fraser, and Shand.

The ringing of the bells, and consequent alarm of fire on the night of the 11th instant, was caused by three native houses on the Bluff, near the German hospital being burned down.

The 2540th anniversary of the accession of Jimmu Tenno, (the founder of the present dynasty) to the throne of Japan occurred on the 11th instant, and was observed as a Government holiday and by the native newspaper offices. At noon, salutes were fired and the men-of-war were dressed with flags during the day.

The second Annual meeting of the Tokio Christian Association was held in the Hall, 12, Sanchoime, Ginza, on Friday, the 6th instant, at 8 p.m. In the absence of a President, Mr. J. A. Ewing was called to the chair. The reports of the secretary, treasurer and librarian were then read in order, and after some discussion approved of. The following office-bearers were proposed and unanimously elected: Mr. F. F. Jewett to the post of President; Mr. J. M. Dixon to that of Secretary; Mr. W. M. Angus (re-elected), Treasurer; and Mr. C. J. Cooper, Librarian; Messrs. C. J. Tarring, T. W. Hellyer and J. A. Ewing, members of the managing committee. Several notices of proposed amendments in the existing rules were laid on the table for discussion at a future meeting. A vote of thanks to retiring office-bearers and to the chairman having been passed, the meeting closed with the doxology.

The last mail from San Francisco brought tidings of the death of Joshua Norton, generally known there as "Emperor" Norton. No resident, and scarcely any visitor to San Francisco, but has heard of him, and no doubt many here in Yokohama have

seen the harmless old man as he paraded California or Montgomery streets, waddling along with an enormous twisted cane, decorated with an ancient sword-knot. The *Call*, of 10th January, thus notices his decease:—

"The sudden death of Emperor Norton was the subject of general discourse throughout the city yesterday. Perhaps there is not a resident, young or old, who was not aware of his untimely end, and deplored his loss with more or less feeling. His well-known form, clothed in a dingy dress-parade military uniform, decked with gaudy epaulettes, brass buttons, silk sash, and beaver hat with bunch of rooster's and occasionally peacock's feathers, will be missed from its familiar haunts about town and the principal places of amusement. He was treated by all with consideration, in view of his harmless and inoffensive life, and as one of those eccentric characters to be found in every metropolis. The emperor was especially happy when the recipient of a lady's smile. He fancied many of San Francisco's belles deeply in love with him, and on all occasions exhausted his skill and invention in making himself agreeable. He was the recipient of numerous tender missives on pink paper, all of which he answered promptly, even to the detriment, if necessary, of diplomatic matters. Queen Victoria was his most exalted correspondent, and perhaps the most ambitious, for, according to the telegrams discovered upon his body at the time of his death, she had proposed marriage with him as the best means of welding the bonds of friendship between the United States and England."

The old man's full official title as far as we recollect was "Emperor of California and First President of Mexico." He was chosen by acclamation as chief mourner at the funeral of the celebrated dogs "Bummer" and "Lazarus," in the early days. Many stories are related of him, and his name was a household word all over the Pacific Coast. At a fancy dress ball given in San Francisco, the prize for the best sustained character was awarded to the personation of "Emperor Norton," and at the unmasking in the judge's room, the prize-taker was discovered to be no less a personage than the Emperor himself. The old fellow enjoyed many privileges. He had the *entree* to all the theatres, and used to patronize the best restaurants, where his appetite was a well recognized fact. We have seen him enter Sorbier's for a ten o'clock breakfast and, after polishing off enough for two ordinary men, quietly pocket the morning paper and walk out, sometimes perhaps giving the waiter "two bits," but never paying for his meal. He used to ride free on the horse cars; but on one occasion nearly came to grief. A new conductor asked the old man for his fare; "charge it to the State" said the Emperor majestically in reply. The "new hand" did not, however, view the matter in this light, and the imperial person was only saved from summary ejection by an old resident coming forward and paying for his liege lord. The *Call* speaking of his history says:—

"His early life is shrouded in uncertainty. He has said of himself that he was an illegitimate son of Louis Napoleon. At other times he has claimed the parentage of William IV., of England. It is related that an English visitor who saw Norton in this city asked who he was. Being informed of his title and the story that he was a son of William IV., the gentleman exclaimed, after a few moments' reflection: 'Yes, yes; I thought I had seen that face before. Why, he's so much like His Majesty that forty years ago he would have been taken for the King. Just such a figure; just his walk, and just about as shabby; just as I have seen him come to the theatre in London to draw Mrs. Jordan's salary before he became King.' Mrs. Jordan was William'smorganatic wife."

The "Emperor" regularly levied tribute on the leading commercial establishments of California street, and his taxes (as he termed them) were invariably promptly liquidated. The *Call* says, (speaking of the appearance of the body after death) "a glance at the profile revealed a remarkable likeness to that of Louis Napoleon. There was the same lofty forehead, aquiline nose, heavy moustache and short imperial;" the knowledge of this resemblance probably suggested to the deceased his assumption of the imperial dignity. With Emperor Norton has passed away another of the old links connecting San Francisco with the fall of '49 and the spring of '60 but even in that city of rapid changes, it will be long ere the memory of the deceased Emperor will entirely pass away.

The s.s. *Loudoun Castle* arrived in New York on the 24th December, and the s.s. *Egean* on the 31st.

The *Susan Gilman* sailed from New York for this port on the 26th December; cargo, 88 pkgs. glass-ware, 221 boxes clocks, 400 do. extracts, 37,794 cases kerosene, 50 cases whisky,

200 boxes perfumery, 1,175 cases slates, 150 kegs nails and 1 pkg. furniture. The *Alice Buck* is now the only vessel on the berth in New York for Japan, but there are two advertised for Hongkong.

The following vessels have sailed from New York to Anjer for orders:—December 29th, *Fiery Cross*, 49,500 cases kerosene; 29th, *Elcano*, 38,500 cases kerosene; 31st, *Edward May*, 29,626 cases kerosene.

It is our melancholy duty to record the demise of a valued and respected member of our community, Captain G. T. M. Purvis. The deceased gentleman served in Her Majesty's Navy for a considerable time, and saw much service on the coast of Africa, where his active efforts to suppress the hateful traffic in slaves then carried on in that region, met with the warm approval of the Admiralty. Retiring from the service with the rank of post captain, at a comparatively early age, Captain Purvis subsequently led a life of much usefulness in this community, where for a considerable period he filled the office of Harbour-Master, his genial manners rendering him a universal favourite among all classes. His fatal illness (inflammation of the lungs) was of brief duration, and he expired on the evening of the 11th of February at the early age of 53. The funeral took place this afternoon at four o'clock.

The hearing of the actions brought by Mr. Harmand, Editor, and Mr. E. Antoine, Manager, of the *Courrier du Japon*, against Mr. C. Levy, Editor of the *Echo du Japon*, and the cross-action brought by Mr. Levy against Mr. Harmand, have occupied the French Consular Court for two days during this week. H. Pierret, Esq., Consul, presiding, and Messrs. Devese and Vinay being the assessors. The alleged defamation of Mr. Antoine, consisted in the publication of two letters in the *Echo du Japon*, which the plaintiff and his witnesses gave evidence to prove referred to him. The defendant denied that such was the case, and suggested by his defence that it was the plaintiff himself who was in fault in assuming that he was aimed at by the writers of the letters he complained of. The evidence disclosed that plaintiff had demanded the names of the authors of the letters in question; and compliance with his request being refused he challenged the defendant to a duel, which was also declined. After hearing the evidence on both sides the Court reserved judgment.

The report of the Ladies' Benevolent Association of Yokohama, for the past year, shows that really good work is being done in the community, in an unobtrusive and truly charitable manner. With the comparatively small sum of \$505.35 to operate upon, this association has succeeded in alleviating a great deal of suffering of a description which ordinary charitable institutions can never hope to reach; and yet, not only is the association unincumbered with liability, but a balance of some \$60.00 has been carried forward to the current year. The report discloses that the church school, which is one of the chief cares of the association, is in a flourishing condition, and that substantial assistance has been given to the Temperance Hall, the Hospital, and several distressed persons and families. Surely the Temperance Hall can be supported without trenching on the funds of this association? If not, it says little for the gentlemen of Yokohama. We also notice a relatively large sum, amounting to over one-eighth of the subscriptions raised among the ladies during the year, devoted towards paying the passage home, of an Italian subject who was insane. Why should a local charitable institution be burthened with such an outlay? It almost looks as if the Italian Government were quite willing to transfer their obligations to anyone who would adopt them; the money ought certainly to be refunded. We wish the association, as it deserves, a successful future.

The *Warehouseman and Draper's Trade Journal* of the 6th of December, writing on furs says:—

"The demand for furs generally is brisk, and fair prices for regular goods. Seals are very scarce, and prices extremely high—from sixty to seventy per cent in advance of values two years since."

Last January we gave a list of the exports of petroleum to places east of the Cape of Good Hope from the United States for the year 1878. To-day we give a memorandum of the

shipments for 1879. Messrs. Vernon H. Brown & Co., of this city, who compiled the list for 1878, also compiled that for last year. These gentlemen have been most careful in making up this statement and it is owing to their care and diligence that so valuable a list is given so early to the public. This list it will be perceived is as full in details as that of last year—giving the number of cases shipped to each port and also the date and quantity of each separate shipment. The list shows that a most gratifying increase has been made in this trade during the year 1879. And what is even more gratifying especially at this time, the number of American bottoms employed was largely in excess of the foreign. This was also the case during the year '78, but unless there is a decided change for the better in our merchant marine, it may not continue so. But it is pleasant to contemplate even one trade in which the American flag is predominant and we will not therefore mar that feeling. In 1878 there were shipped for the East from the United States 3,743,120 cases petroleum, while in 1879 5,378,794 cases were forwarded, showing an increase during the last year of 1,633,674 cases. There was an increase in the amounts shipped to Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Anjer, Java, Padang, Singapore, Rangoon, &c, but there was a decrease in the amount shipped to China and Japan. The number of vessels cleared during 1878 was 135, while in 1879 the number was 167. There was no shipment cleared by steam in 1878, but there were two shipments by steam in 1879, one to Japan and the other to China. This list of Messrs. Vernon H. Brown & Co. warrants the inference that our petroleum trade with the East is a prosperous and growing one. It is to be hoped that if the Messrs. Brown issue a statement next January, it will show a large increase in the trade during 1880, more particularly to China and Japan.—*N. Y. Commercial Bulletin.*

We learn from the *Philadelphia Weekly Press*, that General Grant "has ordered his Ethan Allen cult, now on the farm of General Beale, near Washington, to be sent by the next steamer as a present to the Mikado of Japan." When an occupant of the White House, General Grant's trotting horses were the envy and admiration of the American capital, and there can be little doubt that if his gift to His Majesty the Emperor arrives safely, its performances will cause no small sensation in Tokio.

#### JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

#### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

##### NOTIFICATION No. 6.

It is hereby notified that in conformity with the recent Notification No. 5, ten of the newly printed one yen notes are to be forwarded as samples to the different local governments, and, after being exhibited for inspection for six months, to be returned to the Finance Department.

SANJO SANETOMI,  
Prime Minister.

February 5th, 1880.

#### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

Two or three chief officials of the Home Department are about to visit Kinsai and Shikoku.

His Excellency Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs is about to entertain Mr. Dickenson, an American gentleman who recently arrived here. Messrs. Shibasawa, and Fukuchi and several other prominent gentlemen will be of the party.

His Excellency Okuma, Minister of Finance, who was to have left for Osaka on the 13th instant, has been detained in the capital, and will not leave until Thursday next.

His Excellency Yoshida Kiyonori, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Washington, accompanied by First Class Secretary, Mr. Yegi, and two student secretaries, will leave for his post about the middle of next month.

Their Majesties the Emperor and the two Empresses entertained the Princes of the Blood, the *Daijin*, and the *Sangi*, on the 11th instant, in commemoration of the 2,540th anniversary of the accession of Jimmu Tenno to the Imperial throne of Japan.

The revenue of the Home Department is to be decreased by the sum of 30,000 *yen*, and the amount is to be added to the income of the Police Department.

The Statistical Bureau of the Home Department is about to prepare a report on the population of the whole empire, for the year 1879.

On the 11th instant, Yoshiwara, the Superintendent of the Revenue Bureau, proceeded on his annual official tour to the cities of Osaka and Kioto, and the prefectures of Wakayama, Sakai, Shiga, Hiogo, Okayama, and Kagoshima.

His Excellency Tokudaiji, the Minister of the Imperial Household Department, entertained the Princes of the Blood, the *Daijin*, and the *Sangi*, and some of the *Chokunin* officials, altogether about thirty in number, at the Shiba palace the other day.

Miyamoto, Chief Secretary of Foreign Affairs, left for Osaka on the 11th instant.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

Extensive barracks are about to be erected at Goriokaku, Hakodate, at an estimated cost of one hundred and fifty thousand *yen*.

It is proposed to construct a battery in Ishikawa Ken, and fire a time gun daily at noon.

Sub-Lieutenant Muraki and two others officers, have been ordered to proceed to France for the purpose of studying military tactics.

The Japanese Naval Hospital, in Yokosuka, will be opened about the commencement of next month.

The training ship *Tsukuba Kan*, with about thirty additional naval cadets on board, will proceed on a voyage to the North coast of America, at the end of March next. She is expected to return to Japan *via* San Francisco and the Sandwich Islands.

The *Choya Shimbu* says that a Western Admiralty Office, probably in the provinces of Bingo, is shortly to be established, and that Rear Admiral Hayashi, is to be appointed its administrator.

The *First Kaisei Maru*, built at the Kawasaki Dockyard by order of the Navy Department, was launched the day before yesterday.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

A violent storm raged on Lake Biwa, on the 29th ultimo. One junk was wrecked and a steamer escaped a similar fate with great difficulty.

Mr. Kawase, Chief Superintendent of the Board of Trade, left for Osaka on the 7th instant, in the *Sumida Maru*, to be present at the opening of the Cotton and Sugar Exhibition at Osaka on the 15th instant. During Mr. Kawase's absence Mr. Suzuki will act for him. The medals, prizes, &c., given at the Exhibition, will be distributed by His Excellency Ito, the Home Minister, and Mr. Matsukata, Chief Superintendent of the Agricultural Bureau.

Shinmachi, Takasaki, in the province of Joshu, was the scene of a serious conflagration at about 9 p.m. on the 5th instant. More than one hundred houses and eight telegraph poles were completely destroyed.

A Postal line is to be opened shortly between Japan and the port of Gensan, in Kan-kin-dai, Corea. It is proposed to despatch a steamer once a month after the month of May next, between the two countries.

The *Mainichi Shimbu* contains the following report:—"the number of ships arriving in Yokohama during the past month is 82 Japanese ships with 2,555 passengers, 295,862 packages of cargo, and 4,582 tons of coal: 20 foreign owned ships, with 6 Japanese, 51 European, and 770 Chinese passengers. The ships that cleared from the harbour were 79 Japanese, and 21 foreign vessels."

The eleven students who a short time since successfully passed their examinations at the Imperial Engineering College, left Yokohama for Europe for the purpose of completing their studies, on the 9th instant.

A certain Osaka paper states that the inhabitants of Kinsai are in a state of excitement and have demanded the establishment of a National Assembly. The officers commanding the garrisons at Hiroshima and Kumamoto have been ordered to take precautionary measures to prevent a rising.



A Porcelain Exhibition is to be opened in Berlin on the 15th of March next year. Japan has been asked to forward exhibits.

### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

#### Kobe and Ootzu Section.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 8th February, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....\$ 9,783.74  
Merchandise, &c. ....\$ 1,498.84

Total.....\$11,282.58

Miles open, 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....\$ 9,560.83  
Merchandise, &c. ....\$ 1,291.39

Total.....\$10,852.24

Miles open 47.

#### Tokio and Yokohama Section.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 8th February, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....\$6,591.74  
Merchandise, &c. ....\$ 880.26

Total.....\$7,452.00

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....\$6,603.37  
Merchandise, &c. ....\$ 686.12

Total.....\$7,289.49

Miles open 18.

### THE PROPOSED IMPORT TARIFF.

The Japanese Government has issued to the Foreign Ministers, for transmission to their respective Governments, the following Import Tariff:—

#### REMARKS ON TARIFF.

The catty mentioned in the Tariff is the Japanese weight. It is equal to 21½ ounces or 1½ lb. English avoirdupois weight; and to 604.7283 grammes, French weight. The picul is equal to one hundred catties, and the momme is 160th part of a catty.

The yard, foot, and inch mentioned in the Tariff are the English Imperial measures of length. The yard is equal to 3.01608 shaku of the Japanese Kaneshaku, or to 2.41286 shaku of Kujirashaku; and 914.634 millimetres, French measure. The foot is one-third of a yard; and the inch is one-twelfth of a foot.

The gallon, quart and pint are the English Imperial measures of capacity for liquids. The gallon is equal to 277.274 cubic inches and to 2.50363 Japanese, or to 4.54545 litres, French. The quart is the fourth part of a gallon, and the pint, the half of a quart.

Articles contained in the Tariff are classified under sixteen groups, viz:—

- I. Drugs, machines and chemicals.
- II. Dyes and colors.
- III. Metals.
- IV. Skins, horns, hoofs and ivory.
- V. Oil and wax.
- VI. Textile fabrics.
- VII. Stationery.
- VIII. Wines and liquors.
- IX. Sugar.
- X. Tobacco.
- XI. Beverages and provisions.
- XII. Clothing and apparel.
- XIII. Miscellaneous.
- XIV. Articles, free of duty.
- XV. do. the importation of which is prohibited.
- XVI. do. the importation of which is restricted.

#### IMPORT TARIFF.

##### GROUP I.—DRUGS, MEDICINES AND CHEMICALS.

No.	Article.	Per	Yen.	Sen.	Rin.
1.	Acid, sulphuric .....	catty	0	0	4
2.	Alum .....	picul	0	13	0
3.	Camphor, refined or otherwise .....	catty	0	55	0
4.	Chloride of lime or bleaching powder .....	picul	0	18	0
5.	Cloves and mother of cloves .....	catty	0	4	0
6.	Ginseng .....	catty	0	7	5
7.	Ghee of all kinds .....	catty	0	1	0
8.	Musk and musk pods .....	momme	0	10	0
9.	Nard and spikenard .....	catty	0	1	2
10.	Soda, caustic .....	picul	0	30	0
11.	do. crystal or washing .....	picul	0	10	0

##### GROUP II.—DYES AND COLORS.

12.	Aniline dyes or colours (know as "Someko" in Japan,) under whatever name or names imported .....	catty	0	22	5
13.	Blue, mineral, dry or liquid; viz: Chinese, Prussian, Berlin or Paris, &c. ....	"	0	4	0
14.	Carmine .....	"	0	60	0

No.	Article.	Per	Yen.	Sen.	Rin.
15.	Cochineal .....	"	0	8	0
16.	Gall-nuts .....	"	0	0	8
17.	Gamboge .....	"	0	5	0
18.	Indigo, dry .....	"	0	2	5
19.	Indigo, liquid .....	"	0	3	5
20.	Lead, all colors .....	"	0	1	0
21.	Logwood, extract of .....	"	0	1	3
22.	Paint oil .....	"	0	0	8
23.	Safflower .....	"	0	7	3
24.	Ultramarine .....	"	0	1	6
25.	Varnish .....	ad. val.	10	p.c.	
26.	Verdigris .....	catty	0	2	6
27.	Vermillion .....	"	0	9	0
28.	Wood, Sapan or Brazil .....	picul	0	35	0
29.	All other dyes and colors, not otherwise provided for .....	ad. val.	10	p.c.	

##### GROUP III.—METALS.

###### CLASS I:—

30.	Antimony .....	catty	0	0	8
31.	Bronze .....	ad. val.	5	p.c.	
32.	Copper, Brass, yellow or muntz-metals in bar, rod, ingot and slab .....	catty	0	1	3
33.	do. in plate and sheet .....	"	0	2	5
34.	do. in tube .....	ad. val.	10	p.c.	
35.	do. old, only fit to be remanufactured ..	"	5	p.c.	
36.	German silver .....	catty	0	4	5
37.	Iron, pig and ingot .....	picul	0	9	0
38.	do. bar, rod, hoop, strip, band, flat, beam, nail rod, T. and angle ..	"	0	22	5
39.	do. plate, sheet, boiler and diagonal or checkered plate .....	"	0	60	0
40.	do. pipe and tube .....	ad. val.	10	p.c.	
41.	do. corrugated and galvanised .....	picul	0	75	0
42.	do. old, only fit to be remanufactured ..	ad. val.	5	p.c.	
43.	Lead, bar, pig, ingot, and slab .....	picul	0	40	0
44.	do. sheet, not otherwise provided for ..	"	0	75	0
45.	do. pipe and tube .....	"	0	84	0
46.	Nickel .....	catty	0	5	0
47.	Steel, bar, pig, ingot, and slab .....	picul	0	40	0
48.	do. plate and sheet .....	"	1	0	0
49.	Tin in bar, block, pig, and slab .....	"	1	20	0
50.	Zinc do. do. do. ....	"	0	43	0
51.	Zinc sheet or sheathing .....	"	0	93	0

###### CLASS II:—

52.	Nails, including spikes, sprigs, tacks, brads, clinchers, and rivets &c., made of iron (galvanized or otherwise) .....	catty	0	1	0
53.	Nails, made of copper, brass or yellow-metal .....	"	0	4	5
54.	Nails, made of all other metals .....	ad. val.	15	p.c.	
55.	Screws, bolts, and nuts, all kinds .....	"	15	p.c.	
56.	Tin plate in box .....	catty	0	0	7
57.	Wire, made of iron .....	"	0	0	8
58.	do. made of any other metal .....	ad. val.	10	p.c.	
59.	All other metals, not otherwise provide for .....	"	6	p.c.	

##### GROUP IV.—SKINS, HORNS, HOOF AND IVORY.

60.	Hoofs, not otherwise provided for .....	catty	0	0	7
61.	Horns, bull, ox, cow, buffalo or deer .....	"	0	1	0
62.	Horns, Rhinoceros and all other .....	ad. val.	5	p.c.	
63.	Ivory, elephant tusks, and sea unicorn or narwhal .....	catty	0	12	5
64.	Ivory, all other kinds .....	"	0	3	2
65.	Skins, bulls, ox, cow, buffalo and horse, raw, dried, salted or pickled and undressed .....	catty	0	0	8
66.	Skins, sole leather .....	"	0	4	0
67.	do. all other than sole leather viz:— bull, ox, cow, buffalo, calf, horse, sheep, goat, kid and deer, &c., dressed, and colored or otherwise .....	ad. val.	20	p.c.	
68.	Skins, sheep, and goat, with or without the wool or hair on, undressed .....	catty	0	1	0
69.	Skins, sheep, and goat with the wool or hair on, dressed and colored, or otherwise .....	ad. val.	25	p.c.	
70.	Skins, all other, without hair, undressed and not otherwise provided for .....	"	15	p.c.	
71.	Skins, fur, such as tiger, leopard, seal, beaver, fox, bear and similar animals, dressed or otherwise ..	"	25	p.c.	
72.	Skins, shark .....	"	20	p.c.	

##### GROUP V.—OIL AND WAX.

73.	Gasoline .....	ad. val.	30	p.c.	
74.	Oil, castor in tin cases .....	catty	0	2	3
75.	do. cocoa nut, and linseed or flax seed ..	"	0	1	5
76.	do. driers .....	"	0	1	0
77.	do. kerosene or petroleum .....	gallon	0	5	0
78.	do. palm .....	catty	0	1	8
79.	do. pea, bean, pulse, or pea nut .....	"	0	1	4
80.	do. sesame or sesamum .....	"	0	3	0
81.	do. all other used for illuminating or lubricating purposes .....	"	0	1	8



No.	Article	Per	Yen.	Sec.	Ren.	No.	Article	Per	Yen.	Sec.	Ren.
82.	Spirit of turpentine.....	gallon	0	2	8	136.	Paper, drawing, letter-writing, writing or copying, book covering, blotting, and all other papers, not otherwise provided for.....	ad. val.	15 p.c.		
83.	Wax, bees' or vegetable.....	ad. val.	10 p.c.			137.	Pen nibs, quill pens, and penholders.....	ad. val.	15 p.c.		
GROUP VI.—TEXTILE FABRICS.						138.	Pencils, all sorts, including chalk, hair and slate pencils, &c. ....	ad. val.	15 p.c.		
CLASS I:—						139.	Slates, framed or not, and not otherwise provided for.....	ad. val.	15 p.c.		
84.	Cotton damasks, cotton satins, brocades, as figured satins, quiltings, piqué and dimities.....	sq. yd.	0	1	7	140.	All other stationery, such as inkstands, inkstones, seals, materials for seals, envelopes, sealing wax, wafers, mucilages or liquid gum, gum, erasers, paper knives, letter fasteners, and elastic bands, &c., not otherwise provided for.....	ad. val.	15 p.c.		
85.	Cotton flannels.....	"	0	1	5	GROUP VIII.—WINES AND LIQUORS.					
86.	do. velvets or velveteens.....	"	0	6	0	141.	Absinthe, in bottles.....	doz.	1	80	0
87.	Shirting, gray.....	"	0	0	5	142.	Ale, beer, porter and stout: in bottles not exceeding in capacity one pint.....	doz.	0	30	0
88.	do. white or bleached.....	"	0	0	8		In bottles, exceeding in capacity one pint and not more than one quart.....	"	0	50	0
89.	Taffachelass.....	"	0	1	8	143.	Bitters.....	gallon	0	4	7
90.	T.-Cloths.....	"	0	0	8	144.	Brandy:—				
91.	Victoria lawns.....	"	0	0	8		In bottles.....	doz.	2	80	0
92.	All other cotton goods, such as turkey-red cambrics, shirtings dyed, figured, or twilled, ginghams, chintzes, or furnitures, drills, jeans, denims, musquito nettings, bod-tickings, &c., and not otherwise provided for.....	"	0	1	0		In casks.....	gallon	0	90	0
CLASS II:—						145.	Champagne—in bottles, not exceeding in capacity one pint.....	doz.	1	90	0
93.	Buntings.....	sq. yd.	0	2	5		In bottles, exceeding in capacity one pint, and not more than one quart.....	"	3	50	0
94.	Camlets, lastings, and crape lastings, wholly of wool.....	"	0	4	0	146.	Cherry cordial, in bottles.....	"	1	45	0
95.	do. do. in part of wool.....	"	0	2	5	147.	Cider, in bottles.....	"	0	60	0
96.	Flannels, wholly of wool.....	"	0	4	5	148.	Gin and rum:—				
97.	do. in part of wool.....	"	0	3	0		In bottles.....	"	1	10	0
98.	Imitations of seal skin, wholly of wool.....	"	0	10	0		In casks.....	gallon	0	35	0
99.	Imitations of seal skin, in part of wool.....	"	0	5	0	149.	Liqueur, all sorts: in bottles, not exceeding in capacity one pint.....	doz.	1	10	0
100.	Italian cloths.....	"	0	3	3		In bottles, exceeding in capacity one pint, and not more than one quart.....	"	2	0	0
101.	Mousseline de laine, Merinos, and Thibets, wholly or in part of wool.....	"	0	2	8	150.	Madeira port, and sherry:—				
102.	Plush, wholly or in part of wool.....	ad. val.	20 p.c.				In bottles.....	"	2	95	0
103.	Reps, wholly or in part of wool.....	sq. yd.	0	6	0		In casks.....	gallon	0	95	0
104.	Woollen cloths (known as "Rasha" in Japan) under whatever name or names imported wholly of wool.....	"	0	12	0	151.	Vermouth, in bottles.....	doz.	1	10	0
105.	Woollen cloths in part of wool, such as pilot, president, or union cloths, &c. ....	"	0	6	0	152.	Whiskey:—				
106.	Woollen damasks, serges, long ells, and Spanish stripes, wholly or in part of wool.....	"	0	5	5		In bottles.....	"	2	50	0
107.	All other woollen goods, such as alpacas, orleans, lustres, china-figures, balzarine, camlet cords, and "Shimura-goro," &c., composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, hair of the alpaca goat, or other like animals.....	"	0	2	0		In casks.....	gallon	0	80	0
CLASS III:—						153.	Wine, red or white, not otherwise provided for:—				
108.	Linen, linen and cotton, or linen and woollen mixtures, gray, white, dyed or printed.....	"	0	2	8		In bottles.....	doz.	1	0	0
CLASS IV:—							In casks.....	gallon	0	8	0
109.	Silk manufactures, and all fabrics composed in part of silk.....	ad. val.	25 p.c.			154.	All other spirituous beverages, by whatever name or names known, not otherwise provided for.....	ad. val.	30 p.c.		
CLASS V:—						GROUP IX.—SUGAR.					
110.	Blankets.....	catty	0	5	5	155.	Molasses and syrup.....	Catty	0	1	0
111.	Canvas and cotton ducks.....	sq. yd.	0	3	7	156.	Sugar				
112.	Carpets, Brussels.....	"	0	40	0		Japanese standard colors are divided into ten classes, the samples of which are to be provided in the Custom House of each port.				
113.	do. patent tapestry.....	"	0	17	5		No. 1. to No. 3.....	"	0	1	2
114.	do. Kidderminster or Venetian.....	"	0	13	5		No. 4. to No. 6.....	"	0	1	8
115.	do. felt.....	"	0	10	0		No. 7. to No. 9.....	"	0	2	4
116.	do. jute or hemp (known as Dutch Carpet).....	"	0	3	0		No. 10.....	"	0	3	0
117.	do. velvet, axminster and all other.....	ad. val.	20 p.c.			157.	Sugar, rock candy (known as "Korizato" in Japan).....	"	0	3	6
118.	Elastic webbing, all kinds.....	yard	0	3	3	158.	Sugar, refined, loaf, lump, crushed, powdered, or granulated.....	"	0	3	6
119.	Handkerchiefs, cotton, in piece or single.....	doz.	0	15	0	GROUP X.—TOBACCO.					
120.	do. linen and cotton mixture.....	"	0	45	0	159.	Cigars.....	Catty	0	50	0
121.	do. silk or lace.....	ad. val.	25 p.c.			160.	Cigarettes.....	1000	1	50	0
122.	India rubber or water proof clothes.....	"	0	10	"	161.	Tobacco, leaf, cavendish, fine cut, snuff, chewing, and other tobaccos prepared for smoking.....	Catty	0	30	0
123.	Napkins.....	"	0	20	"	GROUP XI.—BEVERAGES AND PROVISIONS.					
124.	Oil or leather cloths for furniture or umbrella covering.....	sq. yd.	0	3	8	162.	Beverages, such as lemonade, ginger beer, and soda water, &c. ....	ad. val.	5 p.c.		
125.	Oil or wax cloths for floor.....	"	0	10	0	163.	Biscuits in tin boxes.....	"	5 p.c.		
126.	Table cloths or covers, wholly or in part of wool.....	ad. val.	20 p.c.			164.	Butter.....	catty	0	2	2
127.	Towels.....	"	0	20	"	165.	Candies, and confectioneries, all sorts.....	ad. val.	5 p.c.		
128.	Travelling rugs.....	"	0	25	"	166.	Coffee and chicory, ground or not.....	catty	0	1	0
129.	All other textile fabrics, not otherwise provided for.....	"	0	10	"	167.	Fish, dried or salted.....	ad. val.	5 p.c.		
GROUP VII.—STATIONERY.						168.	Flour of all kinds of grain, not otherwise provided for.....	picul	0	28	3
130.	Books, blank, copying account, record, and other similar books, not otherwise provided for.....	ad. val.	15 p.c.			169.	Hams and bacon.....	catty	0	1	4
131.	Inks, all sorts.....	ad. val.	25 p.c.			170.	Lard.....	"	0	1	0
132.	Paper, printing.....	catty	0	2	2	171.	Macaroni, vermicelli, tapioca, and rago.....	ad. val.	5 p.c.		
133.	do. packing.....	catty	0	1	2	172.	Melon seeds.....	"	5 p.c.		
134.	do. Chinese, uncolored.....	catty	0	3		173.	Nuts, all kinds, used for food.....	"	5 p.c.		
135.	do. do. colored.....	ad. val.	15 p.c.			174.	Pepper, unground.....	catty	0	0	4

No.	Article.	Per	Yen.	Sen.	Rin.	No.	Article.	Per	Yen.	Sen.	Rin.
175.	do. ground .....	ad. val.	5 p.c.			232.	Furniture, all kinds, such as bedsteads, boddings, chairs, sofas, docks, tables, wardrobes, chests of drawers, sideboards, &c. and parts thereof, and not otherwise provided for.....	..	20 p.c.		
176.	Salt in bottles or small packages prepared for table use .....	..	5 p.c.			233.	Games, all articles of, used in playing billiards, chess, cricket, cards, &c. ....	..	30 p.c.		
177.	Tea .....	catty	0	1	7	234.	Glass:—				
178.	Vegetables, dry, for food.....	ad. val.	5 p.c.				Ordinary window glass, uncolored and unstained, the foreign value of, which shall not exceed 4 yen per 100 square feet .....	100 s.f.	0	64	0
179.	All other provisions or table stores, such as anchovies, jam, marmalade, sardines, puddings, sausages, sugar of lemon, sauces, soy, vinegar, cheyes, milk, condensed or desiccated, fruits, dried or preserved, salad, oil, mustard ground, chocolate, pickles or preserves of meat and vegetables, &c. and not otherwise provided for.....	..	5 p.c.				All other kinds of window glass, the foreign value of which shall exceed 4 yen per 100 square feet.....	100 s.f.	2	30	0
GROUP XII.—CLOTHING AND APPAREL.						235.	do. plate for mirrors, silvered or unsilvered, and framed or unframed.....	ad. val.	20 p.c.		
180.	Boots, shoes and slippers, all kinds .....	ad. val.	25 p.c.			236.	Glass beads .....	catty	0	3	8
181.	Buttons, buckles, books and eyes .....	..	25			237.	Glass all other manufactures of, not otherwise provided for.....	ad. val.	20 p.c.		
182.	Collars, cotton or linen .....	doz.	0	27	5	238.	Gold ware, silver ware and electro-plated ware.....	ad. val.	20 p.c.		
183.	do. paper.....	..	0	3	0	239.	Grates, fenders, and fittings thereof.....	ad. val.	20 p.c.		
184.	Hats, caps, and bonnets, all kinds .....	ad. val.	25 p.c.			240.	Ground beans or pea nuts .....	picul	0	15	0
185.	Socks, cotton .....	doz.	0	27	5	241.	Gunpowder, gun cotton, and all other explosive substances.....	ad. val.	30 p.c.		
186.	do. woollen and cotton mixture .....	..	0	67	5	242.	Hardware, all kinds, not otherwise provided for.....	..	20 p.c.		
187.	do. all other .....	ad. val.	25 p.c.			243.	Hat hooks .....	..	20 p.c.		
188.	Stockings, cotton .....	doz.	0	40	0	244.	Implements and tools of farmers, carpenters, smiths, and other mechanics, not otherwise provided for.....	..	5 p.c.		
189.	do. woollen, woollen and cotton mixture .....	..	0	90	0	245.	India rubber tubing.....	..	5 p.c.		
190.	do. all other.....	ad. val.	25 p.c.			246.	Instruments, musical and their appliances .....	..	30 p.c.		
191.	Studs, and sleeve or cuff buttons, all kinds .....	..	30 p.c.			247.	do. photographic, including albuminized or photographic paper and cards.....	..	20 p.c.		
192.	Trimnings, galloons, ribbons, braids thread, laces, fringes, gimps, tresses, tassels, knots, stars, cords, hair nets, veils, and other ornaments for dresses, made by hand or machinery, of any material, and not otherwise provided for.....	..	25 p.c.			248.	Iron safes and cash boxes .....	..	20 p.c.		
193.	Undershirts and drawers, cotton .....	doz.	1	0	0	249.	Lamps, lanterns, and parts thereof.....	..	20 p.c.		
194.	do. do. woollen.....	..	2	50	0	250.	Lamp wicks.....	..	20 p.c.		
195.	do. do. cotton and woollen mixture .....	..	2	0	0	251.	Locks and keys, not otherwise provided for .....	..	20 p.c.		
196.	Undershirts and drawers, all other .....	ad. val.	25 p.c.			252.	Machinery, viz:—Mining, telegraphic, sawing, spinning, weaving, sewing, knitting, printing, copying, type, and all other kinds of machinery, not otherwise provided for, including belting of leather, India rubber, canvas, and all other kinds of beltings for machinery .....	..	5 p.c.		
197.	All other clothing and wearing apparel, such as water proof or mackintosh coats, shirts, shirt bosoms or fronts, cuffs, gloves, neckties, scarfs, plaids, shawls, belts, braces or suspenders, garters, and leggings, &c. and not otherwise provided for.....	..	25 p.c.			253.	Marble, alabaster, slate, and all other stones, manufactured for furniture or building purposes.....	..	20 p.c.		
GROUP XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.						254.	Matches, all kinds.....	..	30 p.c.		
198.	Album .....	ad. val.	30 p.c.			255.	Matting, china, for floor, in roll of 40 yards .....	roll	0	80	0
199.	Amber .....	..	30 p.c.			256.	do. coir or cocoa.....	sq. yd.	0	7	5
200.	Arms and munitions of war: viz:—ordnance, fire-arms, pistols, cannon-balls, cartridges, side arms, &c. ....	..	30 p.c.			257.	do. all other, not otherwise provided for.....	ad. val.	20 p.c.		
201.	Balances and scales .....	..	30 p.c.			258.	Needles and pins.....	..	15 p.c.		
202.	Bamboo unmanufactured.....	..	5 p.c.			259.	Opera or field glasses.....	..	25 p.c.		
203.	Baskets.....	..	20 p.c.			260.	Paintings, in oil, or water colors, drawings, photographs, and lithographs, and chromo-lithographs framed or otherwise .....	..	20 p.c.		
204.	Bed-sheets and quilts.....	..	20 p.c.			261.	Peas, beans, and pulse, all kinds.....	picul	0	13	0
205.	Bells, all kinds .....	..	20 p.c.			262.	Percussion caps, and fuses.....	ad. val.	30 p.c.		
206.	Boot scrapers and door mats .....	..	20 p.c.			263.	Pipes, pipe cases, and all other smokers' articles.....	..	20 p.c.		
207.	Brushes and brooms, all kinds .....	..	20 p.c.			264.	Porcelain and earthenware.....	..	20 p.c.		
208.	Candles.....	catty	0	4	5	265.	Portland cement and plaster of Paris.....	picul	0	7	5
209.	Candlesticks.....	ad. val.	20 p.c.			266.	Precious stones and jewelry, and imitations thereof .....	ad. val.	30 p.c.		
210.	Canes, sticks and whips .....	..	30 p.c.			267.	Purses, card-cases, and pocket books.....	..	30 p.c.		
211.	Carriages, vehicles, and parts thereof, not otherwise provided for.....	..	20 p.c.			268.	Rattans, split or not .....	picul	0	37	5
212.	Chains, all kinds, not otherwise provided ..	..	15 p.c.			269.	Razor straps .....	ad. val.	25 p.c.		
213.	Clocks and parts thereof .....	..	20 p.c.			270.	Sand papers.....	..	25 p.c.		
214.	Combs .....	..	25 p.c.			271.	Saddles and harness .....	..	20 p.c.		
215.	Corals, manufactured or not .....	..	30 p.c.			272.	Scales and tape lines for measuring .....	..	5 p.c.		
216.	Cordage for rigging .....	catty	0	1	6	273.	Seeds, cotton, rape, hemp, flax or linseed and sesame or sesamum .....	picul	0	50	0
217.	Corks .....	ad. val.	5 p.c.			274.	Shoe blackings .....	ad. val.	15 p.c.		
218.	Corkcrews .....	..	25 p.c.			275.	Silk, raw, cocoon, floss, and waste of.....	..	10 p.c.		
219.	Cosmetics, essences, extracts, toilet water, hair oil, or pomade, hair restoratives, both paste, and all other perfumeries or cosmetics, by whatever name or names known.....	..	30 p.c.			276.	Smoothing or flat irons .....	..	15 p.c.		
220.	Cotton, raw .....	catty	0	0	9	277.	Soap, toilet .....	..	30 p.c.		
221.	Curtains and mosquito nets .....	ad. val.	20 p.c.			278.	do. all other kinds .....	catty	0	1	0
222.	Cutlery, such as razors, scissors, pocket knives, table knives, files and all other kinds of cutlery, not otherwise provided for .....	..	15 p.c.			279.	Spectacles, and glass for, or pebbles .....	ad. val.	25 p.c.		
223.	Door locks, bolts for fastening doors, hinges and the like .....	..	15 p.c.			280.	Spoons, forks, and steels .....	..	15 p.c.		
224.	Elastic braids or cords .....	..	15 p.c.			281.	Starch and wash-balls .....	..	15 p.c.		
225.	Fans, all kinds .....	..	25 p.c.			282.	Statuary .....	..	30 p.c.		
226.	Felt for ship or roofing .....	..	10 p.c.			283.	Toilet or dressing cases .....	..	30 p.c.		
227.	Fire-works .....	..	30 p.c.			284.	Tortoise shell and hoof, unmanufactured.....	catty	1	50	0
228.	Flax, hemp or jute, hackled or not.....	catty	0	0	5	285.	do. do. manufactured.....	ad. val.	30 p.c.		
229.	Foils of gold, silver, copper, and tin, &c. ad. val.	10 p.c.				286.	Toys, all kinds.....	..	30 p.c.		
230.	Fowling pieces and their appliances.....	..	30 p.c.			287.	Trunks, portmanteaux, and travelling or courier bags.....	..	25 p.c.		
231.	Frames for pictures, mirrors, and mouldings .....	..	20 p.c.			288.	Twines of cotton, flax, and jute, and all others.....	catty	0	3	5
						289.	Umbrellas, parasols and sunshades .....	ad. val.	25 p.c.		

No.	Article.	Per	Yen.	Sen.	Rin.
290.	do. ribs or frames in complete set, or otherwise.....doz.	0	12	5	
291.	do. sticks and handles.....ad. val....	25	p.c.		
292.	Wall or hanging papers.....	25	p.c.		
293.	Watches and parts thereof.....	25	p.c.		
294.	Watch chains and keys.....	35	p.c.		
295.	Wire ropes of iron or copper.....	10	p.c.		
296.	Wood, aloes or garro.....catty	0	20	0	
297.	do. sandal.....catty	0	1	2	
298.	do. hard, such as "shitan," ebony, teak, box, "tagayasan," and other similar woods.....ad. val....	5	p.c.		
299.	Wool and hair.....catty	0	2	8	
300.	Yarn and thread:— Cotton yarn and thread for weaving purposes.....catty	0	3	2	
	Cotton thread for sewing purposes, on spools or reels.....ad. val....	10	p.c.		
	Cotton thread for sewing purposes, in balls, hanks, or skeins.....catty	0	6	5	
	Woollen yarn.....catty	0	6	5	
	Zephyr yarn or Berlin wool for embroidery.....catty	0	13	5	
	All other yarn.....ad. val....	10	p.c.		
301.	All raw or unmanufactured articles, not herein enumerated or provided for.....ad. val....	10	p.c.		
302.	All articles manufactured in whole or in part, not herein enumerated or provided for.....ad. val....	25	p.c.		
<b>GROUP XIV.—ARTICLES OF DUTY.</b>					
303.	Almanacs.				
304.	Anchors and chain-cables. Those old and only fit to be remanufactured, shall be dutiable according to No. 42.				
305.	Animals, all kinds.				
306.	Atlases, maps, and charts.				
307.	Barometers.				
308.	Betel nuts.				
309.	Bone of animals, unmanufactured.				
310.	Books, printed.				
311.	Bricks and tiles.				
312.	Bullion, gold and silver.				
313.	Carriages, railway or tramway, and locomotive engines.				
314.	Carts and drays for conveyance of goods.				
315.	Chalk, unmanufactured.				
316.	Coal, coke, and charcoal.				
317.	Coins.				
318.	Cork bark.				
319.	Cotton waste.				
320.	Diamond, glaziers.				
321.	Drugs, medicines, and chemicals, not specifically provided for, from No. 1 to 11 inclusive.				
322.	Eggs.				
323.	Emery sands.				
324.	Enamel.				
325.	Esparto or Spanish grass and other, or pulp of, for manufacturing paper.				
326.	Feathers, unmanufactured.				
327.	Fire engines.				
328.	Fishing guts (known as "tegusu" in Japan)				
329.	Flints.				
330.	Fruits, green.				
331.	Globes, geographical.				
332.	Globes, all kinds, not otherwise provided for.				
333.	Grindstones and whetstones.				
334.	Guanos.				
335.	Gunny bags, new or old.				
336.	Gunny cloth.				
337.	Gypsum and soap stone.				
338.	Hay.				
339.	Hemlock and oak bark for tanning purposes.				
340.	Hops.				
341.	Hydrometers.				
342.	Ice.				
343.	India rubber, or gutta percha, raw or in sheet.				
344.	Instruments, philosophical, astronomical chemical, mathematical, surveying, drawing, surgical and anatomical.				
345.	Kentledges.				
346.	Lime.				
347.	Madder root.				
348.	Malt.				
349.	Mangrove bark.				
350.	Marine of field compass.				
351.	Mercury or quicksilver.				
352.	Microscopes.				
353.	Mineral water.				
354.	Models of invention and other improvements in the arts.				
355.	Oakum.				
356.	Oilcake.				
357.	Ores of all metals.				
358.	Packing mats (known as "Ampera" in Japan.)				
359.	Parliament.				
360.	Pitch, tar, and coal tar.				
361.	Plants, trees, and shrubs of all kinds for cultivation or propagation.				
362.	Platina, unmanufactured.				
363.	Plumbago or black lead, unmanufactured.				
364.	Pumps, all kinds, not otherwise provided for.				
365.	Putty and putty powder.				
366.	Rags, all kinds, for manufacturing paper.				
367.	Rail-road iron bars, chairs, and spikes.				
368.	Rosin.				
369.	Salt in bulk, sack or barrel.				
370.	Salted meat, such as beef and pork in cask.				
371.	Saltpetre.				
372.	Samples or musters of merchandize, imported in reasonable quantities, and subject to the approval of the Customs Authorities.				
373.	Sea biscuits in cask.				
374.	Seeds, agriculture, garden, flower, not otherwise provided for.				
375.	Sign boards, show cards, illustrated show bills.				
376.	Smalt.				
377.	Solder, soft or hard, all kinds.				
378.	Sponges.				
379.	Stick-lac.				
380.	Stones, all kinds, unmanufactured.				
381.	Tallow.				
382.	Tea lead.				
383.	Telegraphic wire.				
384.	Telescopes and spy-glasses.				
385.	Thermometers.				
386.	Timber, lumber, boards, and planks, undressed.				
387.	Travellers' baggage.				
388.	Turmeric.				
389.	Types.				
390.	Vegetables, green, for food.				
391.	Vessels and boats.				
392.	Whale bone and fins, unmanufactured.				
<b>GROUP XV.—ARTICLES THE IMPORTATION OF WHICH IS PROHIBITED.</b>					
393.	Adulterated drugs and medicines.				
394.	False coin of any kind.				
395.	Indecent or obscene prints, paintings, books, cards, lithographic or other engravings, photographs, or any other indecent or obscene articles.				
396.	Kerosene, petroleum or any other mineral oil which flashes at a heat of less than 110 degrees.				
<b>GROUP XVI.—ARTICLES THE IMPORTATION OF WHICH IS RESTRICTED.</b>					
397.	Cattle, sheep, or any other animals, and hides, skins, horns, hoofs or any other part of any cattle or other animals, the importation of which may, from time to time, be prohibited by Imperial proclamation, when exported from the place where any contagious or infectious disease prevails; but the same is prohibited when infected.				
398.	Opium is prohibited to be imported except by the Japanese government for medical purposes.				
399.	The importation of arms, gunpowder, and all munitions of war, may, from time to time, be prohibited by Imperial proclamation.				
<b>ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.</b>					
<b>TELEGRAMS.</b>					
Moscow, January 9th.—The <i>Gazette</i> announces that the police have discovered the depot of revolutionary proclamations.					
Berlin, January 9th.—In the Lower House of the Prussian Diet, the Minister of Finance, in asking a vote for the relief of sufferers by the famine in Upper Silesia, announced that the Government also contemplated the construction of two branch railway lines in Silesia, which would require a grant of twelve and a half million marks. He said 106,000 persons at present needed relief, and that provision for these had been made up to the end of the month. The Government, he said, hoped to effect lasting improvements by extensive drainage works and the promotion of local industries.					
Emperor William, in replying to the New-Year's congratulations of the municipality of Berlin, writes that he avails himself of this opportunity to give a decided expression of a hope that, with the blessing of the Almighty, his efforts may succeed in securing peace for Germany.					
London, January 9th.—The authorities of the French Cable Company say, as soon as the cable to make the connection between Brest and England is laid, their cable, which is in perfect working order, will be opened for traffic, certainly not later, they think, than the first week in February.					
Paris, January 9th.— <i>La France</i> announces that Count de St. Villar has consented to retain his post as Ambassador at Berlin, provisionally, and that probably he will remain permanently.					
Madrid, January 9th.—The Spanish Society for the Abolition of Slavery has addressed a petition to Congress					

for immediate and simultaneous liberation of slaves in all Spanish possessions.

Three sections of the minority in the Chamber of Deputies persist in abstention.

Gonzales, the would-be regicide, has written to King Alfonso, asking to be pardoned.

London, January 10th.—Advices from Quittah, December 9th say: 'The Lieutenant-Governor of the Gold Coast has secured from the King and headmen of Agbosomes the cession of their seaboard, extending two miles inland. The adjoining territories of Afflowhoa, Porto Seguro and Bogidali, as well as Aghivri, Grand Popo and Little Popo, are expected shortly to come under British control in the same manner. It is understood the action of the Government is partly due to the fact that some American traders on the coast have entered into an agreement with the King of Agbosomes, and have leased a portion of his territory, and loaded large cargoes of spirits, which have been brought into English territory without paying duty.'

London, January 10th.—John Humphreys Parry, the eminent sergeant-at-law, and one of the leaders of the home circuit, is dead, aged sixty-five years. His disease was congestion of the lungs. The death of Mrs. Parry, from grief at the loss of her husband, is also announced.

London, January 10th.—A Paris correspondent, discussing the probability of the appointment of Chailionel Lacour, Republican Senator from the Department of Buches de Ecluse, as Ambassador at Berlin, to succeed Count de Villiers, says: "Nobody will suppose that the presence of a Radical Ambassador at Berlin would be calculated to benefit France. The majority think it the duty of the new Cabinet to give proof of the prudence of patriotism by keeping at Berlin an Ambassador who least compromises."

Paris, January 10th.—General Farre, the new Minister of War, has displaced all seats in his department of those who held office previous to his accession.

Brussels, January 10th.—The *Nord*, commenting on the dispute between Russia and Serbia over the railway question and the rumor of Russia's engagement to protect the latter says: "If the Treaty of Berlin imposes on Serbia the obligation of granting concessions to Austria, then the menacing language of the Vienna and Pesth journals is useless. If an obligation does not exist, they are impolitic, and the consent of Serbia is unlikely to be obtained by such means. But, in any case, the dispute cannot affect the relations between Russia and Austria, united as they are by a perfect understanding for the loyal execution of the Treaty of Berlin."

Berlin, January 10th.—At Krupp's establishment, at Essen, prices in general are about fifty to sixty per cent higher than three months ago, and it is most likely Krupp will have to engage several hundred additional workmen. The present force is engaged up to the end of 1880, and many orders have been refused. Russia and Chili particularly figure in orders for war material.

Madrid, January 10th.—The Cortes reassembled to-day. The Chamber of Deputies appointed delegates to congratulate King Alfonso on his escape from assassination on the 30th ult. The Constitutionists and Centralists were absent from the Chamber, but they will join in the congratulatory deputation.

An official dispatch says a Cuban leader, with sixteen officers and sixty-five men, have surrendered at the village of El Cobre.

Halifax, January 10th.—H. M. S. *Bacchante* arrived at Barbadoes on Christmas Day with the sons of the Prince of Wales—Albert Victor and George—on board. The Princes landed and proceeded to the Governor's house. Admiral Sir E. A. Inglefield hoisted his flag on the *Bellerophon* at Bermuda, December 27th, on his promotion to be Admiral of the Fleet. The flag was duly honored with a general salute.

Valparaiso, January 10th.—The Bolivian troops at Tacna revolted against President Dazza, and chose Jamaicho for their leader.

Ottawa, January 10th.—The Montreal petition to the Queen, in favour of the oppressed Irish tenants, was handed to the Governor-General to-day for transmission to England. The Governor-General expressed sympathy with the suffering tenantry, and suggested that the Irish be encouraged to come to Canada.

A combination of stockholders in the banks is proposed

to protect themselves from negligence and frauds of bank officers.

Paris, January 10th.—The *République Française*, Gambetta's organ discussing the condition of Russia, says: "without troubling to see if all is well at home, Russia has cast herself upon a path of conquests and chimeras. She has the wrong road. Instead of following the Utopian dream of striking Turkey, at the risk of obtaining but a menagre share of the spoils, how much wiser it would have been to have entered upon transformation at home. Her best policy now is, resolutely to take in hand those reforms, which a vast majority demand and expect. We must always reckon with Russia, but so long as she remains in her present unhealthy state she will be feeble, and play an unimportant part in the destinies of Europe. When a house is on fire there is a decided originality in running out of doors and setting fire to the houses of others. Reasonable people at such times endeavour to extinguish their own conflagrations."

Paris, January 10th.—A serious strike is in progress among miners in the Basin of the Loire. Some disturbances occurred.

London, January 10th.—The *Economist* says gas properties after numerous variations, have recovered some of the ground recently lost.

New York, January 10th.—Cable dispatches say that McCarthy has resigned his representation in Parliament for Mallow, because he is resolved to have no connection with Parnell's policy, and also because he is disgusted with the bickerings and jealousies of Home Rulers in Parliament.

A number of unemployed laborers at Cork yesterday plundered meat and bread shops.

Process-serving was violently resisted in Killanure, County Galway, the parish priest leading in the resistance and causing the chapel bell to be rung to give warning of the approach of the servers.

Three American citizens, arriving in England, have been suspected of being Fenians in disguise, and have been subjected to many police indignities and absurd press criticisms.

London, January 10th.—The most intense excitement was occasioned to-day by a sensational scene in the Halton Garden Italian Church. While the priest was celebrating mass, a man in the audience fired a pistol at him. The church was crowded, and the noise caused a semi-panic. The altar was struck by the bullet, and subsequently the flames started out from the side of the altar, and the church was damaged £1,000. The man was arrested after a hard fight by the police, and when taken into custody, had a long stiletto in his hand, with which he attempted to stab those who seized him.

New York, January 10th.—A London dispatch says: There is a rumor about town to the effect that the Government is in possession of startling and alarming news from India, which it is endeavoring to keep secret until a Cabinet Council can be held to consider it. Mohamized Jan is believed to have been reinforced by several thousands of Shore Ali's regulars, from whom the cannon now mounted at Ghuzni were probably obtained. He has assumed political as well as military authority, and is collecting revenues in the name of Mowa Khan, whom he pretends to regard as the rightful and reigning Ameor, though temporarily kept out of his capital by forcible occupation by the British. He has sent emissaries to Turkistan, commissioned to stir the people up to engage in immediate warfare upon the British, as the common enemy; and the probabilities are said to be that on account of his high reputation as a soldier and commander in the wars with Turkistan, he will have no inconsiderable success in raising men to join him in Ghuzni, or to begin hostilities on a home basis. It is not believed that General Roberts will hazard an advance on Ghuzni before Spring. The difficult nature of the road between the Capital and fortress will of itself preclude this during the Winter, rendering an advance almost or quite as perilous from Cabul as from Candahar, from which point the contemplated expedition is for the present abandoned, although the distance is only about one-third as great. The rumor that Abdul Karura is raising a force in Kohistan for Mohammed, is regarded as well authenticated. The fact that when Ghuzni is understood to be a most important centre



of the military operations of the insurgents and is the strongest fortress in the country, as no efforts are proposed toward its capture, is held here to be significant of the existing situation of British Afghanistan.

Vienna, January 10th.—Austria has received a circular from Montenegro protesting against the non-fulfilment of the stipulation for the surrender of Gusinje; accusing the Porte of inciting the Albanians to resistance; claiming indemnity from Turkey for being forced to keep a large number of troops under arms, and urging the Powers to take energetic action on behalf of Montenegro.

London, January 10th.—A Vienna correspondent confirms the report that a conflict has taken place near Gusinje, in which the Montenegrins defeated the Albanians, but places the strength of the force engaged at 5,000 for the former, and 7,000 for the latter. The Albanians were commanded by the chief of the Albanian league. The fight lasted five hours.

St. Petersburg, January 10th.—Lieutenant-General Skobloff, Inspector General of Cavalry, father of General Skobloff, who distinguished himself in the Turkish war, is dead.

A newspaper called *The Word* has been suppressed for publishing objectionable political articles.

London January 12th.—At Cabul, Mahomed Jan, having surrounded Ghuzni with a strong force, killed the Governor, Abdul Kadir, and looted the city. He is now endeavoring to raise tribes to attack the British. The priest Moosli Alam has severed his connection with Mahomed Jan in consequence of the behavior of the insurgents in looting Cabul.

Lahore, January 12th.—A Persian correspondent writes that the Herat and Balkh regiments of the Afghans are preparing to march to Ghuzni to join Mahomed Jan.

Rome, January 12th.—The Pope has summoned all the German Bishops to Rome to confer on the affairs of their respective dioceses.

Havana, January 12th.—Among the passengers by the Spanish mail steamer is De España, Spanish Minister Plenipotentiary to China. The object of the voyage of the latter is apparently in relation to Chinese emigration to Cuba.

Berlin, January 12th.—Russia has been questioned relative to the concentration of troops in Poland, and has replied that as there is no longer any danger of collision with Turkey, regiments hitherto stationed in the Crimea and Bessarabia are merely withdrawn to Poland as a more convenient district.

Vienna, January 12th.—The *Presse* is of opinion that a collision between Russia and England is inevitable. The *Presse* says that General Skobloff recently declared at a banquet that Russia is on the eve of her national war.

London, January 12th.—Correspondents of the Press Association report the distress in Ireland as increasing. Five hundred inhabitants of Skulebog District, County Limerick are on the brink of starvation. They proceeded to-day in a body to Croom and obtained four cart-loads of bread, by an urgent representation of their extremity.

The streets of Cork are patrolled by mounted police, and the Magistrates of that city have passed resolutions, urging greater activity in the suppression of demonstrations partaking of the nature of bread riots, and asking for the appointment of additional policemen.

At a meeting at Birkenhead yesterday, the Mayor presiding, it was resolved to raise subscriptions for the Duchess of Marlborough fund.

Davitt, Daly, Killen and Brennan to-day received notices commanding them to appear before the Court of Queen's Bench, Dublin, on the 16th instant.

London, January 12th.—The largest cotton mill at Bradford, Sutcliffe & Sons, owners, has been burned. Loss estimated at about £70,000. One workman was killed.

Madrid, January 12th.—The Abolition Society has placarded the city with the petition recently addressed to the Cortes for the immediate and complete abolition of slavery in all Spanish possessions. It is signed by many Republican and some Liberal West Indian Deputies.

London, January 13th.—The Tichborne case cannot be pressed until after the middle of February, most of the Judges being on circuit until that time.

Gladstone has gone to Cologne, in consequence of the

serious illness of his sister, who has long resided abroad, and who, it is understood, is a Roman Catholic.

There is reason to believe that upon the opening of Parliament the attitude of Lord Derby in relation to the Liberal Party will assume the character of cordial association, especially in regard to the great question which the coming elections is to decide—the question of confidence in the foreign policy of the Government. Lord Derby has left no doubt in the minds of responsible leaders of the Liberal Party of his friendly accord and sympathy with their opposition to the policy of the Government.

Madrid, January 13th.—Some of the members of the minority in the Chamber of Deputies consider the explanation of Premier Canovas del Castillo, in the Senate, that he did not intend to insult the minority, as satisfactory, but other members still regard the explanation as insufficient to justify members of the minority in resuming their seats in the Chamber.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs has informed Congress that negotiations for a treaty of commerce with the United States are proceeding with fair rapidity.

Paris, January 13th.—Gambetta, Republican, has been re-elected President of the Chamber of Deputies, by 259 out of 308 votes recorded. There were 40 blanks.

A decree making changes in seventeen prefectures, fifty sub-prefectures and sixty-four prefecture councillorships was gazetted to-day.

Pesth, January 13th.—The Public Prosecutor has issued a summons for Baron Maytheni, who will be tried for participation in a duel which resulted fatally to his opponent, Herr Verhoosy, on the 11th instant.

London, January 13th.—A Berlin correspondent hears upon what he considers good authority, that the King of Denmark has informed Emperor William, that the Duke of Cumberland will not accept the latest Prussian proposals concerning the Hanoverian question.

St. Thomas, January 13th.—News has just arrived here of terrible floods on the Island of St. Kitt's, by which 200 lives have been lost. Property to the extent of \$200,000 has been destroyed.

Madrid, January 14th.—The Minister of Foreign Affairs has been authorized by the Cabinet to submit a bill to the Cortes for a modification of import duties on sugar and molasses from Cuba and Porto Rico, and for the suppression of duties on sugar-cane from those Islands.

Paris, January 14th.—The *Temps* says: Advice from Madrid state that Premier Canovas del Castillo is still endeavouring to induce Opposition members of the Cortes to resume their seats. It is rumored that if he fails he will take one of three courses—propose a law declaring the seats of absentees vacant, dissolve the Cortes, or resign. If he adopts the latter course, Señor Sagasta will form a new Cabinet. General Martinez Campos promised to support Señor Sagasta, if the King calls the Liberals to power.

Berlin, January 14th.—The *Provincial Correspondenz* denies the assertion of the *Aurora*, organ of the Vatican, that endeavours to establish a compromise between Prussia and the Vatican rests solely with Bismarck, and says: "Such imputations arise from ignorance, or, possibly, from wilful misconception. The Ecclesiastical laws belong to the Prussian internal policy, the responsibility for which Bismarck shares with his colleagues."

London, January 14th.—There are indications that the distress in County Kerry, Ireland, will amount to a famine.

Paris, January 14th.—The Senate to-day re-elected Martel President, and Count Rampson and Polletier and Calman, Vice-Presidents.

Havana, January 14th.—A grand official banquet will be given in honor of General Grant, and a brilliant reception tendered him at the palace by high public functionaries and distinguished members of society of this city.

Madrid, January 16th.—The counsel employed to defend Gonzales, who lately attempted the life of King Alfonso, has demanded an examination of his client's mental condition.

Dublin, January 16th.—The writs served on Davitt, Daly, Killen and Brennan, indicted for sedition, being returnable to-day, they attended at the Crown Office and were informed that they still have four days before surrendering. The proceedings connected with their surrender will be formal and private. Many formalities, probably

occupying a week, must be observed before the trials can be commenced.

Madrid, January 16th. — A land-slip destroyed the village of Alcala del Jucar, province of Albacete. Several persons were killed and fifty families made homeless.

Paris, January 16th. — The Ministerial statement was read in the Chambers to-day. It is to the effect that the change in the Cabinet does not indicate an abandonment of the prudent policy which is most suitable to the internal affairs of France, but that it indicates that France may henceforth advance with decision in the path of necessary reforms and successive improvements. The Government will apply itself to the realization of these reforms without precipitation or vacillation, and it relies upon the energetic support of the Chambers. It says that events have raised a certain number of questions which cannot be left in suspense without injuring the interests of the country. For each one of these the Government intends to bring forward a solution. This declaration was much cheered by the Left. The statement further announced that the Government would ask the Senate to vote the bills relative to public instruction, already adopted by the Chamber of Deputies, and which should be completed by a law upon primary instruction, drafted in conformity with the wishes of the country. It would be the duty of the Government to make good selections of heads of administrative staffs and to bring firm and vigilant action to bear daily upon all lower officials. The statement then continues: "We shall adhere to the bill of our predecessors relative to the right of public meeting, and we will introduce a Press bill, based upon the broadest views of freedom, but not proclaiming impunity, because we regard it as unwise to expose the Republic to attacks and outrages which no Government ever tolerated." It then mentions a vast programme of public works, the settlement of the Customs system, and the completion of Army organization, as tasks the accomplishment of which will worthily crown the labors of the present Legislature.

The statement concluded: "As for ourselves, as faithful exponents of your decisions, we shall apply the laws with such moderation, impartiality and liberal spirit as will procure for the nation the indispensable blessings of peace and tranquility. We shall be firm but conciliatory, because we desire not to exclude but reclaim. [Cheers from the Left and ironical laughter from the Right.] We desire to found a Republic into which all good Frenchmen may eventually enter. You will aid us in this noble task, so that when your legislative period terminates, you will have the right to say (and the voice of the people will repeat after you) that time has been well spent, and you will have deserved well of your country."

The statement was well received, especially in the Chamber of Deputies. It makes no reference to foreign policy.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

The *Tanais* came into port this morning, (12th) but the European mail has as usual been anticipated by the American. The following from the *Straits Times* respecting the position of affairs in Afghanistan is fuller than the telegrams already published and is calculated to allay any uneasiness:—

The reports received from South Afghanistan intimate that the Herati Regiments were induced by Ayub Khan to commence the attack on the Kabuli Regiments, and that Ayub joined the latter during the fight. The Herati Regiments are said to be making ready to attack Herat, where the Kabulis are for the time being shut up.

The Turkomans are said to be making demonstrations against Herat Sirdar, and Mir Afzul has evacuated Furrak. News has been received from General Roberts up to the 4th instant, General Gough's Brigade has occupied Bala Hissar where the troops will soon be provided with very fair quarters. Sir Michael Kennedy and his party have got as far as Latabund. General Hugh Gough accompanies him, and will take steps to render the communications secure. In Kabul the city people have returned. The charitable dispensary has been re-established, and the city has never been so quiet or so full, nor have the supplies been so plentiful. Nearly all the Kohistani Chiefs have come in, and those from Logar are expected in a few days. The failure of the late rising has strengthened our position at Kabul, and tended greatly to restore tranquillity in the country. Sir Frederick Roberts has taken the opportunity to offer an amnesty to those who took part in the recent fighting against us, excepting only the two or three leaders. The 12th B. C. have moved to Jellalabad from Butkhak, and the 14th Bengal Lancers gar-

rison Gundamuck and Butkhak. A Convoy of the sick and wounded was to leave on the 5th en route to India. Colonel Macgregor is going with them to consult with General Bright about the disposition of the troops between Jumrood and Latabund. A telegraph line will very shortly be re-opened as far as Latabund. Telegrams received in Kabul from India, are dated 1st January. The regular dak to Kabul has been reestablished. Pneumonia is on the increase, otherwise the troops continue healthy. General Bright reports that an accident happened on the 5th to a party returning from a reconnaissance towards the Lughman Valley. Five men of the Carabineers, being drowned while fording the Kabul river near the Derchuta Gorge. The ford is the ordinary one constantly used, and natives were also crossing on foot at the time. The report of a rising among the Mohmands is unfounded.

#### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

##### TREATY REVISION.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

(Continued from the "Japan Weekly Mail" of 7th Feb.)

IT is a general rule that every country exercises jurisdiction within its own territory, and all residents, whether permanent or temporary, are obliged to yield obedience to the local laws. Here in Japan it is altogether different, and, as we have already stated, there is the anomaly of no less than fifteen different codes of laws in full force in the small foreign settlements where the foreign population may amount in the aggregate to some few thousands. If it is asserted that this state of matters is right and proper, then there is nothing under Heaven that should be objected to! We wish our readers to distinctly understand how foreign offenders are dealt with in Japan. British subjects are punished under British law, French under French law, and Americans, Germans, Italians, Russians, Austrians, &c., all under the different laws of their respective nationalities, none of them being subject to Japanese law. Now let us state a supposititious case to show how this system might work in actual practice. Suppose that five sailors, subjects of as many different countries, meet in a wine-shop belonging to a Japanese. They drink together, become intoxicated, and ultimately fight. The proprietor attempts to quell the disturbance when the five men turn upon him in a body, beating and kicking him to death. The Japanese police hear of the occurrence, arrest the offenders and hand them over to their Consuls. The five sailors belong, as we have said, to different nationalities; A is British and commenced the disturbance; B, French; C, American; D, Russian; and E, Dutch. Now although none of them can properly be called the principal criminal, yet there can be no doubt that he who first struck the dead man should be considered the actual cause of the man's death. Let us suppose that A struck the first blow. Under the 176th article of the Revised Criminal Code of Japan, which provides "If here be a case where people, in quarrelling, wound or cause death, without intending to do so, the principal offender shall be sentenced to penal servitude for life, and if the principal offender took no part in the fight, then he who did so is to be sentenced to penal servitude for life, and the principal to penal servitude for ten years, and the rest of the parties concerned to penal servitude for ninety days." In the case we have mentioned under our law, A, the principal, would be sentenced to penal servitude for life, and B, C, D and E, to ninety days penal servitude. In consequence, however, of extra-territoriality being in force, each of the prisoners would be tried by his own country's laws, each different from the other. It might then happen that A under British law would be sentenced to three years imprisonment; B, under French law to one hundred days confinement and a fine of one hundred francs; C, under American law to eighty days penal servitude; D, under Russian to penal servitude for one year and E, under Dutch law, to thirty days penal servitude. These anomalies would arise simply because the laws of different countries were enforced in respect of the same offence, there being no uniformity between them. Again, take the case of the editors of a Japanese, an English, a French and an American journal. With a precisely similar object in view they have all written strongly against the policy of the Government. The legal authorities, considering the articles calculated to overthrow the Government and revolutionize the country,

determine to proceed against the native journalist under the 13th article of the Press laws which renders him liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for not less than one, and not more than three, years. An example having been made of the native, it is then desired to prosecute the foreign editors. To do this complaints must be made before the different Consuls, some of whom might refuse to entertain the matter at all, while others would probably inflict a fine of a few dollars or two or three days imprisonment. The only remedy the Japanese officials would have in such a case is appeal to the higher Foreign officials abroad, the absolute impracticability of which must be apparent to everyone. Nothing is so pernicious as a system that permits of persons guilty of the same offence and in the same degree receiving different sentences, and we cannot imagine anything more likely to lead to disputes than fifteen different laws in force in the same locality. Such is unfortunately the case here in Japan; and our laws, which should be equally obligatory both on natives and foreigners, are usually inoperative as regards the latter.

Some persons who have noticed proclamations issued by the Foreign Representatives to their nationals stating, "I have approved such and such a law passed by the Japanese Government, and you are hereby ordered to observe it," as frequently happens after arrangement between our Government and the Foreign Representatives, have arrived at the conclusion that the law referred to is binding on foreigners without any further difficulty. This is a mistake and is due in great measure to the formalities indulged in by the Foreign Representatives. We desire everyone who may adopt any such erroneous idea to consider if the Foreign Representatives have any authority to pass such laws themselves; and also to bear in mind that the foreign Courts administer justice according to their own laws, which alone are treated as binding upon their countrymen. Among the Representatives accredited to Japan, the British Minister is the only one who is authorised to make regulations binding upon his nationals. This he does under the special powers granted to him by the Order in Council for China and Japan which states in effect that, "the British Minister is hereby authorised to make temporary laws to meet pressing occasions and apply them immediately to British subjects residing in the place to which he is accredited, which law shall be in force pending approval or otherwise by the British Government." Thus it is that a law made by the British Minister is just as effectual for the time being, and has just as much weight in the British Consular Courts, as if it had been made by the Parliament in England; and it also accounts for the British Minister promulgating regulations upon particular subjects instead of simply expressing approval of existing Japanese regulations to a similar effect. The other Foreign Ministers are differently situated; they have not been clothed with any legislative power; and any proclamation issued by them has not the slightest influence or authority in their law Courts. Thus when the Japanese Government made the Quarantine regulations last summer, the American Minister issued a proclamation, addressed to American citizens, saying "You are hereby ordered to observe the Japanese Quarantine regulations;" but this proclamation was in reality a mere idle form, and if any American citizen had been brought before the American Consul charged with a breach of the Quarantine regulations, the Consul would have been obliged to discharge him, as he would have committed no offence against American law. If it happened that there existed any American law similar in its provisions to the Japanese Quarantine regulations, and the offender was punished in accordance therewith, any such punishment could not be said to follow a breach of Japanese law or of the Minister's proclamation. In fact these proclamations relating to our laws have not the slightest influence in enforcing them in Consular Courts, and are only empty ceremonies, expressions of good will perhaps, but nothing more. As matters stand at present, Japanese law is inoperative among the foreign residents in the settlements which form portions of the territory of the Empire of Japan.

The ill effects of the system are not confined to criminal cases alone, but extend also to civil proceedings.

When the defendant in a civil action is a Japanese and the plaintiff a foreigner, if the plaintiff is dissatisfied with the judgment of the Court of first instance, he can appeal to a higher Court, and from that Court again to the Supreme

Court; but on the other hand, when the relations of the parties are reversed, and the defendant is a foreigner and the plaintiff a Japanese, the plaintiff practically must rest content with the first decision given. No doubt Courts of Appeal exist in foreign countries, but what benefit are they to Japanese suitors? Take the case of a Japanese suing a British subject in Yokohama. If he is dissatisfied with the local decision where must he appeal for satisfaction? He has to travel a long distance abroad, to the British Supreme Court in Shanghai. As far as Great Britain is concerned matters are not so bad, but the same cannot be said of other countries. If a Japanese subject has an appeal against the decision of the local Court of any other nation, he is compelled to go either to Europe or America to prosecute it, travelling over either the Pacific or Indian Oceans and the Mediterranean Sea. Thus it happens that in civil cases against foreigners, Japanese are practically deprived of the right of appeal, which is another instance, out of many that could be mentioned, of the privileges enjoyed by foreigners which are denied to Japanese.

We have only shewn some of the results of extra-territoriality as it affects Japanese. If we were to go thoroughly into all the evils and anomalies of the system, we should have to point out the disadvantages resulting to foreigners themselves both as regards their persons and properties. Sometimes they are, in common with our countrymen, forced to submit to injustice because the other person belongs to some nationality whose law affords no remedy. We see the same offence punished with a different degree of severity in different Courts. Again, persons having equal claims have not the same rights. We remember one very remarkable case, which might well have happened in a country where there was no law at all. A sum of money was lent and the creditor subsequently broke into the debtor's godown and wanted to forcibly take away sufficient goods to cover the loan! If we were to detail all the extraordinary and indeed lawless acts that have taken place, we should exhaust the patience of our readers, to whom many of the discreditable circumstances are probably already well known. It is sufficient to say that, owing to the extra-territoriality provisions in the treaties, the laws of Japan are nugatory in a portion of the Empire; that no less than fifteen foreign codes are in force at one and the same time in the foreign settlements, and that both Japanese and foreigners suffer numberless inconveniences under the present anomalous system. It is therefore very easy to see that extra-territoriality is productive of great and unnecessary evils to both Japanese and foreigners.

It is presumably by virtue of the extra-territoriality provisions in the treaties that, at present, all civil and criminal cases are adjudicated upon in the different Consular Courts. In attentively reading the treaties, we fail to find any authority for such a course of procedure. Let us examine the treaties and endeavour to ascertain if any such power as the Consuls both claim and exercise is really conferred. The British treaty is the most precise as we have stated already, therefore we will refer to it, merely remarking that all the other treaties are to similar effect. The only articles of this treaty which refer to the point we are now discussing, are those from the 4th to the 5th. The 4th article provides that, "all questions regarding civil and criminal cases, arising between British subjects in Japan, shall be subject to the British authorities." The 5th article that "British subjects who may commit any crime against Japanese subjects or the subjects or citizens of any other country shall be tried and punished according to British law." The 6th article that, "if a Japanese or British subject makes a complaint at the Consulate, the Consul will inquire into the merits of the case and do his utmost to arrange it amicably." And the 7th article that, "should any British subject fail to discharge debts incurred by him to a Japanese subject, the British authorities will do their utmost to bring him to justice and to enforce the recovery of debts." It thus appears that the privileges of extra-territoriality enjoyed by Great Britain are four in number, viz.—1st, the right of adjudicating between British subjects under article four of the treaty; 2ndly the right of punishing British subjects committing crimes against Japanese or others, under article five; 3rdly the right of arranging complaints amicably under article six; and 4thly, the right to bring a British



subject to justice and enforce payment of liabilities, under article seven. It may appear at first sight as if the whole judicial jurisdiction both civil and criminal was vested in the Consuls, and the 6th article is constantly quoted in support of this contention. This view is, however, erroneous, and can only be held by persons who have not given the subject due consideration. A careful reader cannot be misled by the article in question which states merely that the Consul will endeavour to arrange all disputes amicably, acting in fact in an *executive* capacity. The 7th article expressly mentions the *judicial* power to enforce payment of debts; how then can it be asserted that the 6th article confers a power to adjudicate in civil and criminal cases? If such is the case what is the object of article seven? At the commencement of our foreign intercourse, the Consuls were granted the power to enforce payment of debts, and it is quite clear that their authority, except as between their own nationals, extends no further in civil matters. The 6th article evidently refers only to a mere executive proceeding. The phrases, "to arrange it amicably," and "to settle it in a friendly manner," are conclusive on this head.

From what we have pointed out it seems very evident that the intention of both parties, at the time the treaties were entered into was, in civil matters to entrust the amicable arrangement of disputes and the enforcement of liabilities to the Consuls, but that jurisdiction was not given them in other civil cases. If, as we contend, this is the actual state of affairs, then it follows that all causes of action relating to marriage, property, the fulfilment of contracts, purchase and sale, the hiring or discharge of servants, in fact, all civil proceedings except those relating to the mere recovery of debts, should be tried before the Japanese tribunals. It would also follow that all civil cases arising between a Japanese and a British subject, or the latter and the subject of any other nation, should also be tried before the Japanese tribunals and be decided by Japanese laws. Although it is certain that foreigners are, in civil cases arising between subjects of different countries, subject to our laws, yet as a matter of fact, the Consuls have now been for over twenty years delivering judgments without any authority and exercising a jurisdiction to which they are not entitled. All this mischief has been occasioned through the carelessness of the Shōgunate officials in not claiming their strict rights under the treaties; but at the same time it was a very discreditable procedure on the part of the Foreign Powers to usurp an authority for which they had no warrant. However, as we have already explained, towards the close of the Shōgunate, foreigners managed everything to suit their own ends, and the only object our Government consulted was to procure a temporary peace. Therefore we will not further blame the Shōgunate; but how is that the able ministers who have been in office since the Restoration, now over ten years, and who have been ostensibly striving to procure the restitution of the sovereign rights of Japan and place this country in its proper position among nations, have done nothing to remedy the evils occasioned by the slipshod construction of the treaties which has obtained up to the present? How is it that the Consular Courts still exercise their illegal jurisdiction and that foreign litigants of different nationalities, and Japanese, are not compelled to resort to the tribunals of this country for a settlement of their disputes in civil actions? Why are not foreign residents compelled to abide by our laws as far as relates to their personal rights, property, and commercial dealings? Is it not like beginning at the wrong end to attempt the abolition of the extra-territoriality clauses in the treaties, and yet pass over the illegal seizure of our judicial rights? When we reflect on these matters we cannot absolve the functionaries of the present Government from all blame, but it may be that they are practically powerless in the matter.

According to the existing treaties, foreigners are theoretically bound to observe Japanese law in civil matters, in the way we have already demonstrated. We contend that they are equally subject to our laws in criminal cases. This we shall also prove from a strict construction of the treaties. The 5th article of the British Treaty provides that, "British subjects who may commit any crime against Japanese subjects, or the subjects or citizens of any other country, shall be tried and punished by the Consul, or other public functionary authorized thereto, according to the laws of

Great Britain." It is plain, therefore, that British subjects offending against Japanese cannot escape from punishment. Now offences are divided into two classes; against the community and against the individual. For example, in our criminal code, crimes affecting marriage, robbery, murder, fighting, libel, fraud, rape, &c., relate more particularly to wrongs upon individuals; while the laws relating to execution, arson, gambling, arrest, the administration of justice, &c., &c., concern the whole community, and a breach of any of them is an offence against the entire people. Now, from the wording of the article just quoted, it appears that the Plenipotentiaries who entered into the treaty were willing that British subjects committing any offence against an *individual* Japanese should be punished according to British law; but if against the general community, then he should be punished under the law of Japan. It would therefore follow from a strict construction of the clauses in the treaty conferring the privilege of extra-territoriality that, if a British subject is guilty of what may be termed personal offences, such as robbery, murder, or rape, he will be tried, in conformity with article five, by British law. On the other hand, if a British subject commits any breach of the laws affecting the community, such as the Quarantine, Harbour, or Shooting regulations, or the local police acts, he would not be within the purview of the immunities conferred by extra-territoriality and therefore liable to trial and punishment by the laws of the land in the same way as if he was in any other country. Persons blinded by prejudice may assert that the article covers all kinds of offences of every description. If so, then how is the explanatory sentence "against Japanese subjects, or the subjects or citizens of any other country" to be accounted for? It is perfectly certain that the experienced diplomatists who drew up these important clauses in the treaties, made use of no unnecessary expressions, and that every word has, and was intended to have, a definite meaning. Not only is there this pregnant sentence in the treaty with Great Britain, but similar words are used in the treaties concluded with all other countries. Thus the 6th article in the treaty entered into with the United States of America says:—"Americans committing offences against Japanese"; the 5th article of the treaty with Holland:—"Nederlanders overtredingen begaande tegen Japaners" (Dutch subjects committing offences against the Japanese); the 14th article of the treaty with Russia:—"Alle geschillen tusschen Russen en Japaners" (all questions of dispute arising between the Russians and the Japanese, etc.), and the 6th article of the treaty with France, "Les sujets Français qui se rendraient coupables de quelque crime contre les Japonais ou contre des individus appartenant à d'autres nations" (French subjects committing any offence against Japanese subjects, or the subjects or citizens of any other country). The treaties with Portugal, Switzerland, Germany and every other country contain a similar provision. Thus then, the judicial powers claimed and exercised by the Consular Courts, under the extra-territoriality clause, are confined solely to a right to punish their nationals according to their own laws, for any offence committed against an individual. How is it, when the rights of Japan are so clear, that all criminal offences of whatever nature, and all civil cases, have been tried by the Consuls for over twenty years? Have our functionaries ever discussed the matter with the Foreign Powers at all; or have they assumed that because the Consuls claimed and exercised these powers, the treaties really entitled them to do so? Have our functionaries ever carefully examined the treaties with a view of ascertaining their exact position? Why have not rigorous protests been made against the Consuls acting in contravention of the treaties and arrogating an authority they are not entitled to in civil cases? If our functionaries will ask themselves these questions, they will be forced to acknowledge, at any rate to themselves, that they have neglected to fulfil the duties entrusted to them.

The object of the Foreign Powers in procuring the privileges of extra-territoriality was, in the first place, to secure to their Consuls the right of deciding any disputes between their own subjects, and, secondly, of trying and punishing any of their subjects who committed any offence against a Japanese subject or the subject or citizen of any other country; thirdly to confer upon the Consuls



an executive power to bring about an amicable settlement of complaints brought by or against their nationals against or by Japanese, and of settling matters with the assistance of the Japanese authorities when unable to do so themselves; and, fourthly, the right to decide complaints brought against their nationals in matters of debt. Therefore all other matters are within the cognizance of the Japanese tribunals, on the principle that the specific mention of one thing is the exclusion of others. The 6th article of the treaty with Great Britain is very hazy, and it is difficult to make out whether it is meant by "amicable arrangement" that a decision is contemplated or not; but at any rate in consequence of the uncertainty of the article in question, we most strenuously object to its being construed in such a manner as would entail the handing over to the Consular Courts of complete jurisdiction in every civil and criminal case in which a foreigner is defendant or accused. Some people, looking only on the purely practical side may remark: "Is there any offence which a foreigner can commit which would not be covered by the words 'any offence against Japanese subjects or the subjects or citizens of any other country'?" Can there be any civil case against a foreigner by a Japanese except for a debt? As the right of deciding these matters has been surrendered to the Consuls, the judicial functions both in civil and criminal actions are practically in the hands of foreigners, in all cases in which they are concerned." This is not so. As we have already pointed out there are many civil actions besides those for debt, and many crimes which are offences against the community and not an individual member of it. Why should we relinquish any of our independent sovereign rights voluntarily? Surely we have been cozened and coerced into sufficient concessions already.

More than twenty years have now elapsed since the opening of foreign trade, and during the whole of that period the Consuls have exercised a complete civil and criminal jurisdiction over their nationals, regardless of the laws of Japan. No objection has, as yet, been made to their doing so and it has therefore formed a precedent which has been followed by other nations, besides those five with whom treaties were made in the first instance. These original treaties have been adopted as models ever since—the foreign power making a fresh treaty leaving out what they considered unnecessary and inserting what they considered would be more desirable,—while the Japanese Government have invariably accepted without comment any treaty submitted to them. Thus we are completely encompassed as in a net; anything not contained in any one of the treaties and provided by another is claimed under the "favoured nation" clause, so that any particular benefits derivable under the latter treaties, are also enjoyed by the Powers who first entered into diplomatic relations with this Empire. In the same way the civil and criminal jurisdiction over foreigners, which as we have shewn was, in the first instance, granted to the Japanese Government, has been appropriated; and this too notwithstanding the incontrovertible fact that the Japan of to-day is as unlike the Japan of 1858 as if it formed part of another world. No doubt the treaties *practically* in force in 1880 are the same as those entered into in 1858, but is our country not entitled to a greater degree of consideration? The situation is altogether changed. During the twenty-two years which have elapsed since 1858, Japan has made rapid strides in the paths of civilization. Our commerce has greatly increased, and the internal administration of the country has been put on an entirely different footing; and yet in the face of all this admitted progress our independent sovereign rights are seized and retained in exactly the same manner as when the country was first opened to foreign intercourse. When a nation advances in prosperity, then its influence should increase in proportion, and there is no rule which entails an advance in civilization and prosperity being accompanied by a limitation of power brought by foreign interference.

We should not be inclined to condemn the treaties so much if the foreign functionaries confined themselves to adjudicating simply in cases either civil or criminal brought against their own nationals by Japanese subjects or the subjects or citizens of any other country, but as matters are and have been going on, foreigners have stretched the provision of the treaties to accommodate their own views and purposes, and it is impossible even to conjecture where the evil will cease. We will here make our meaning more plain. When the

Japanese Government is desirous of passing any law which shall affect foreigners, it is unable to do so without first obtaining the sanction of the Foreign Representatives. For example: the Quarantine, Shooting, Pilotage, Trade and Harbour regulations, although coming within the category of enactments affecting the whole community, could not have been enforced as against foreigners unless the Representatives of the Treaty Powers had first sanctioned them. The Japanese Government has therefore in all cases of the kind to obtain the sanction of the Foreign Ministers which is, in effect, handing over to them legislative functions. It is our sincere conviction that nothing so preposterous was ever contemplated when the treaties were first entered into. Be that as it may we have stated the actual existing facts and would very much like to know how a continuance of the present system can be consonant with the idea of Japan being an independent Empire. There was nothing in the treaties about handing over to foreigners legislative functions and whenever the treaties come to be put in proper shape, even although extra-territoriality cannot be abolished altogether, some definite steps will have to be taken to prevent the Foreign Representatives from interfering in the legislative authority of the country.

It can therefore be seen that the extra-territoriality clauses are responsible for many evils. The legislative functions of the nation are tampered with and our judicial rights seized upon under a strained construction of their provisions. It is therefore evident that now, when the treaties are about to be revised, our functionaries, and more especially the Foreign Minister, should take care not to pass over unnoticed these extra-territorial provisions which exercise so important and indeed fatal influence on the independent right of the Empire. Our Ministers should not rest content with a revision of the tariff, a mere question of political economy; and, if it be objected that the time has not yet arrived to discuss these extra-territoriality privileges, then we can only say that the subject will never be ripe for settlement.

Let us, for the sake of argument, see if it be practicable to adopt what we have termed the best course, and abolish extra-territoriality altogether. This would be extremely difficult; in fact it is altogether beyond our hopes to expect foreigners to submit to all the laws and procedures of Japan (thus abolishing extra-territoriality) until our civil and criminal codes have been considerably improved and brought to such a state of perfection that Foreign Powers will no longer fear to trust the lives and properties of their subjects to their protection. Under the circumstances we do not expect extra-territoriality to be entirely abolished at present.

Now, theoretically speaking, the views of those writers who urge upon our functionaries the immediate and complete abolition of extra-territoriality are very good, but if they will only consider the vast difference which exists at present between the laws of Japan and Foreign countries they cannot help arriving at the same conclusion as ourselves. Now, when we wish to come to a decision on any practical subject, we try and ascertain how the matter can best be carried out, and then shape our views accordingly. We therefore consider that as extra-territoriality cannot be abolished altogether at present it will be better as a matter of expediency, although very distasteful, to rest content with a gradual removal of the burden; in other words adopt the "middle course" we have alluded to in a former part of this article.

(To be continued.)

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XXXVI.

#### THE VALLEY OF ICHI.

The castle of Fuku-hara was built in the days when the shadow of the Taira power brooded over Japan from sea to sea. No prescience of coming perils had influenced the selection of its site. That the strong should wax so weak as to permit, and the weak so strong as to attempt the fortress' investment, were contingencies its founder could never have contemplated. But as the stronghold of the Heike and above all as the castle of Kiyomori, it was necessary that it should possess every attribute of impregnability

nature might confer or art provide. And most thoroughly did it satisfy this condition. Southward it was washed by a sea on which two thousand war-galleys floated under the red flag, while the three remaining sides of its enceinte were protected by a dense forest, a chain of precipitous mountains, and the three impassible ravines known as the valleys of Ichi, Ni and San.

The garrison therefore—mustering for the rest more than double the number of their assailants—had only to wait leisurely behind the network of fosses, parapets and palisades that occupied every available space; to wait for a foe disordered and enfeebled, if not indeed already checked, by the grievous obstacles nature had placed in his path. By some precipitate rashness alone could the beleaguered men expose themselves to discomfiture, and from errors of such a nature the Heike knights were tolerably certain to be free.

This was the estimate of their prospects formed by the Genji soldiers as they marched out of Kiyoto. They had a perfectly clear conception of the difficulties to be overcome, but not the most meagre idea how to overcome them. Their chiefs no doubt had framed some plan of campaign, but whatever it might be they kept it carefully concealed, and meanwhile it began to be apparent that the route of the army was trending more and more inland, or in other words, further and further from the enemy's position. The head of Noriyori's column had already indeed debouched upon the main road leading to the province beyond that in which Fuku-hara lay, while the reserve under Yoshitsune had turned so far northwards that it seemed to have abandoned all intention of taking part in the assault.

All this excited much marvel but no murmurs, for the men reposed implicit confidence in their leaders. A stratagem is not the less likely to be successful because it is difficult to comprehend, and for the rest a delay of two or three days was of no consequence, since the enemy could not but be aware of the intended assault.

When, however, having attained a point westward of the castle, and actually reconnoitred the valley of Ichi, orders to counter-march were suddenly issued, the bewilderment of the troops almost engendered discontent. These apparently purposeless manœuvres were a method of campaigning very different from the dashing advance against Yoshinaka's entrenchments, and certainly the nature of the opposition likely to be encountered at Fuku-hara scarcely justified such a change of tactics.

In no very patient mood therefore, the main body of the army encamped that night, after a long day's march, at a place called Koya, beyond the forest that formed the eastern defence of the castle. There it was given out that a halt would be made until the reserve came up, when a definite scheme of assault was to be determined, and with this announcement the knights were fain to be content for the moment. A few trifling skirmishes had taken place and it was therefore certain that the enemy had knowledge of the attacking columns' movements, but when this was explained to the phlegmatic Noriyori, he merely shrugged his shoulders and remarked sententiously that the Minamoto army had not, he fancied, taken the field with the intention of playing at hide and seek.

To what then were these erratic movements attributable, if they had not been suggested by a desire to mislead the enemy? And the reserve, a paltry force under any circumstances, but completely insignificant from the moment its operations were unmasked, of what possible good could its detached action be productive? Among the conclaves of petty strategists assembled that night round the rice cauldrons in the camp at Koya, a listener would surely have overheard few expressions of satisfaction or confidence.

Yet, at that very moment, the reserve corps was almost within bow shot of the most westerly Taira outpost on the plateau of the Three Herb Mountain. Thus if the reader has been able to follow the manœuvres of the Minamoto army, he will see that while the fifty thousand men under Noriyori's command were performing a circular march in rear of the castle—a march which at one time menaced the most distant face of the enceinte—Yoshitsune, bearing off at first to the north, had suddenly retraced his steps and by extraordinary celerity of movement, so timed his advance that his columns approached the valley of Ichi twelve hours after their comrades had reconnoitred the

defences in that direction, and apparently abandoned the assault as impracticable. The consequence of all this was that though the Taira chiefs were thoroughly conversant with the proceedings and position of Noriyori's force, they knew absolutely nothing of the reserve, and were content to believe it at its sitting post in rear of the main army.

Until late in the afternoon the seven thousand men forming the Heike picquet on the Three Herb Mountain had stood to their arms and kept a sharp look-out in momentary expectation of an attack, but when their scouts came in to report that the enemy's rear-guard had repassed the defiles, and that his columns were already some six miles distant on their return march, these not over vigilant knights unbuckled their harness and made up their minds that their duty for the day had been amply performed.

The moon was in her first quarter, so that when Yoshitsune's men crept silently up to the plateau at midnight, they had much ado to escape the perils of the precipitous mountain paths. Yoshitsune, himself supported by Benkei, Saburo and half a score of chosen knights led the column. Anticipating the difficulties of the ascent and the consequent disorder into which the assailants would be thrown, orders had been issued that as each man reached the plateau, he should lie down and observe the strictest silence until the signal for a general onset was given, and this injunction was obeyed the more readily in that the moment's rest it afforded, proved almost necessary after the toils of the long climb. Thus when Benkei's stentorian war-cry burst forth in the stillness of midnight, a thousand voices simultaneously caught up the refrain, and the Taira men startled from their sleep, fancied themselves surrounded by innumerable hosts, for the noise of the battle-shout itself was as nothing compared with the deafening din of the echoes that rolled in from all sides.

Scarcely two hundred heads fell to the swords of the assailants, but more than four times that number of dead bodies were found on the plateau in the morning. The truth was that only the leaders of the assault came into actual collision with their foes, for these, never waiting to hear the war-cry repeated, would have achieved an almost scathless flight, had not their confusion prevented them from distinguishing between enemy and ally. In their panic they struck each other down with a skill that might have served to repulse their assailants had it been properly directed, and when they came to count their losses, it was not difficult to persuade themselves that they had made a stout resistance.

Beyond the confidence it inspired, however, this victory was barren of results to the Genji men. It certainly left them free to proceed with the attack of the castle, but it removed none of the obstacles that made the position so formidable. The picquet had after all fulfilled its intention since it had given notice of the enemy's advance, and for the moment it seemed to Yoshitsune's followers that the forcing of an outpost was likely to represent the whole outcome of their marching and manœuvring.

The ten thousand rested that night in the camp the Heike had vacated. They needed repose sadly and their chiefs left them undisturbed until the following day at noon. Then Yoshitsune summoning Benkei, bade him choose thirty of the best mounted and stoutest knights in the force. To these he entrusted the further selection of three thousand others, who were to be under his own immediate command, while the remaining seven thousand were directed to advance to the assault of the castle by the most westerly defile of the valley of Ichi.

Nobody supposed for a moment that this assault would be successful. Its point of delivery was perhaps the strongest part of the position, but Yoshitsune's confidence in his men did not permit him to suggest the possibility of failure. For the rest his own share in the undertaking would be even more hopeless since he proposed to force a passage by the celebrated Defile of the Haw-finsches' Pass.

When the Genji troops left Kiyoto it was reasonably anticipated that the difficulties of their undertaking would have been largely increased by its unseasonableness. The rigours of winter were never more severely felt among the mountains about Fuku-hara than in the early part of March, when bitter winds and dense frost fogs marked the struggle between the outgoing and the incoming seasons. In the result however this supposed embarrassment proved a benefit, for though the feet of unfrequent wayfarers had no

strength to preserve the tracks along which Yoshitsune's men toiled from the dense growths of underwood that hid the pine stems and from the endless mesh of creepers that interlaced their branches in the summer months, these impediments scarcely existed in the winter, or were at most represented by a thick carpet of fallen leaves and sprays, that often indeed hid ice-bound water courses and treacherous pitfalls, but in return deadened the footfalls of the advancing soldiers.

Thus little by little they won their way across ravines and through thickets, knowing only that by keeping their faces steadily eastward they must sooner or later come within reach of the enemy, if indeed there were any possibility of attaining his position at all by this route. Although their progress was seldom uniform for any length of time, they could tell that since sunset they had been gradually ascending, for now the booming of the distant sea and the voice of the cataracts seemed to come up from an infinite distance below. It was at this point that the value of Yoshitsune's forethought in selecting thirty of the best mounted knights to lead the column became evident, for the feeble starlight failed altogether to pierce the dense canopy of pine and cedar boughs, so that the riders were fain to trust themselves entirely to the sagacity of their horses.

Foremost of all the train rode Saburo. This position had not been assigned to him by election but conceded as a necessity, for Yoshitsune saw that nothing less would have satisfied the man's fiery impatience. In truth there had come upon the broken-hearted soldier a change that might well have been deemed prophetic. From the moment of setting forth upon this expedition all his air of dull apathy had disappeared, not indeed to be replaced by the sturdy cheerfulness that had preceded it, but by a fierce energy altogether strange to his character. Every obstacle that barred his progress stirred him to a passion well nigh delirious and he sometimes pushed forward with so little semblance of caution that Yoshitsune was on the point of obliging him to resign his post of pioneer. But it soon became apparent that from the source of this impetuosity sprang also a purpose so steadfast that the hope of its accomplishment made Saburo the most circumspect of all the three thousand. He avoided dangers as if by instinct, and selected the most practicable paths with unerring facility, and there was scarcely a man in the whole column to whom their guides unswerving resolution did not impart a feeling of confidence.

But never yet was man or beast gifted with the ability to discover an unlearned passage through the Valley of Ichi. When the solitude of the dense woods ceased to be disturbed even by the shriek of the jay or the whirr of the startled pheasant, and when the rustle of pine sprays or the clash of sapless maple branches, sounding now overhead, now apparently underfoot, began to be the only indications of impending cliffs or precipice-like declivities, the stoutest men in the little army found themselves instinctively tightening their reins and peering anxiously around, before they plunged into the darkness that had engulfed their leaders.

Yoshitsune did not remain long insensible to this hesitation, however slight were the indications of its growth. He recalled Saburo, who was still pressing forward with unabated vigour, and sent him with Benkei in search of a guide.

The two men received this order as though its execution were a matter of the greatest simplicity, though neither plan of proceeding nor prospect of success suggested itself to them at the moment. To go back by the way they had come was out of the question; first because of the distance, and secondly because such a course would have seemed to accuse their leader's want of forethought. Of this they had no need to remind one another, but both struck at once into the forest and began to scramble down the mountain, judging that if any human being inhabited such a region his house must be sought for in some sheltered recess of the valley.

"If there be such an one, he will be a hunter," said Benkei, answering his own thoughts rather than addressing his companion; "but I have more doubt than faith in the matter myself."

"There is such an one Benkei, and being a hunter, as you say, he will be better qualified to guide us than any other."

This was spoken with such an air of assurance that Benkei paused involuntarily, fancying for a moment the object of their expedition had already been attained. But a glance at the beetling cliffs by which they were surrounded and the impenetrable gloom into which they were descending, soon undeceived him. "By my faith, I have never had sufficient reason to mistrust you, Saburo," he muttered as he set his huge limbs in motion again, "but either you have more knowledge of these regions than we wot, or else you are guided by a light other eyes may not discern."

"Benkei," replied the other with the slow, set utterance of one that describes what he actually sees at the same time that he ponders on it, "I have two lights to guide me: one in the immediate future; the other, in the past. This has been always with me; that, to my great joy I discern to-night at length."

Saburo had grasped his companion's arm, as he spoke, and Benkei finding an ancient doubt of the other's sanity unpleasantly revived, and being moreover somewhat puzzled for a reply, the two strode silently on in that fashion. Benkei was indeed beginning to ask himself whether this vague ramble was a justifiable method of executing the commission with which they had been entrusted, and being one with whom thought and deed were well nigh synchronous, he was just about to obey his idea, when Saburo called his attention to a light that glimmered in the darkness at the bottom of the valley.

The giant glaivesman was about as far beyond the reach of superstition as any man of his time, but for all that the appearance of this light seemed so immediately consequent upon his comrade's strange statement that, despite his reason, he could not help associating it for a moment with Iue's spirit, or Hiromori's wraith. Saburo however hurried him along too vigorously for such reflections, and they presently found themselves before a cottage built in part of roughly hewn timbers, suggestive rather of stability than comfort, in part of boulders brought within reach by the strength of the earthquake and the avalanche. The inmates were two: one a white-haired man, bowed by age to a moiety of his once lofty stature; the other a massively proportioned youth, with just such a free elastic air as Benkei could recall in Saburo before Iue's death. A log fire blazed on an ample hearth in one corner, and the light of its flames showed the walls lined with deer skin's and other trophies that left no doubt of the owners' occupation.

At the sound of approaching footsteps the old man started to his feet and when the fire-light flashed on the visitors' mail, his son grasped a glaive that even Benkei might not have been ashamed to wield. Saburo noting this attitude changed his intended command into a courteous request, to which the inmates of the hut listened not ungraciously but with the greatest astonishment.

"Where have you left your couraides, my masters?" enquired the old man, without immediately replying to the others' appeal. "It may be that they need a guide to retire rather than to advance."

"In truth it were difficult to answer your question," said Benkei, "seeing that landmarks are not easily learned in such darkness as these vallies of yours beget; but if I do judge falsely, we have descended some five or six furlongs due west of the place where the van of the column halted."

"And you say that it is your purpose to cross the Hawfinches' Pass before daylight?"

"Such is in truth the object that we propose to accomplish with your aid."

"Then you can have no need of our services, my masters, for the guide that has led you so far must have no small knowledge of these mountains."

"There you err, old man," Saburo interposed. "It chanced that I was the pioneer of the march, but beyond its evil report I have not the very scantiest acquaintance with the valley of Ichi."

The two hunters exchanged glances of undisguised astonishment. "If it be indeed as you say, Sir," resumed the elder, "it is not impossible that you may achieve your end by a repetition of the miracle that has carried you in safety so far. Right glad were I myself to be your guide, for it cannot be that your exploit will be easily forgotten, but I fear me these crippled limbs would ill serve your impatience. My son here, Washi-no-O, is stout of sinew and not less versed in the perplexities of the paths than



his father. He is at your disposal, neither need you fear that he will betray you, for his heart is in your cause already, and to follow your pennons for a twelve month would be a greater gain in his eyes than the most prosperous end a hunter's life could bring."

"Come along then, my lad," cried Benkei cheerily as he aided Washi-no-O to buckle on a few pieces of clumsy armour the young man produced with so small pride. "Your career as a soldier shall commence with a service that will carry you far on the road to promotion, and by my faith these thews of yours can scarcely fail to do the rest."

Washi-no-O made no attempt to conceal the delight this announcement caused him. Bidding his father a hasty farewell, he led the way at once up the mountain side, and the rapidity with which they rejoined their comrades showed Benkei and Saburo what an efficient guide they had secured.

They found Yoshitsune waiting patiently where they had left him. By his orders the soldiers had dismounted and loosened their saddle girths, so that their horses might gather strength for the toils they were presently to undergo. None had anticipated so speedy or so fortunate an issue to Benkei and Saburo's mission, and their reappearance with such a likely looking guide was therefore regarded as an infallible omen of good fortune in the issue. This confidence was, however, a little damped by Washi-no-O's assurance that the path was utterly impracticable for horses, and that even men on foot might not hope to traverse it safely unless they were more than commonly skilled in mountain climbing. "As to that," cried Yoshitsune, "knights that have campaigned among the gorges of Mount Fuji are not likely to be baffled by your southern passes. But answer me this Washi-no-O; you that make your livelihood by hunting: are there no deer beyond this terrible ravine you speak of?"

"That there are, my Lord," was the hunter's ready response. "One may find more spoors in the fall of the year among the bamboo grass of the glades above the castle than at any other spot around."

"Mark you that, Sirs!" Yoshitsune exclaimed, as he placed his foot in the stirrup. "Deer have four feet as well as horses, and neither the colour of their hair nor the furniture of their heads can help them overmuch in their travels. Lead on Washi-no-O. We have waited too long here already."

The hunter did not wait for a second bidding. He had his own misgivings no doubt as to the feasibility of the undertaking, but they found no further expression, and inspired by Yoshitsune's intrepidity, he led the way over hill and hollow at a pace that satisfied even Saburo's impatience.

It was indeed an almost impracticable route. Sometimes the knights were fain to bend over the withers of their horses, sometimes to cling to their cruppers, and often they could hear the stones dislodged by their progress plunging into depths that prophesied mangled limbs and crushed armour plates for an unwary footstep. Yet the difficulties they encountered at first seemed completely insignificant when compared with the perils of the renowned 'Haw-fishes' pass. Here the summit of the mountain narrowed to a ridge scarcely wide enough to afford firm footing, and so steeply scarped that even the bamboo grass hardly found space to plant a few scanty patches. The soil too consisted for the most part of round pebbles and loose sand, this yielding to the feet that stumbled over those, and if anything had been wanting to complete the danger, it was furnished by the remains of fallen trees that had perished for lack of nurture, their jagged roots alone remaining to mark the places of their overthrow. It was perhaps well that neither moon nor star shone upon the hill-tops as the Genji men crept heedfully along in each others tracks, for the darkness served them better by concealing their peril than the daylight could have done in helping them to avoid it.

As they approached the ledge Washi-no-O explained to Yoshitsune what was before them, but the latter seemed to pay little heed to the intelligence, only desiring Benkei to pass an order down the column that none should halt or pause under any circumstances before permission was given to do so. If only their leader achieved the passage in safety, there was a reasonable hope that the other horses would follow steadily in his tracks, provided that no sudden check

caused those in rear to swerve or crowd forward. Of all things the most to be dreaded was any unsteadiness on the part of Yoshitsune's own horse, for this would inevitably throw the whole column into confusion, and probably cause the death of every soldier on the ledge. But Minasagi's black had won his rider's confidence before now, and as he stepped upon the causeway, Yoshitsune loosed the reins and made no attempt to guide him save a few words of caution, to which the brave animal replied by a low whinny. To him the whole extent of the peril was visible, but one might almost have fancied that he understood how much depended on his steadiness for though he held on at the same unvarying pace, his rider could feel that every one of his sinews was braced to the utmost, and that each spot on which he placed his foot was carefully chosen.

Nevertheless as the frosty vapour rolled up from the abysses on either side, and the noise of the cataract deadened by the distance, sounded almost under his feet, Yoshitsune shuddered at the thought that in another moment a hundred brave men's deaths might be laid to his charge. He did not indeed accuse himself of either rashness or error. This attempt was in a manner necessary, and it was certainly best that he alone should appreciate its peril, but for all that he could not forget that he had led his men without their knowledge into a position from which it might presently be impossible to rescue them, and that in refusing to be dissuaded by one who was competent to judge he had taken upon himself the whole responsibility of the result.

These reflections were beginning to grow unspeakably painful when the black horse suddenly raised his head and stepped forward with a freedom of gait that told Yoshitsune the point of danger was passed. His own risk had for the moment ceased, but for those that followed there was still a source of peril which if not anticipated might have been fatal. A greater or less perception of their danger had necessarily produced difference in the speed of the horses' advance along the causeway, but a common impulse impelled all to hasten forward so soon as they reached the opposite side. If this inclination were not checked it would inevitably communicate itself to those in rear with a result not difficult to apprehend.

When therefore his guide's cry of congratulation assured Yoshitsune that firm footing was obtained, he turned aside, and standing at the head of the causeway, cautioned his followers by voice and gestures not to accelerate their pace. In this effort he was ably seconded by Benkei and Saburo who alone shared their master's confidence, but despite their united care the three thousand had not cleared the causeway before the horses of those in rear, seeing themselves gradually distanced, broke into a trot, and so advanced through the darkness along this ledge where a strong-headed man could scarcely have trusted himself to walk freely.

It was an awful moment for the onlookers. Yoshitsune heard Benkei, who stood at his side, mutter hoarse prayers to Hachiman as the ring of mail grew louder and louder, or hasty thanksgivings as soldier after soldier passed the chasm. Already the rearmost man of the column was in sight and but five more remained on the causeway when the long anticipated horror arrived. It was nothing more than the briefest possible struggle, one or two smothered exclamations and then the night fog rolled silently into the space where the five figures had loomed a moment before.

Washi-no-O stepped cautiously back along the causeway, but returned almost immediately with a blanched face. "My Lord," he whispered to Yoshitsune, "our retreat is cut off. The crest of the ledge for a distance of some half dozen paces has slipped down the precipice with your soldiers."

"The Gods rest their souls and forgive the author of their death," said Yoshitsune sadly. "As for our retreat, Washi-no-O; know that Genji soldiers do not concern themselves about such matters. Our bourn is the castle of Fukuhara and on this side of its gates we shall never turn back."

"But, my Lord, to reach it by this route you will have to descend a path where more than one man on foot may not possibly pass at a time, and you do not surely propose to offer the Heike knights so easy a victory?"

Yoshitsune smiled good humouredly at the other's misgivings. "I doubt not that you will one day be worthy of all confidence, Washi-no-O," he replied, "but to-night I will



ask you to guide us without question. How far must we still travel to reach the descent you speak of?"

"Little more than a mile, my lord; and from this point the way is easily traversed."

"And is there not haply some vale or forest a little on the castle's hither side where we may lie concealed until the dawning?"

"There is in truth such a place, my Lord, for at the base of the hill overlooking the castle we must cross a ravine spacious enough to hold twice your following."

Yoshitsune clapped his hands joyfully at this intelligence. "Lead on then, Washi-no-O," he cried. "Hachiman\* himself has brought us here, and whatever may still be before us, the Taira men will, I wot, have more reason than we to remember the passage of the valley of Ichi."

About an hour after midnight the column halted in the ravine of Ieo. The mists had now cleared off and the starlight showed a rocky nook among the hills, with beetling cliffs and deep caves where the men lay down to rest, or discovered recesses in which they were able to kindle fires without fear of discovery. The place fully justified Washi-no-O's description. It was so admirably suited for an ambushade that the enemy's neglect to occupy it seemed in itself a sufficient proof of his position's inaccessibility from that direction.

When the first ray of morning shone through the pine-tops, Yoshitsune crept up the mountain and peered down into the enceinte of the castle. The Heike troops were already astir, and considerable bodies of them could be seen hastening eastward across the valley with an object that did not remain long in doubt, for almost immediately afterwards hill and hollow echoed with the din of ten thousand voices shouting the war-cries of the Gen and Hei. Noriyori's men had commenced the attack on their side, only anticipating by a few moments a similar assault delivered on the western front by the seven thousand men that constituted the main body of the reserve. The two movements were perfectly timed, and the defenders of the castle directed their whole force to repel them, never for a moment anticipating any danger elsewhere.

This was exactly what Yoshitsune had desired. So far the execution of his scheme was perfect, but one portion still remained to be achieved and upon its accomplishment depended the success or failure of the whole campaign.

For it was out of the question to expect that the position could be carried by either of the assaults then in progress. They had both been anticipated by the enemy, and the assailants had consequently no advantage whatever to compensate for their numerical inferiority or help them to surmount the terrible obstacles with which nature had environed the castle. Unless therefore some demoralizing blow could be struck by the three thousand in the vale of Ieo, not alone would the expedition prove abortive, but the road to the capital would be thrown open to the Taira army.

Even though Yoshitsune, instead of exceeding had not attained the standard of fearless heroism to which every knight and noble in those days aspired, it is easy to believe that his resolution would not have been different from what it was under the circumstances. This was the first time he had come in contact with his hereditary foes. Kiso Yoshinaka's defeat had brought him in appearance renown and reward; in reality, bitterness and regret. His was not a nature that measured actions by their issues alone. He could not forget that by his cousin's bravery and skill the red pennon had been trailed in the dust of the capital, nor yet that the debt of blood Yoshinaka's fate left undischarged, had been bequeathed to him by the foul deed of his vanquisher's brother. In nothing therefore had he shared Yoritomo's feeling of hostility to the 'Morning Sun,' and when the command of the southern expedition was entrusted to him, a high sense of fraternal duty and the inexorable necessity of crushing everything that might help the Heike cause, had scarcely sufficed to make the task unendurable. If then failure were now in store for him, this his first great essay had better also be his final one. The descent from the mountain crest to the castle might indeed be impossible, but at any rate it should be essayed, and when he came back to where his knights awaited him, those that saw his face read there a design nothing short of death could interrupt.

(To be continued.)

\* The God of War.

## DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

When these come round  
Then work is found  
For men of all vocations,  
The ladies too  
A little do  
Read, write their occupations.

1.  
To cure you, physic, he'll prepare.

2.  
Of varied hues, this flower fair.

3.  
A tooth whose cutting makes this rare.

4.  
Of these, your "household gods" take care.

SAYONARA.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF FEB. 7TH, BY "FUJITAMA."

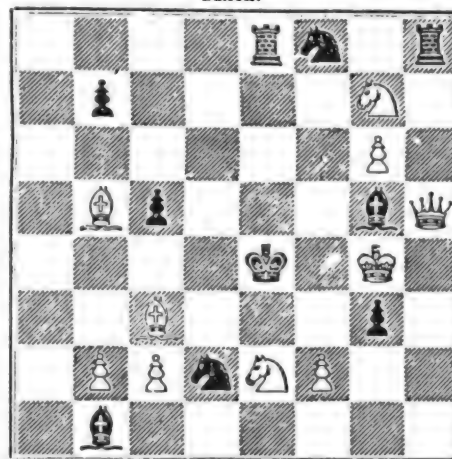
Christmas		Greetings.
C	o	G
H	ou	R
R	ak	E
I	ol	E
S	ura	T
T	ib	I (Latin)
M.		N.
A	ga	G
S	yren	S

Correct answer received from Sayonara. Others incorrect.

## CHESS PROBLEM,

By J. SCHTESINGER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF JAN. 31ST, BY John W. Lennau.

White.

- 1—R. to Q. 7, ch.
- 2—Kt. to Kt. 7, ch.
- 3—P. mate.
- R. to B. 5, mate.
- or if
- 2—Kt. to Q. 3, ch.
- 3—R. to K., 89, mate.
- or if
- 2—Kt. to Kt. 7, ch.
- 3—R. to B. 7, mate.
- 3—R. to Q. 6, mate.

Black.

- 1—B. takes R.
- 2—K. to K. 2.
- or 2—K. to K. 4.
- 1—K. to K. 4.
- 2—P. takes Kt.
- 1—K. to B. 3.
- 2—K. takes R.
- or 2—K. takes P.

Correct answer received from Q. and V.d.P.

## LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

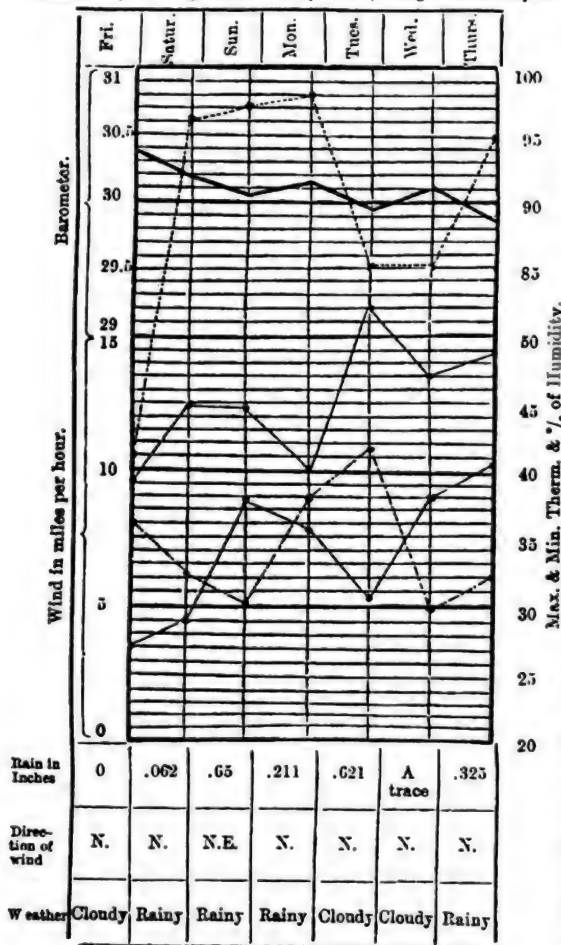
Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship; flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag F. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, 1880.  
Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujimicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



Heavy line represents barometer.  
Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.  
-----represents velocity of wind  
.....percentage of humidity  
Max. velocity of wind 20 miles per hour on Tuesday, 11 a.m.  
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.  
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.489 inches on Friday, at 7 a.m., and the lowest was 29.840 inches on Thursday, at 2 p.m. The barometer has been falling steadily during the week, while the temperature has been rising. There has been some rain on every day of the week—the total amount being 1.839 inches.

Feb. 7, British Sloop *Pegasus*, Commander Hon. H.N.S. Hood, 1,124, 900 H. P. 6-guns, from Nagasaki.  
Feb. 8, British steamer *Belgia*, Meyer, 2,627, from San Francisco. Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.  
Feb. 9, Russian chartered schooner *Otomar*, Jansen, 55, from East Coast of Yezo, Ballast, to Jean de Bore.  
Feb. 10, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Thompson, 800, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 11, British steamer *Bennary*, Potter, 1,119, from London via Hongkong, General, to Smith, Baker & Co.  
Feb. 11, British barque *Lord of the Isles*, Watt, 317, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.  
Feb. 12, French steamer *Tanis*, De la Marcelle, 1,733, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.  
Feb. 12, Japanese steamer *Takachiko Maru*, Nye, 1,407, from Hakodate, General, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 12, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 13, British schooner *Ching-too*, Baikie, 304, from Takao, Sugar, to Netherlands Trading Co.  
Feb. 13, Japanese steamer *Chitara Maru*, Pyne, 313, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

Per British steamer *Rubie* from San Francisco:—Mr. C. H. Haswell, Jr., Mrs. A. O. Fobes and 2 children, Mr. L. L. Fobes and Mr. G. Verschuor for Yokohama and Mr. E. L. O'Malley for Hongkong.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and way ports:—Mrs. Paliator, Dr. and Schultz and child, Mrs. Sumio, Captain McDonald, Messrs. E. C. Kirby, D. Reynolds, F. C. Spooner, A. Meyer, W. H. Taylor, E. H. French, C. Dresser, Abe, Igi, Okumura, Kakime, Okashi, Tomoda, Ogata, Murakami, Motoyama and Yen in cabin; 1 European, 2 Chinese and 231 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. W. N. Molesworth.

Per Japanese steamer *Shario Maru* from Kobe:—170 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Tannia*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. Weidenweber, San Giovanni, Sporer, McNeil, French, Mason, Muivra, and 3 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, from Hakodate:—2 Europeans in cabin, and 200 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru* from Kobe:—1 Japanese in steerage.

Feb. 8. Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Kilgour, 908, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Feb. 8. American ship *Richard Robinson*, Smith, 1633, for Hongkong, General, despatched by Edward Fischer & Co.  
Feb. 9. French steamer *Volga*, Guiraud, 1,502, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.  
Feb. 9. British barque *Campoie Glen*, Smith, 492, for Nagasaki, ballast, despatched by Walsh, Hall & Co.  
Feb. 9. Japanese barque *Sumanoura Maru*, Spiegenthal, 925, for Nagasaki, General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Feb. 10. British steamer *Belgir*, Meyer, 2,627, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.  
Feb. 10. Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru*, Peters, 1,010, for Yokosuka, despatched by the Lighthouse Department.  
Feb. 11. Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haaswell, 1,200, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Feb. 12. American ship *Titan*, Berry, 1,240, for Manila, Ballast, despatched by Captain.  
Feb. 12. H. B. M. gun-boat *Hornet*, Comd. John S. Eaton, 534 tons, 506 H.P., for Kobe.  
Feb. 13. Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru*, Frabm, 852, for Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Feb. 14. British steamer *Sumin*, Seaton, 1,029, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.  
Feb. 14. British steam-yacht *Lancashire Witch*, Edlefsen, 211, for San Francisco.

Per French steamer *Volga* for Hongkong:—Messrs. A. Conil, agent M. M., Bougoin, Dybowski, Godet, Ishihashi, Kurimoto, Obara, Shida, Tatsuno, Takayama, Minami, Arakawa, Kondo, Takamine, Miyoshi and A. P. Ferretti in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Irohima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Messrs. Kiwasaki, Hume, J. Bush, Ichimura, J. Wolfe, Koga, Lino, J. Sa, Takagimi, A. Platt, Nakahara, Takagi, Shimamura, Tamaya, J. H. Longford, J. Grigor, Nakai, Nakagawa, Yoshiwara, Kawakubo, Takaye, Kashiwagi, Sakurai, Okasaki, Miyamoto and Nungarayo.

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong: Revd. Mr. Warren and 2 boys, Mr. Loveday, Mr. O'Malley, Mr. and Mrs. Pau Chee Yen and 5 children, Madame Gautier and 7 children, and one Chinese in cabin; 1 European and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer <i>Volga</i> , for Hongkong:—	
Silk for France...	494 Bales.
" " " " " " " "	57 "
Total, ...	551 Bales.

The British steamer *Belgie* reports: Left San Francisco at 1.40 p.m. on the 17th January. Encountered moderate and fair weather to the 180th meridian, thence to port moderate gale with high sea, and contrary winds. 5th inst., at 7 a.m. Latitude 32.29 North, Longitude 135° E., passed a Japanese sampan full of water and covered with barnacles. Arrived Yokohama at 3.06 p.m. on the 8th instant. Voyage, 21 days, 7 hours and 58 mins.

The Russian chartered schooner *Otonic* reports: From Yezo to Kingman Island, strong N. W. gale. Throughout the rest of passage fresh northerly wind with rain.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, reports: Experienced very strong N.E. winds and rainy weather from Kobe to port.

The Japanese steamer *Shari Maru*, reports: Left Kobe at 7.30 p.m. Experienced strong Easterly winds, with thick rainy weather. Passed American ship *Sooloo*, 24 miles outside Kobe.

The British steamer *Benary* reports: Left Hongkong on the 3rd instant, and experienced strong northerly gales and rough weather during the passage.

The British barque *Lord of the Isles*, reports: Left Takao on the 19th January, experienced strong Easterly winds and heavy sea to the Eastward of Formosa off the Loochoo's, moderate weather near the Coast of Japan strong N.E. and Easterly winds with heavy squalls of hail and rain to port.

The Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, reports: Left Hakodate at 6 a.m. on the 9th, arrived on the 12th at 7 a.m., experienced strong E. winds and rainy weather throughout the passage.

The British barque *Ching Too* reports: Experienced very heavy weather throughout the entire passage; 28 days to port.

The Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru* reports: Left Kobe at 6 p.m. on the 10th inst. Experienced moderate N. E. winds, with rainy weather. Arrived at 5 p.m.

## VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

## SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charlwood	LONDON	Yokohama
Nov. 5	Crossfield	"	"
" 5	Bundaleer	"	"
" 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
July 2	Fleetwing	NEW YORK	"
Aug. 30	Hagarstown	"	"
Sept. 3	Mervia	"	"
" 3	Clydesdale	"	"
" 3	Larnaca	"	"
" 25	Merom	"	"
" 26	Clydesdale	"	"
Oct. 3	Lucille	"	"
" 8	St. Charles	"	"
" 10	Columbia	"	Hiogo
" 25	L. J. Morse	"	Yokohama
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 7	Centennial	"	"
" 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
" 21	Manuel Llaguno	"	"
Dec. 1	Paul Revere	"	"
Aug. 17	Coldstream	HAMBURG	"
Nov. 5	Hesperia	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Nov. —	West Glen	"	"
Oct. 17	Glenhuntingley	SUNDERLAND	"
" 26	Sea King	PHILADELPHIA	Hiogo
Nov. 10	H. H. McGilvery	"	Nagasaki

## LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Dec. 19	Flintshire (s.s.)	LONDON	Yokohama
" 19	Ullock	"	"
" 19	Castello (s.s.)	"	"
" 19	Virginia Schilizzi (s.s.)	"	"
" 19	Meath (s.s.)	"	"
" 19	Cairnmuir (s.s.)	"	"
" 18	Susan Gilman	NEW YORK	"
" 18	Alice Buck	"	Hiogo
" 19	Lydia	HAMBURG	Yokohama
" 19	River Logan	"	"
" 19	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 19	Vale of Nith	"	"
" 19	Scottish Fairy	GLASGOW	"
" 19	Laertes (s.s.)	GREENOCK	"

## NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 14th February, 1880.)

		Yen Satz.					
		A.M.	Noon	Clos. ing.	Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)
1880.							Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
Monday.....	Feb. 9	552	552	551½	378	326	113
Tuesday.....	" 10	550½	550½	551	—	—	—
Wednesday.....	" 11	550	552	551½	—	—	—
Thursday.....	" 12	552	552	551	—	—	—
Friday.....	" 13	552½	552	553	—	—	—
Saturday.....	" 14	554	554	554	—	—	—

## NEXT MAIL DUE FROM

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 1st*
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 26th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Feb. 21st†
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 16th
HONGKONG.....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 14th‡
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Feb. 27th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 19th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	

\* Left San Francisco, 7th February, City of Peking.

† Left Hongkong, 11th February, Malacca.

‡ Left Hongkong, 8th February, City of Tokio.

## NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Feb. 16th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 6th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG, .....	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 28th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG, .....	M. M. Co.	Feb. 23rd
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 16th
HONGKONG, via KOBE.....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 21st
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 4th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Feb. 18th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

## YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

## LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.15, 1.30, and 4 P.M.

## LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—7.0 and 9.45 A.M. and 12 noon; 1.30 and 4 P.M.

## YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

## DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

## UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

SUN FIRE OFFICE,  
LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1710.

INSURANCES effected upon almost all descriptions of Property at the current rates of premium.  
Total Sum insured in 1878, £258,772,986.  
Claims arranged by the Local Agents, and paid with promptitude and liberality.

WILKIN & ROBISON,  
Agents,  
Yokohama and Kobe.

Yokohama, July 4, 1879.

Britannia Home and Colonial Fire  
Association.

THE UNDERSIGNED having been appointed Agents for the above Association, are prepared to issue Policies of Insurance at Current Rates.

VALMALE, SCHOENE &amp; MILSOM.

Yokohama, October 14th, 1879.

Chinese Insurance Company,  
LIMITED.

THE UNDERSIGNED having been appointed Agent for the above Company, is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS to all parts of the World, at Current Rates.

E. B. WATSON,  
Agent.

Yokohama, September 15th, 1879.

tf.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Belgio	Meyer	British steamer	2,627	San Francisco	Feb. 8	O. & O. Co.
Benarty	Potter	British steamer	1,119	London via Hongkong	Feb. 11	Smith, Baker & Co.
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Escambia	Wildgoose	British steamer	1,404	London via China ports	Feb. 12	Hudson & Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Jan. 22	M. B. Co.
Sunda	Seaton	British steamer	1,029	Hongkong	Nov. 13/78	P. & O. Co.
Tanaia	De la Marcelle	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Feb. 12	M. M. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	Feb. 4	M. M. Co.
Tokio Maru	Swain	Japanese steamer	1,146	Shanghai & ports	Jan. 11	M. B. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Ching-too	Baikie	British schooner	304	Takao	Feb. 13	N. Trading Co.
Kate Davenport	Mallett	American ship	1,248	New York	Jan. 30	Frazier & Co.
Lord of the Isles	Watt	British barque	317	Takao	Feb. 12	Chinese
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	—	German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Lenard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	.. 24	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Nimrod	Clark	British barque	696	Nagasaki	Jan. 28	Mitsui Bussan Kaisha
North Star	—	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Oakland	Purinton	American ship	1,237	New York	Jan. 28	Fearson, Low & Co.
Otome	Jensen	Russian schooner	55	Nemuro	Feb. 9	Russian Authorities
Otaego	Isacsen	Russian schooner	46	Bonin Islands	Jan. 27	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	.. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH.—Pegasus ...	6	1,124	900	Sloop	Nagasaki	Com. Hon. H. N. S. Hood
FRENCH.—Champlain ...	10	1,901	—	Corvette	Chefoo	Com. Michaud
AMERICAN.—Alert ...	4	1,030	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ...	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostok	Captain Schance
.. Crayser ...	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Cruise	Captain Nazimoff

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ...	Tibre	M. M. Co.	Feb. 23rd, at 7 a.m.
Hongkong ...	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 21st, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	About Feb. 16th.
Shanghai, &c.	Tokio Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 18th, at 4 p.m.



## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**IMPORTS.**—A large speculative business in *Yarn*, natives and foreigners operating largely. Prices show a marked advance in sympathy with news from Manchester and close firm as below. *Shirtings*, nothing doing, although nominally higher. *Cotton Sateens* fair business. *Velvets* and *Lawns* dull. *Woolen Satines* and *Blankets* current; other *Woolleus* neglected.

**COTTON YARNS:—**

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$30.00 to 35.00
" " Good to Best ... "	\$36.00 to 37.50
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... "	\$31.00 to 33.00
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... "	\$37.50 to 38.50
" " Good to Best ... "	\$39.00 to 42.50
" 36 to 48 ... "	\$39.00 to 41.00

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—**

Gray Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 30 in.	\$1.62½ to 1.82½
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.82½ to 2.27½
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.15 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in.	\$1.40 to 1.65
Drills, English: 14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— " 13 " 44 in.	\$1.80 to 1.82½
Prints:—Assorted... " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.11½ to 0.14½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.35 to 1.55
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.50 to 1.67½
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.**

Velvets:—Black ... 35 " 22 in. per piece	\$8.75 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns:— " 12 " 42/3 in. "	\$0.75 to 0.79
Taffelclases:— " 12 " 43 in. "	\$1.75 to 1.80

**WOOLLENS:—**

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... 28-30 yds. 31 in.	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 yds. 32 in.	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Corda ... 29-30 yds. 22 in.	4.00 to 5.25
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in.	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 yds. 30 in.	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy... 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.40 to 0.50
Presidents ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.55 to 0.60
Union ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs ... per lb.	0.85 to 0.41

**SUGAR.**—A small business only. 500 bags have changed hands at \$4.45. The *Lord of the Isles* and *Ching-too* have arrived with cargoes from Takao. Stocks are estimated at 17,000 bags.

**KEROSENE.**—The market is very quiet. A few small sales have been made at quotations.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... per picul...	\$5.60 to \$5.20
" " in basket ... "	\$5.20 to \$5.00
Taiwanfoo in bag ... "	\$5.20
do. in basket ... "	\$5.00
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ... "	\$8.00 to \$9.00
China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fah... per picul...	\$6.25 to \$8.00
Daitong ... "	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... "	\$2.60 to \$3.00
Kerosene Oil ... "	\$1.60 to \$1.65
Newchwang Pess ... "	\$2.20 to \$2.25

**EXPORTS.**

**SILK.**—Since the 7th inst., the market has been exceedingly active indeed, and a very large business has been done in all classes of silk, the principal feature of the week being, however, some very large purchases of *Kakedas* made, it is believed, for the American market.

Sales of no less than 730 shipping bales are reported, of which about 500 bales are *Kakedas*.

Prices have remained very firm indeed, and there is a decided upward tendency.

Stock about 2,700 shipping bales. Total export to date 14,952 bales against 15,592 bales last season at corresponding period.

	In London at 3/9½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.			In London at 3/9½. per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.
Hanks, —Superior, nom...			Kakeda, —Extra ...	\$730 to 750 24/9 to 25/4	frs. 68 50 to 70 00	
" Best ...	\$680 to 690 23/1 to 23/5	frs. 64 00 to 65 00	" Best ...	...	...	\$4.00 to \$4.40
" Good ...	\$660 to 670 22/6 to 22/10	frs. 62 00 to 63 00	" Good ...	\$690 to 710 23/5 to 24/1	frs. 65 00 to 67 00	
" Good Medium ...	\$640 to 650 21/10 to 22/2	frs. 60 50 to 61 50	" Medium ...	\$630 to 670 21/7 to 22/10	frs. 59 50 to 63 00	
" Medium ...	\$610 to 630 21/3 to 21/6	frs. 59 00 to 60 00	" Common ...	...	...	...
" Common, In'r ...	\$580 to 590 19/11 to 20/3	frs. 54 80 to 56 00	Filatures, —Extra ...	\$750 to 800 26/4 to 27/	frs. 73 00 to 75 00	
Oshius, —Best ...	\$630 to 670 21/6 to 22/10	frs. 59 50 to 63 00	" Best ...	\$730 to 770 24/9 to 26/	frs. 68 00 to 72 00	
" Medium ...	...	...	" Good ...	...	...	...
Hamataki ...	\$630 21/6	frs. 59 50	" Med. & C'n ...	\$680 to 720 23/1 to 24/6	frs. 64 00 to 67 80	

**EXCHANGE AND BULLION.**

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9½
" " 6 " "	3/10 nom.
" Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
" Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
" " 6 " "	3/10½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight	4.71
" Private 6 ms. sight	4.85
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	1 % prem.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight	½ % prem.

ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72
" Private 10 days sight	72½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	89½
" 30 days sight Private	91½
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	90½
" 30 days sight Private	91½
Kinsatz	554
Gold Yen	377

**SHIPPING.**

**SHIPPING.**—The *Benarty* and *Escambia* from London with general cargoes, and the *Ching-too* and *Lord of the Isles* with sugar from Takao, have arrived during the past week. The *R. Robinson* has left for New York via Hongkong.

# FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF JAPAN.

Capital - - - - - Yen 1,500,000.000.

Reserve Fund - - - - - „ 275,000.000.

HEAD OFFICE—TOKIO.

BRANCHES:—Osaka, Yokohama, Kobe, Saikio,  
Morioka, Sendai, Ishinomaki, Fusan, (Corea.)

SUB-BRANCHES:—Furukawa, Akita, Yokote,  
Honjow, Miyako, Ichinoseki.

Agencies:—SHANGHAI, HONGKONG.

Agencies—(For Exchange only):—

Nagasaki, Hakodate, Nagoya, Fukuoka, Yamaguchi, Akamagasaki, Okayama, Kochi, Wakayama, Oita, Gifu, Yamannashi, Fukushima, Mayebashi, Tatebayashi, Kirew, Nagahama, Otsu, Matsuyama, Matsuyae, Akashi, Kishiwada, Obama, Fukui, Idsushi, Tottori, Kawanoishi, Sayegi, Sendai, Awamori, Morioka, Hirosaki, Ichinoseki, Akita, Tanabe, Nagaoka, Yonezawa, Mihar, Tsurugaoka, Koriyama, Tokushima, Kuwana, Kameyama, Hikone, Tsuwano, Tamashima, Itahara, Tau, Handa, Yodo, Tsuruga, Nakatsu, Saijo, Uwajima, Yamagata, Obi, Choshi.

## THIRTEENTH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Court of Directors to the Proprietors,

For the Half-year ending 31st December, 1879.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the Proprietors was held at the Head Office, on 18th January, 1880, at which the Directors had the honour to submit the annexed General Statement and Balance Sheet of the affairs of the Bank, as at 31st December last.

The net profit of the Head Office and Branches amounts to Yen 198,793.668 (deducting remuneration of the officers, their travelling expenses, and all other payments, inclusive of interest). Adding to this sum the unappropriated balance of last Half-year, namely, Yen 36,772.855, and Yen 80,000 set aside as a special reserve for bad and doubtful debts, the total comes to Yen 315,566.523. From this sum Yen 36,371.575 will be taken to extinguish the bad debt of Onogumi; Yen 50,000 will be set aside as a special reserve for bad and doubtful debts; and Yen 24,200 will be given to the officers as a bonus; and the remainder is Yen 204,994.948, from which Yen 50,000 will be added to the Reserve Fund, Yen 120,000 will be divided amongst 15,000 shares, being Yen 8 per share, which is at the rate of 16 per cent. per annum, and the balance, Yen 34,994.948, will be carried forward to next half-year.

The debt incurred by Onogumi has been written off, and amounted to Yen 36,371.575, taken from the Special Reserve of Yen 80,000, which has been supplemented by the addition of the sum of Yen 50,000, an amount which, the Directors are of opinion, will amply suffice to meet any further contingencies that may arise.

SHIBUSAWA YEICHI,  
Chairman.

### General Statement and Balance Sheet of the First National Bank of Japan, for the Half-year ended 31st Dec., 1879.

#### LIABILITIES.

	YEN.	YEN.
Deposits .....	960,018.107	
Bills Payable .....	227,252.962	
Loans .....	755,000.000	
	<b>Total due to Government...</b>	<b>1,942,271.069</b>
Notes in Circulation .....	1,196,440.000	
Fixed deposits .....	861,166.569	
Current deposits .....	1,046,823.377	
Post Bills in Circulation .....	546,927.933	
Bills Payable .....	102,285.885	
Other deposits .....	691,875.105	
Due to Agencies .....	265,384.222	
	<b>3,516,163.091</b>	
Total due to the Public .....		<b>4,712,603.091</b>
Capital .....	1,500,000.000	
Reserve Fund .....	225,000.000	
Special Reserve Fund for Bad and doubtful Debts .....	80,000.000	
Balance brought forward from last half-year .....	36,772.855	
Balance of Profit and Loss Account .....	198,793.668	
Accounts not yet Realized .....	19,919.386	
	<b>2,060,485.909</b>	
	<b>Yen.....</b>	<b>8,715,360.069</b>

#### ASSETS.

	YEN.	YEN.
Gold, Silver, and Copper Coin and Paper Money .....	1,366,110.703	
Gold and Silver Bullion .....	34,744.538	
Government Bonds lodged in the Finance Department, to secure notes in circulation .....	1,088,531.400	
Government Bonds on hand .....	442,706.917	
	<b>2,932,093.558</b>	
Loans receivable, and other sums due to the Bank .....	5,107,667.720	
Bills discounted and Bills receivable .....	201,227.619	
Premises .....	32,299.390	
Due by Agencies .....	442,071.782	
	<b>5,783,266.511</b>	
	<b>Yen.....</b>	<b>8,715,360.069</b>

#### RESERVE FUND.

	YEN.
By Balance brought forward from last account .....	225,000.000
By Transfer from this Profit and Loss account .....	50,000.000
	<b>YEN ..... 275,000.000</b>

#### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Cr.	YEN.
By Balance brought forward from last half-year .....	36,772.855
By Net Profit for the half-year ended 31st December, 1879 .....	198,793.668
By Special Reserve Fund brought forward from last half-year .....	80,000.000
	<b>Yen ..... 315,566.523</b>

Dr.	YEN.
To loss for writing off a bad debt .....	36,371.575
„ the special reserve fund for bad and doubtful debts .....	50,000.000
„ Bonus to the Officers .....	24,200.000
„ Addition to Reserve Fund .....	50,000.000
„ Dividend on 15,000 Shares .....	120,000.000
„ be carried forward to next half-year .....	34,994.948
	<b>YEN ..... 315,566.523</b>

SHIBUSAWA YEICHI,  
Managing Director.

SASAKI YUNOSUKE,  
Accountant.

MITSUI TAKAYOSHI,  
SAIONJI KINSHIGE,  
SAITO JUNZO,  
MITSUI HACHIROJIRO,  
Directors.

NAGATA JINSICHI,  
Director and Manager.

Tokio, December 31st, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

Paid-up Capital ... \$5,000,000.  
Reserve Fund... \$1,200,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. Sassoon, Esq.  
Deputy Chairman—Wm. H. Forbes, Esq.

E. R. Belilios, Esq., H. L. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppius, Esq.,  
Hon. W. Keswick, Adam Lind, Esq., Wilhelm Reiners, Esq.,  
W. S. Young.  
Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

## LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillips, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.  
E. F. Duncanson, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.  
Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

## SHANGHAI.

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hioho, Hankow,  
Saigon,  
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

## YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

I teres allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.  
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o  
" " " " 6 " " 4 "  
" " " " 3 " " 4 "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description  
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,  
India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

A. M. TOWNSEND, Acting Manager.

Yokohama, April 13, 1878.

## MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA, (HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

**PRIVATE APARTMENTS** of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class,  
let at the rate of from 50 sen to 80 sen per day, and  
from 12 yen to 20 yen per month.

## BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class.....	{ 1.50 yen per day, or
	{ 40.00 " " month.
3rd class.....	{ 1.00 yen per day, or
	{ 28.00 " " month.


All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or  
small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates,  
for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood  
of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged  
from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.



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CELEBRATED  
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Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

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available for Export. These stores are by far the largest  
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the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially at-  
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the Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom is  
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and the average quantity bottled and sent out by them  
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QUALITY is guaranteed by W. & A. Gilbey, and is the same  
whether the Wines or Spirits are obtained direct from their  
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purity and genuineness of every article in this list are  
guaranteed in accordance with Act of Parliament, 38 and  
39 Vict., Cap. 63.

W. & A. Gilbey have always adhered to the *standard* of  
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6 bottles contain one gallon; 12 half-bottles contain  
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A very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

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A powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

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12m. 26in.

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YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
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July, 1878.

52 ins.

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AT MODERATE RATES.

Yokohama, January 12th, 1880.

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TRADE



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Yokohama, January 13th, 1880.

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26780

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MAGNESIA.**

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STOURPORT, ENGLAND.

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"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."  
**TIN PLATES,**  
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ACCUMULATION OF PHLEGM.

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Proprietor, THOMAS KEATING, London,  
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April, 1879.

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CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND  
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OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

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CABINET GLASS-PAPER  
&c.  
WELLINGTON EMERY & BLACK LEAD MILLS  
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.**

July, 1879.

52ins.

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A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16 Bund  
Yokohama.

# THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF  
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

Vol. IV. No. 8.]

Yokohama, February 21, 1880.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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## THE TRADE OF NAGASAKI.

NAGASAKI has not failed to participate in the general prosperity of last year's trade, and we are glad to see from a comparative table "giving the value of the trade of Nagasaki from 1874 to 1879, inclusive," compiled by Messrs. Holme, Ringer & Co., that the past year has been an eminently satisfactory one to the foreign merchants of Kiushiu. The total value of their import and export trade (exclusive of treasure) amounted to \$3,732,230. And it must be gratifying to the Japanese financiers and Chambers of Commerce to know that in Nagasaki the balance of trade is always in favor of the country. The figures for last year were: exports \$2,009,797 and imports \$1,722,433.

In glancing through the items composing the former, we notice a slight diminution in the quantity of tea exported, from that in the two former years, and a very considerable reduction when compared with the export of 1875 and 1876. In the two last named years the tea export exceeded 18,000 piculs; in 1877 it fell to 9,940; in 1878 to 9,279; and in 1879 to 8,957. Inferior tea (Ban-cha), on the other hand, was dealt in to a larger extent in 1879 than in the preceding year. Tobacco has always formed one of the principal exports from Nagasaki, and although its value aggregates no very high figures, its bulk and the labour necessary to prepare it for shipment make this produce of considerable importance to the port. We regret to see that this trade has sadly diminished during the past few years, and that against 15,000 piculs in 1874; 12,500 in 1875 and 16,000 in 1877, the export in 1878 fell to 5,532 piculs, and last year only amounted to 4,000 piculs. Unless it be possible to increase the cultivation of this plant a serious loss will be felt in Kiushiu, not only by the foreign merchants but by the native growers and the numerous hands employed in its manipulation. The suggestion has often been made

before, but we must again repeat it, that the Japanese Government should make a careful inquiry into the cause of the diminished tobacco-growth in Kiushiu, and ascertain whether by the introduction of foreign seed, or efficient manure, the industry cannot be restored to its former prosperity. Vegetable-wax, as an article of trade, has gone through many vicissitudes since Nagasaki was first opened to foreigners. In the old days many a ship carried a whole cargo of this valuable produce to Java, Holland or London; but as the home manufacture of wax candles, tapers or vestas became changed by the cheaper use of paraffine and other substitutes, so the demand for Japan wax has fallen off. In 1874 it had already decreased to an annual export of only 8,500 piculs; in 1877 only half that quantity was shipped; in 1878 but 2,000 piculs; and last year only 1,700. Camphor shows a considerable increase in its export from Nagasaki during the past six years. From 1,400 piculs in 1874, 2,900 piculs in 1875, 4,800 in 1876, 2,280 in 1877, 3,850 in 1878, the returns for last year give a trade of 5,268 piculs valued at \$90,484. This produce finds its way to Nagasaki principally from the province of Satsuma, whilst that prepared in Tosa finds its outlet in Kobe.

Coals, the well known principal export from Kiushiu, figure in last year's returns to the extent of 197,000 tons, against 199,989 tons in the previous year, and show that so long as this valuable production can be found in the neighbourhood of Nagasaki, no fear need exist of the trade of the port collapsing. A noticeable feature, however, is the diminished value of this commodity which, according to the document now before us, stood at an average of \$3.90 for the past year, against \$4.80 in 1878, and \$4.50 in 1877. This fall in value must not, we think, be looked upon otherwise than a benefit to the trade of the port. It is the natural result of an increased production, and increased production from any mine means a large decrease in the first cost of the coal. And the further great advantage of an increased production and the lower value of the product, is the fact that Japanese fuel must thereby supersede the imports from distant markets which now compete with it in China. It will indeed be strange if, in the long run, Nagasaki coal does not drive Australian supplies from the Shanghai and even the Hongkong market.

Among the enumerated exports we notice that mineral ores (consisting principally of antimony from Amakusa) figure to the extent of 788 piculs, valued at \$1,749, but that this trade exhibits a falling off during the past six years. Antimony is an article of considerable demand in Europe and, since the establishment of type foundries in Japan, it is also in much request here, so that every inducement must exist to encourage the mining of the ore. Here, however, the drawback attending all mining operations in Japan comes forcibly before us. The Japanese mine proprietors have not the capital, and the

capitalists have not the enterprise, to work the treasures which lay at their feet. Awabi shells (called ear shells) were exported from Nagasaki to the extent of 3,481 piculs during the past year, being a very large increase on the previous year's trade, and this, we understand, is owing to the additional supplies now reaching that market from the island of Quelpart. Even larger annual shipments of these shells are, however, made from our own port, and the total Japanese trade in these articles to Europe is now one of considerable importance: their value at home varies with the fashions for buttons and toilette ornaments.

The principal imports into Nagasaki during the past year consisted of cottons and cotton mixtures to the value of half a million dollars; raw sugar \$917,186; kerosene oil \$185,891; peas and beancake \$145,487; metals \$91,054 and under the comprehensive heading of "unenumerated goods" we find the total of \$186,620. It is noticeable that cotton yarn is only imported into Nagasaki at an average of 422 bales per annum—less than one per cent of our own annual import; and it must remain a matter of surprise that the inhabitants of Kinshiu should make such small use of the staple commodity required by their fellow-countrymen in Nippon. But as regards kerosene oil it is more satisfactory to see that the general tastes of Japan have also extended to the southern island, and that the import of this article during the past year reached nearly 117,000 cases, against 107,000 in the previous year, 24,000 in 1877 and 4,000 in 1874. Doubtless this trade will still further increase the future returns of Nagasaki, as, compared to the population, it yet bears no proper proportion to the annual quantity consumed in the northern ports. The want of roads and cheap internal communication is still the most serious drawback to the commercial prosperity of Kiushiu, and continues to check the trade of Nagasaki both in its imports and exports. This want especially affects the bulky and low-cost produce which forms the principal traffic, and prevents easy access to the interior of imports which ought to be dealt in more largely. But, in spite of these natural disadvantages which the Government have not yet attempted to remove, we must congratulate the foreign merchants of Nagasaki upon the past year showing a decided improvement in the trade of their picturesque port.

#### THE MILITARY POWER OF CHINA.\*

##### III.

WITH effective officers and several years' drill it is possible that a tolerably powerful force could be derived from the troops stationed in the various sea-board provinces; but such officers can only be obtained from abroad. No dependence can be placed on the natives for this purpose. There are none of them that deserve the name of officers; and one is almost forced into the belief that the national character of the Chinese lacks completely the qualities necessary for such a position. In personal courage they stand far behind the men,—although the quality is not largely developed in these latter,—and they deem that their proper position, as soon as an engagement commences, is in the rear. Military rank in this peculiar country does not require those mental and moral qualities which are expected in every civilized land; but rather follows on deeds of prowess, which fall within the region of athletics—such as raising heavy weights from the ground, brandishing enormous swords, drawing colossal bows; and also skill in riding, throwing spears and shooting arrows. All candidates must undergo three

examinations in these accomplishments, and are frequently rejected for incompetence.

If the same requirements were made in the case of military officers as in that of those entering the civil service, better results might be expected than are obtained now. The poorest student in China knows that, through the competitive examinations, if he passes them, he has not merely the possibility, but the certainty, of high employment. On the other hand, those who prefer military service are chiefly those who have neither the heart nor the capacity to devote themselves to earnest study. The army, it is true, is open to every inhabitant of China, but the number of candidates is small, and out of all comparison with those for the civil service, because the latter offers far greater advantages than the former. Hence it is not surprising that few able men are to be found among the officers—probably not a single one who thinks it worth his while to take the trouble of acquiring a sound knowledge of tactics and strategy, or of engineering and fortification. The ignorance of the class relegates its members to much the same position as that occupied by the soldiers whom they are supposed to command. Law and discipline have no value to them; and hence it arises that they have no other way of spending their leisure—which is about twenty-three hours a day—than opium-smoking, which alone would render them incompetent for even unimportant duties. It must be admitted, however, that the Chinese government has made some efforts, by the foundation of military schools, in which more than athletics is taught, to raise the position of their officers. It will hardly ever occur now, as it did formerly, that some favourite officer of the land-army, merely on account of his physical appearance and bodily strength, should be intrusted with the command of a vessel of war, although he may not know the difference between the stem and stern. Still there has yet been no thought of radical reforms, and, even if such were introduced at present, a number of years must pass away before their effects could eradicate the present deeply-rooted evils.

After the description here given of the officers, it will be hardly necessary to say that the tactics are of a most primitive kind. They are confined almost entirely to attack in front; or to protection against such attack by making the utmost use of the formation of the ground. Manœuvres in marching are regarded as cowardly. An exercise of the infantry of the imperial guard in Peking is a ludicrous sight. One thousand or twelve hundred men, all armed with matchlocks, are assembled in an open space before the walls of the town. The higher officers are comfortably seated on benches, under pavilions, in front of the line of battle. The troops first form into a crowded mass or column, and, on a given signal, move to the right and left, in order to form a long front. The movement goes on without order, or without even step amongst them. Laughing, chatting, firing their matchlocks in the air, the soldiers run in twos, threes and fours into line, where, naturally, the firing is blindly continued. The musicians, with gongs, drums and other instruments, take up their position in the rear, and maintain a deafening noise; while a crowd of standard-bearers wave their three-cornered banners, with a horizontal movement, along the surface of the ground. The few signals which are necessary are given either by means of the music or the flags. The review is then at an end, and the troops return in knots to the town. Those battalions which are armed with wooden weapons are better exercised, so also are the artillery; but, on the other hand, the cavalry, which is badly armed and uses ponies, are of no use except for the courier service.

\* See *Japan Weekly Mail*, January 24th, and 31st.



In organisation, discipline, arms, and education, the troops of the coast provinces, as already mentioned, are in a much higher position than those at Peking. In this respect Li-Hung-chang, as well as the Viceroy of Nanking, Shen-Pao-shen, have done much to abolish old irregularities: yet even these forces would be compelled to give way before one-tenth their number of European soldiery, or even of other troops commanded by European officers. They are, at the most, capable of fighting behind permanent or temporary fortifications; and, knowing this, Li has made it his special business to build new forts and repair or reconstruct old ones, in order to cover the approaches to Peking. What value has an army which can only fight behind earthworks?

The arming of the celebrated Taku forts has recently been much improved; the sixty old guns of mixed calibre have been removed, and replaced by forty-three others, chiefly 115 and 250 pounders. It is doubtful however whether the Chinese artillerymen know how to use these weapons. The forts could be rendered almost impregnable from the sea, and their capture from the land side could be made most hazardous, by artificial inundations; but all this requires corresponding defence, which cannot yet be expected from the Chinese troops,—even from those of them who have been exercised in defensive manœuvres. Some of the forts also possess no bomb-proof magazines for ammunition, and no storehouses for the necessary provisions. The detached forts about Tientsin, which command the surrounding country are, however, complete, and could not be taken by a *coup-de-main*; on the contrary they would have to be attacked with heavy siege guns.

The introduction of modern weapons, especially of breech-loaders, progresses but slowly. They were first purchased from foreign merchants, who, without paying much attention to the original model, were in the habit of charging such disgracefully high prices, that the arms were regarded by the Chinese as too precious to be put into the hands of soldiers, and were accordingly stored up in the arsenals. To a certain extent this precaution was justifiable, as the low, dark, dirty mud-huts in which the Chinese soldiers are often placed, would soon rust and destroy any gun. Chinese arsenals, however, are somewhat like the bowls of the Danaïdes; however much war material is put into them they are always rather empty. The iron and steel of the arms change themselves rapidly by a very simple—not chemical, but mercantile—process into silver taels, which enter the pockets of the higher military officials. Since 1875 the Chinese have manufactured in some of their own arsenals Spencer and Remington rifles, as well as the necessary ammunition. In Tientsin, as well as in Shanghai, Nanking and Canton, there are arsenals erected and controlled by foreigners, where arms are manufactured which are gradually finding their way into the hands of troops in the interior. When foreign assistance is withdrawn, and the Chinese attempt to work for themselves, the most ludicrous results take place. Thus, the Superintendent of the small-arms factory at Canton evolved the cunning project of increasing the calibre of the Remington rifles by one inch, and their length to six feet. When the uselessness of such a change was pointed out to him, he exclaimed:—"I know that quite well, but I wish, in this way, to give to the arm a more fear-inspiring appearance."

The uniform and armour of the soldiers vary according to the different provinces. As a rule the privates wear a blue woollen jacket and wide trowsers. There is no attempt at comfort or neatness. The punishments are strict, but arbitrary. At the proposal of the provincial Governors, officers of every rank, from the general down-

ward, are cashiered without trial or investigation. The chief causes of dismissal are arbitrary conduct, embezzlements, indolence, carelessness, or incapacity. As rewards for deserving officers there are money presents, promotions, leave to ride within that part of Peking which is reserved for the Court, and presentation to the Emperor. For extraordinary acts of heroism permission to wear the yellow jacket may be accorded.

One of the chief obstacles in the way of activity even in the best Chinese army corps, is the absence of a transport service. The general rule is that each man shall carry his own miserable food. When that is consumed, requisitions come into use. In long marches and military operations, it is true, there is a so-called commissariat, but it is incapable of meeting the most modest requirements. In the north, beyond the great wall, camels are employed as beasts of burden. Each group of five or six camels, tied together with ropes, and marching in Indian file, requires one man as driver. On an average each animal bears four hundred catties, or five hundred and thirty-three pounds, and travels at the rate of two miles and a half per hour. Thus five camels, which carry two thousand six hundred and sixty-five pounds, form a procession of about ninety feet in length. An idea can be gathered, from this, what length would be required by even a small column organised by Chinese. Frequently when the ground is slippery, the animals fall on top of each other, and are raised again only with great difficulty. In extremes of temperature, also, such as great cold or heat, high winds, &c., hundreds of them die. In the thickly populated provinces, carts drawn by mules and young oxen are used for transport; but rapid progress is out of the question in consequence of the bad roads, weak or broken bridges, and frequently intervening canals, and rivers. Junks, which afford the means of transport on the water are also very slow.

The medical service is in still worse plight; in fact there is next to none. Experience has shown that even the best European soldiers lose heart when they doubt whether their wounds will be properly dressed, or their attacks of illness carefully attended to. The Chinese soldier, it is true, dies more easily and stoically than the European; life offers him too little enjoyment that he should care much about it. Nevertheless, the knowledge that, if he sinks down by the wayside overcome with the toils of the march, or if he is wounded in battle, he will be left to his fate, without help or care, must materially reduce whatever little warlike ardour he may at first have possessed.

It is said that in Peking earnest consultations are going on, with the object of making the whole Chinese army a single organization, to be placed under the supreme Central Government, and to abolish the present system by which the Governor of each province possesses his own army corps. But the movements of the reformers who desire this change, are narrowly watched at the capital, where it is believed that such a measure would be followed by the deposition of the young Emperor and the Empresses Regent, and the elevation to the dragon throne of some adventurer who had gained the support of the newly organized army. The mandarins in the provinces, also, are adverse to a measure which would reduce their power; and they are supported in this opposition by the officers of their own armies; while the banner-men are too few in number to equalise the balance between the Central Government and the conservatives. Hence, this reasonable reform, which would put the army of China in a position to demand respect, is probably very remote; and, even if it were accomplished, it is to be feared that bigotry

at Peking would prevent the foreign examples shown in some of the coast provinces being successfully followed.

Connected with this subject is the present condition of the Chinese navy.† It consists of three different groups of ships, which, however, cannot be called squadrons, nor denominated by any expression involving organization. Here, also, we find the objectless plan pursued of placing each group under the control of the governor of the neighbouring provinces. Further, all the ships within each group lack that interdependence on each other which is usual in the fleet. The first group, the Canton navy, until recently numbered twelve vessels. Three of these are built on the Chinese model, and are little more than screw steam-junks; two are old English gunboats, which were sold when no longer of use. The remainder are steam men-of-war purchased in England, and commanded by French or English officers. The ships of the Fuhkien fleet were all built in the arsenal of Foochow under the superintendence of Monsieur Giquel. This gentleman, as will be remembered, while Commissioner of Customs at Ningpo during the Taiping rebellion, organised a Franco-Chinese contingent, and succeeded in recovering the province from the insurgents. Soon afterwards he left the Customs service, and was appointed superintendent of the arsenal which the Chinese then intended to erect at Foochow. A number of ships, hulls as well as machinery, were built under his direction; and, although they were expensive, are good vessels. Among them are:—a corvette with twelve guns, six gunboats and eight transports. The crews are chiefly drawn from the hardy islanders of the Chusan archipelago, and are well instructed in the use of artillery. There are two classes of captains:—one composed of former pilots, the other of men educated in the nautical school attached to the arsenal. There they received not only a theoretical education, but also a practical one on board the corvette commanded by Captain Tracy, formerly of the English navy. What the officers chiefly lack is a knowledge of naval tactics, as they have never had experience in the manoeuvres of a fleet at sea. The engineers on these vessels are efficient on account of their education in the works at the arsenal under Europeans. The pilot captains are of no use except to take the vessels from point to point along the coast, and their services are valueless when a hundred miles out at sea. The vessels built at the arsenal at Shanghai, and belonging to the Kiangsu group, are eleven in number;—two frigates, and nine gunboats and transports. Fir was imported from Oregon and Vancouver's Island for their construction; and they are in every way inferior to the vessels of Fuhkien. The machines are said to be good; and the ships are armed partly with breech-loading Krupp guns, and partly with cannon made in the Shanghai arsenal. One serious want on board all these vessels is that of a physician or surgeon; and we can easily imagine the frightful state which would prevail on the craft after a severe engagement.

On the whole we may conclude that China possesses a certain number of vessels of war, fairly built, armed and manned, and partly well commanded; but nevertheless the Empire has no navy in the European sense of the term. Indeed, as a *résumé* of all that has gone before, we can say that the Middle Kingdom has neither a land nor sea force that can be compared with those of any western country. There is as yet no question of a military regeneration in China. Here and there a weak commencement has been

made; and it would cost, to-day, but little more effort than in 1860, for a foreign General with a comparatively small army, to advance to the walls of the capital and dictate terms of peace to the Son of Heaven. Should Germany require an ally in a war against Russia, she must look elsewhere. China will be of no use in such capacity.

#### A BUILDING ACT FOR TOKIO.

THE constant devastating fires which, during the winter months sweep over the capital will, no doubt, be the cause of serious consideration on the part of the proper authorities. Statistics have been collected tending to shew that a great proportion of those conflagrations in Tokio is the work of incendiarism, and indeed the comparative scarcity of such accidents in other large towns of the country seems to give additional proof to this assertion, and to suggest increased vigilance and severity towards offenders. Taking, however, into consideration the extremely fragile and inflammable nature of the ordinary dwellings and certain risky habits of life indulged in during the cold season, it is incontestable that frequent fires must continue to occur from mere accident and carelessness alone. Other wooden cities of far more solid construction, and with safer means of heating and warming, have often similar losses to deplore. The fate of Chicago is no solitary instance of such calamities.

The Japanese Government in its large public erections, and many of the nobles and ministers in their private mansions, are adopting a more solid style of construction in accordance with European examples; but such a mode of building is far too costly for the generality of the people. Such a style is moreover unsuited to their habits and wants. Some years back an example was set to the populace, by way of an impulse to the enterprising, in the erection by Government of street dwellings of brick in the High street and adjoining streets. There are however, we believe, no instances in which any of the more wealthy merchants have availed themselves of this incentive, although other attempts quite as costly have been made to devise fireproof constructions more suited to their requirements. These brick buildings, if we may judge by their central situation, the low rents charged for them, and the number remaining uninhabited, do not meet the public needs. But however suitable and satisfactory these dwellings might be, the Government could neither be expected to supply them on a large scale at the public cost, nor could it impose upon the poorer middle class their obligatory erection at private outlay, often beyond the householder's means. An increase in trade and in habits of providence among the people may change this state of things; but what we now have to concern ourselves with is some immediate means for suppressing obvious danger in a practical manner. Not only is money necessary in erecting city buildings of brick or stone, but a certain amount of feeling of security in expending it. In a city where it is proverbial that three years without a vast fire is a vein of good fortune, the citizen's idea of a house is anything but that of a safe investment for a large part of his savings. In Europe a man will look upon the purchase of a dwelling as secure property for his lifetime and a provision for his children after him; but in Japan a man at present regards such a transaction as a speculation for the term of a few years. The success of minor precautionary measures rendering less frequent the destruction of property would thus bear fruit by inciting larger expenditure and more solid construction in buildings.

Taking all these matters into consideration we are of

† This portion of the article was, in the German newspaper from which we quote, of course written before the arrival of the celebrated alphabetical gunboats. The information given is of none the less value.

opinion that, though a thoroughly efficient Building Act could not at once be instituted, yet certain rules and prohibitions might be made obligatory, by means of which the spread of fires might be much lessened. There are two ordinary ways in which fire can attack a building. One is the proximity of other buildings in flame, and the other internal causes, from accident or will on the part of the inmates or otherwise. It would at present be impossible to prevent all chance of danger to individual houses from internal causes. The interior construction of wooden and paper slides and straw mats is essential to the comfort and habits of the common people. It would be impracticable, moreover, to attempt to prohibit the use of inflammable oils and portable fire boxes. There are certain cases, however, in which obvious risks from the inside might be diminished by prohibition. It is quite common, for example, to see light wooden sheds of narrow dimensions in a long street of adjoining houses, used for the purpose of a smithy with large open furnaces sending up showers of sparks to a low ceiling of thin wooden shingle. An edict interdicting all open fires of such a nature in street buildings, unless a certain clear area of isolated space intervene between them and other houses, could not fail to eliminate one serious danger. Such workshops should, in addition, be of prescribed height and width, with mud or plastered walls and ceilings, or proper chimneys. A careful examination would reveal other kindred matters of consequence which could be, in a similar way, met without being too hard upon the poor.

It is well known that the rigour of the London Metropolitan Building Act is often moderated for buildings in isolated suburban situations. A matter which, however, must not be lost sight of in Japan, is the enormous distance to which the high winds carry the dry, light wood, of which the city dwellings are composed. In the late great fire in Tokio, burning flying timbers carried the fire across the river and even attacked the shipping. It is extremely doubtful whether any structures, however separated from surroundings, should be allowed to have roofs covered with wood; but however this may be, the Building Act should apply most rigorously to street and adjacent buildings.

In such situations roofs should be, compulsorily, of tiles, slates, or metal; the projecting rafters from the wall to the eaves being plastered over. Without interfering with the ordinary street shop front, or the back and yard of the house which custom requires, houses might still have the usual wooden openings and light slides; but the side walls towards the adjoining buildings should be of brick, projecting well out to the front and back, and carried a few feet above, and parallel to, the slope of the roof. In such a way each house would be screened from its neighbour by a fire-proof wall having sufficient projection to the front to prevent flames from the wooden portions of contiguous buildings creeping round and attacking the inflammable portions. In case of buildings actually touching each other, these screen walls would become common or party walls; and all doors or openings in them would be either entirely disallowed, or, in any case, only doors or windows of very small area compared to the wall surface should be permitted in these partitions. All light and air required would be admitted through the *shojis* of the front and back. Certain technical rules would naturally be enforced relating to the thickness of the walls according to their height, and according as they are separate or party walls. It does not appear that, with the ordinary low dwellings commonly erected, the proposed brick walls would add very materially to the cost of each structure; and such screens would greatly tend to prevent the rapid and extensive spread of fire. At the

same time the provision would certainly not interfere with the convenience of the occupants.

The application of such regulations as we here suggest, would at first apply only to all new buildings erected from the terms of enforcement, and to all old buildings undergoing extensive repairs. It might be necessary for the Government to render slight pecuniary assistance to the poorer classes compelled to comply with the provisions of the Act.

Our Tokio Building Act should, moreover, comprehend other cases of dangerous structures often leading to serious accidents and loss of life; such as the strength and distance of supports to high loggias and balconies. At the times of festivals and street spectacles calamity frequently occurs from the overcrowding of such constructions. Last year, during the displays at Riyōgoku bashi, there were several instances of serious accidents arising from such causes. The inspectors appointed would have among their duties to examine structures generally, and specially previous to crowded gatherings and street spectacles.

We would suggest then to the authorities that they should inaugurate in the capital an initial and experimental Building Act, commencing on a small scale with prohibitions and instructions such as we have indicated, and appointing qualified inspectors to see the provisions efficiently carried out.

**A**MONG the subjects which will doubtless receive attention during the forthcoming treaty revision, is that of tonnage dues on vessels entering Japanese ports or harbours. Clause VI. of the Trade Regulations attached to Lord Elgin's Treaty provides that no tonnage dues shall be levied, but admits of certain ordinary Customs' fees. It is obvious that the expenses of keeping in order, not only the open ports, but also those not yet opened to foreign trade, will necessitate some fees or charges of this nature, and therefore it may be worth while to see what is the custom in other countries. The tonnage dues of the United States are, as might have been expected from the general commercial policy of America, of a most discriminating kind. It is provided by an Act of Congress that:—

- 1.—United States vessels, the officers of which are American citizens, trading to foreign ports, pay a duty of thirty cents per ton of their registered tonnage.
- 2.—United States vessels, the officers of which are not American citizens, pay eighty cents per ton.
- 3.—Foreign vessels built, or partly built, in the United States, and trading to American ports, pay sixty cents per ton.
- 4.—Foreign vessels trading from foreign ports which American vessels are not ordinarily permitted to enter or trade with, pay two dollars and eighty cents per ton.
- 5.—When countervailing duties in certain foreign ports are abolished as against American vessels, ships trading from these ports to ports in the United States pay eighty cents per ton.
- 6.—All other vessels pay eighty cents per ton. Coasting vessels, or those trading to the Dominion of Canada, pay no tonnage dues. The amounts above given are only levied once a year.

In the treaties between China and foreign powers, tonnage dues on vessels entering Chinese ports are fixed at four *mace* per ton, for vessels of more than one hundred and fifty tons burden, and one *mace* per ton if under that size. Certificates of the payment of these dues last four months in the case of coasting vessels. In the various treaties between Great Britain and almost all the other countries in the globe, provision is made that the harbour and tonnage dues on



British vessels entering foreign ports shall be the same as those for national vessels; and in Great Britain itself the same principle prevails. In many cases, however, doubtless with the object of protecting the coasting trade and local passenger traffic, this rule is confined to vessels of over one hundred and twenty tons burden.

JAPAN, after all, has no very impossible task before her in the accomplishment of the design which the directors of her finance have set themselves. Much greater efforts have been, and are being, made elsewhere than any proposed to be undertaken in the Far East. America affords the most noteworthy example of what is possible in liquidation of national liabilities. To this fact the *Economist* draws attention. It shows that the rapidity with which the amount and the burden of the national debt has been reduced is the most noteworthy feature in United States finance. The maximum of indebtedness was reached on August 31st, 1865, when it amounted to 569,181,500*l*. At the end of November, 1879, according to the Treasury report, the total debt was 408,208,900*l*, so that within fourteen years there has been a reduction of no less than 165,972,600*l*. During the same period, or between March 31st, 1865, and the same date this year, the debt of Great Britain has declined from 816,852,974*l* to 778,078,840*l*, a reduction of 38,774,000*l*, or less than one-third of the amount which has been paid off by the United States. Nor is it only by a reduction of the principal of the debt that the Americans have benefited. The conversion into 4½ and 4 per Cents of the old 6 and 5 per Cent bonds has greatly diminished the interest payments. In August, 1865, the yearly interest was 30,195,000*l*, whereas when Secretary Sherman's recent refunding operations were concluded the normal debt charge was reduced to about 17,000,000*l*. And the work of conversion is still to be actively prosecuted. About 53,000,000*l* 6 per Cents mature on June 30th, 1880, and 101,600,000*l* outstanding 5 per Cents become redeemable on the 1st of May, 1881. These also it is intended to refund, and the only question seems to be whether the conversion should be into 4 per Cents, or whether an attempt should be made to reduce the rate of interest to 3½ per cent. The leading commercial London journal states:—"This is a chapter of financial history of which the United States may well be proud."

WE have much pleasure in congratulating Mr. J. J. Ensle, of H. M. Consular service in this port, upon a promotion which is well-merited and satisfactory in the prospects which it brings of future advancement. The gentleman in question has accepted an offer, conveyed to him by telegram from the Foreign Office, of the post of Registrar to the British Court, and Crown Prosecutor, in this port. Mr. R. Bishop, who has heretofore fulfilled the duties of Registrar remains in the establishment as Chief Clerk. A deserving subordinate officer, Mr. George Hodges, now second constable in the Consulate is promoted by transfer to the Judicial Department, where he is appointed Usher.

THE British public are evidently beginning to better appreciate the difficulties and expenses into which they are so frequently led in defence of the Colonies. On the subject of the South African war, now happily concluded, the *Times*, writing on the 19th of December, says:—

"The South African Blue-book just published contains a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to Sir Bartle Frere which may be recognised as the starting-point of a new policy. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach unfolds no recon-  
ciliate ideas; he simply instructs the Governor of the Cape Colony to let his Ministers understand what is the prevailing

opinion in this country concerning our relations with South Africa. That opinion has been repeatedly and emphatically expressed in these columns. We have never concealed the truth, which is that the English people have become thoroughly discontented with their position in regard to this dependency. A generation ago the Kaffir wars cost us large sums of money and priceless lives. There was afterwards for a while a lull in the storm, but Basuta wars and Kaffrarian wars have again disquieted the settlements between the great desert and the sea, and almost the whole expense and risk of these troubles has fallen upon the mother country. The time has come when the South African colonies, like other communities of the same class, must be taught to stand alone, and to rely only upon the Imperial Government for defence against external dangers. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in a despatch addressed on June 12th to the Governor of the Cape Colony, reminds him that the whole of the British possessions in South Africa combined are inferior in area, population, and revenues to other colonies enjoying a concentrated and well-ordered administration. There is no reason, apart from local and sectional jealousies, why the South African Colonies should remain disunited, and there are the gravest reasons of public policy for advising, and even insisting, that these divisions should come to an end. The alarming events of the past two years have rendered it impossible to proceed by gradual advances from point to point. We cannot challenge the perils of another Zulu war, and the sooner the colonists at the Cape and in Natal come to appreciate the effect of this resolution the better. If the European communities established in South Africa should have to encounter the dangers of another war like that which we have lately waged against Cetewayo, they must do so on their own account; and it is well that they should be warned in due time to do so with united forces."

The plain meaning of this is that the colonists must in future expect to carry on their warlike proceedings entirely at their own expense. If this is once distinctly understood, it is very probable that the British tax-payer will hear no more of troubles in Africa, as it is a strange circumstance that these colonial disturbances are limited to dependencies in which the Home Government undertakes the protection of the inhabitants, frequently incurring vast local expenditure in doing so. An exactly similar state of things to those so long existing in South Africa, at one time obtained in New Zealand. British soldiers and treasure were lavished in the attempt to dispose of the native difficulty, but in vain; and it was openly stated that the failure was attributable to the advantages derived by the colonists from imperial expenditure: in fact a Maori war was profitable to the settlers. The hint was acted upon by the home authorities, and, as soon as a favourable opportunity presented itself, every soldier was withdrawn from the islands. The result was remarkable. The elation of the Maoris at the removal of the regular troops caused another outbreak, which was speedily crushed by the unaided efforts of the colonial forces, and there has never since been a recurrence of the former scenes of turmoil and bloodshed. The adoption of a similar policy in South Africa will probably be attended with equally beneficial results.

REUTER'S subscribers in this neighbourhood have ample and frequent reason to complain of the neglect with which they are treated. The latest direct telegram received was dated the 11th, and received on the 18th, instant. It confirmed the intelligence previously received to the effect that Russian correspondence had been discovered at Cabul, and the extraordinary and of world-wide-interest announcement that the *New York Herald* was subscribing to the Irish relief fund. Nine days have now elapsed without further information on any subject, even as to the amount forwarded by the munificence of an American journal to assuage Hibernian suffering. One would have imagined that the latest attempt upon the life of the much hunted Czar of Russia, and the hideous carnage which accompanied it, might have afforded a pretext for a few words of notice to the Baron's



constituents in this part of the world. But, no. They and the general public are dependent for the news upon an official intimation, which was allowed to be made public.

**P**ROFESSOR *Nordenskjöld's* discovery of a practicable North-eastern passage between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, having already been instrumental in developing to a certain extent, trade between the *embouchure*, of the Lena River and some of the ports of Europe, is likely to fulfil the explorers' hopes of traffic between North Siberia and Far Eastern Asia. A Swedish merchant captain, Johannsen, of considerable fame in the realm of Arctic investigation, and at present in the employ of the Russian Government, has arrived in Japan to take charge of the steamer *Nordenskjöld*, the vessel which, despatched to the relief of the *Vega*, was wrecked at Nemuro, Yesso, on the voyage hence to hyperborean regions, shortly before the latter ship's safe arrival in Yokohama. Captain Johannsen's mission is to free the *Nordenskjöld*, a task thought likely to be one of trifling difficulty when the ice which at present surrounds her shall have broken up, and to bring her to Yokohama, where she will be repaired and refitted. Then an attempt will be made to gain, by way of Behring's Straits, the mouth of the Lena, and thence to bring to Yokohama a cargo of merchandise. Should, however, the return voyage be, through any circumstances, deemed inexpedient, the expedition will make for the Baltic. Captain Johannsen, at the head of a crew, will leave in a few days for Nemuro. He expects to return to Yokohama on board the *Nordenskjöld* in a few weeks, and to start on his ultimate errand before the spring is far advanced.

**A** few statistics of the French colony of Saigon cannot fail to be interesting at the present time, when the extension of French territory in eastern Asia seems as inevitable as it is desirable. The Government of the colony is publishing a series of works intended to make known the resources of the country to its inhabitants and foreigners. From the first volume, entitled "The condition of French Cochinchina during the year 1878," the following information is gleaned. Imports during the twelve months were valued at \$12,899,896, being an increase of nearly one and a half million dollars over 1877. Exports attained a total of \$13,581,165, an increment of more than two million dollars above the preceding year. Upward of four million dollars were imported; and only two million six hundred thousand left the country, which was thus enriched by an actual excess of exports over imports of \$2,372,251. Of merchant vessels 330, with a tonnage of 324,000 entered the port of Saigon: 162 were English, 74 German, and 71 French. Trade between Hongkong and Saigon employed 358 vessels: between the latter place and Singapore 123: to and from Marseilles 54 (nearly all steamers); and between the colonial ports and Tonquin 19. The population of the colony was 1,592,202. The revenue reached a total of fr. 407,191 more, and the disbursements fr. 150,919 less, than in 1877. The rate of mortality, which attained alarming proportions in the early days of the conquest among the troops and the civil servants of the state, has fallen to an average little higher than that obtaining in the army in France. In the Antilles, Senegal, and many other places, the death-rate is much higher than it is in the French possession of Cochinchina. The local forces consisted, at the close of 1878, of 209 officers: 3,730 non-commissioned officers and rank and file (Europeans); 48 officers and 3,740 men in the native militia.

**S**OME interesting trade statistics may also be collated from the annual report of the Saigon Chamber of

Commerce. The total export of rice in 1879 from the French port (exclusive of paddy and *brisures*) was 5,864,909 piculs, being an increase of two and a quarter million piculs over 1878, and of a little short of two million piculs over 1876, the latter year having previously been the one most highly favoured in the rice trade. During 1879 exports also increased in the items of hides and horns, ground rice, lard, silk, paddy, and pepper. Other articles, especially Cambodian produce showed a notable diminution. Cardamoms, hair, shells, ivory, and stick-lac had almost entirely disappeared from the market. Oils were exported by fifty per cent less than in the previous year, and seven-eighths less than in 1877. The difference between the money imported and that sent away was again greatly in favour of the colony, being \$3,317,074. All things considered, Cochinchina was, in 1878 and 1879, in possession of considerable and progressive prosperity. This condition, a local critic asserts, was attained in spite of the deplorable tendency of the rulers to sacrifice everything else to the military element, and the carelessness of the home Government in regard to a fine dependency, which no more occupied attention in Paris than if it had never existed or belonged to some other power. It is remarked that on all sides colonization encountered difficulties which a defective organization rendered almost insurmountable; and, nevertheless, so great was the vitality of the colony that it made remarkable progress in prosperity. Considerable improvements have been introduced into the various branches of the administration, and it is confidently expected that, under the present equitable and moderate rule, Cochinchina will receive a new impulse, and become, as it ought to be, the finest colony of France.

#### REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.

(Continued from Saturday, 17th instant.)

##### PART II.—THE LAND TAX MENTIONED IN SECTION I.

The principal revenue of the government is derived from this source, and though a full explanation is not herein given as to the changes in the mode of its collection, yet it is necessary to mention briefly the causes of the increase and decrease in the amount of the tax collected since the restoration.

The total receipts from this source for the seven and a half years between the 1st year of Meiji and the 7th month of the 8th year of Meiji amount to Yen 232,711,465.416. We shall briefly explain below the process of gathering the same into the national treasury. It has been the rule that one-half of the tax received in one term shall belong to the term immediately preceding. Thus, the receipts of the eighth period were all actually derived from the seventh, up to which term, inclusive, only the returns of the land tax are here dealt with.

The receipts from the land tax for each of the eight fiscal terms are as follows:—

	Yen.
1st term .....	2,009,018.780
2nd term .....	8,855,968.945
3rd term .....	8,218,969.008
4th term .....	11,840,988.587
5th term .....	20,051,917.087
6th term .....	60,604,242.381
7th term .....	59,412,428.874
8th term .....	67,717,946.854

Total..... 232,711,465.416

From this it will be clearly seen that the land tax has continued to increase, and that the smallness of the receipts for the 1st and 2d terms was partly due to the failure of the payment of the tax in the provinces through the civil war; and partly to the fact that, in accordance with the financial system of those days, all the expenses of Fu and Ken having first been deducted from the amount of the taxes collected therein, only the sum remaining was sent to the national treasury, as we have seen in the introductory remarks.

In the 3d and 4th terms the receipt of the land tax has increased and amounts to eight, and eleven, million yen,

in round numbers. The advance noticeable in the third term was owing to the fact that, although on account of the defective harvest of the second year of Meiji the land tax was in part remitted, yet on the other hand, some of the Han being rebellious to the imperial cause, had part of their territories confiscated and converted into Ken, which are under the direct control of the imperial government. Again, during this term the average price of rice per koku was high. The increase in the receipts from the land tax for the fourth term—some millions of yen—over those of the third term, was due to the good harvest of the 8d year of Meiji (1870). Payment of the tax was not remitted as it was in the third term. The advance was also attributable to the circumstance that the affairs of the local governments having been gradually put in order, matters which were previously in confusion had begun to improve. Moreover, in the 7th month of the 8d year of Meiji, the Morioka Han was abolished and a Ken substituted for it. In the fifth term, receipts from the land tax amounted to a sum of more than twenty million yen, but even this was of small amount when compared with the total amount of the land tax collected in all parts of the country after the abolition of the Han, which event occurred in the 7th month of the 4th year of Meiji (June 1871). Afterward many changes occurred in the local administrations. Many offices were created, some abolished, some united, and others separated. A great confusion thus took place in the provincial bureaux. This caused delays in the payment of the land tax, so that the receipts from that source in the term mentioned were only about twenty million yen. The income from the land tax in the sixth term amounted to more than sixty million yen, an increase of more than 302 per cent from the previous term. The reason of this improvement was that by this period the local administrations had come into working order, and a more satisfactory condition of affairs had been established. The arrears of previous terms had also been received into the national treasury, in addition to the collections for the actual term. That the returns from the land tax in the seventh period amounted to a sum of more than fifty-nine million yen is thus explained. The average price of rice was high, and a large portion of the dues belonging to the sixth and preceding terms, payment of which had been deferred,\* was also received in this period. In the eighth term receipts from the same source amounted to more than sixty-seven million yen, which is a larger contribution from the same source than any received in previous terms. The cause of the increment shall now be explained. The space of time which the eighth term occupied was intercalary between the old and the new fiscal year, the latter being established by decree in the 10th month of the 7th year of Meiji (October, 1874). The arrears of the land tax for the 7th year of Meiji and those the payment of which was in arrears before or since the abolition of Han until the term of closing the accounts, were paid in during the period. The final adjustment did not take place until the 30th day of the 6th month of the 11th year of Meiji (June 30th 1878). Some receipts and expenditures belonging to periods previous to the sixth month of the eighth year have been taken cumulatively in the accounts for the eighth term, so that they should not appear in the financial accounts since the eighth fiscal year.

We have thus briefly stated the facts in regard to the accounts of the land tax, but it must be remembered that the money mentioned for each term is not the whole amount of the tax belonging thereto, but a portion may pertain to the preceding or even earlier terms. Moreover, as regards the period before the fourth term, it was found hard to decide how much was the amount of the land tax collected in each term, because some of the Fu and Ken did not pay into the national treasury the whole amount of the taxes which they had collected, but only the balance which remained after they had applied what sums they needed for local purposes. It remained, under these circumstances, to find out by investigation of the financial records how much the amount of the land tax in one term actually was; but, in consequence of the price of rice varying in different parts of the country, a great discrepancy was evident in the calculation, and it was next to impossible to arrive at exact accounts for each term. Consequently,

\*Yenko is a temporary exemption from land tax. It can be put into operation whenever a harvest prove defective.

adopting what appeared to us the only available course, we took the average of the taxes collected for some years prior to the abolition of the Han, and again the average amount for some years subsequent to that measure. (We omitted Hokkaido and Riu Kiu from our calculations.) We thus arrived at a rough estimate of the land tax received before and after the abolition of the Han. The sum of money deducted by Fu and Ken for their own expenditures from the amount of the land tax collected thereby was as follows:

1st year of Meiji.....	4,419,015.660
2nd " " " .....	4,461,010.955
8rd " " " .....	8,224,412.671

Total ..... 12,104,439.286

If we add to this the sum of Yen 12,104,000, in round numbers, the amount of the land tax received into the national treasury during the first three terms,—the deduction of Yen 1,092,000, in round numbers, which belonged to the land tax for the 8d year of Keio (1867) being made from the amount,—we obtain a sum of Yen 24,595,000 in round numbers. If now we add to this sum the amount of the land tax which belonged to the 8d year of Meiji and preceding periods, but was actually paid in after the 4th year, we have Yen 88,383,000 in round numbers, as shown in the following table, together with the yearly average for each of the three periods.

Amount received into the national treasury from the 1st term to the 8d term inclusive, except the part pertaining to the 8d year of Keio.....	Yen. 12,490,984.906
Amount received into the national treasury since the 4th term .....	8,788,486.688
Amount deducted by Fu and Ken.....	12,104,489.286
Total .....	88,883,910.180

The average amount of three years..... 11,127,970.060

Hence the amount of Yen 11,127,000 in round numbers; namely, the yearly average for three years, may be considered the annual sum derived from the land tax in Fu and Ken before the abolition of Han, and the average amount of the land tax in Fu and Ken since the abolition of the Han, will be given below.

If we subtract the sum of Yen 8,788,000, in round numbers, actually received into the national treasury after the 4th term, yet properly belonging to the 8d and previous terms, from the total amount of the land tax received into the national treasury from the 4th term to the 8th term inclusive, and add to the difference the sum of Yen 819,000,\* in round numbers, deducted by Fu and Ken from the land tax of the 4th year of Meiji for their own expenses, the result will be Yen 211,158,000, in round numbers; and the average of the land tax for the four years from the 4th to the 7th inclusive of Meiji, is as follows:—

[The amount of the land tax received into the treasury in the eighth term was not and could not be the sum due for that period. It was actually derived from the seventh term, the land revenues for the eighth not being here accounted for.]

Amount of the land tax received into the national treasury from the 4th to the 8th term, inclusive.....	Yen. 210,389,082.045
Amount of land tax deducted by Fu and Ken .....	819,418.860
	211,158,445.905

Average yearly amount for the four years 52,789,611.476

This sum of Yen 52,789,000 in round numbers, being the annual average for four years, is to be taken as the amount of land tax collected in Fu and Ken in each fiscal year since the abolition of the Han. If we deduct the sum of Yen 547,574, which is the tax on title deeds of town lands (formerly exempt), from the present amount of the land tax, namely, Yen 40,873,935 (according to the estimates for the 11th fiscal year) we find a decrease, as compared with the above average, of Yen 12,963,260.

\* This was the sum expended in Fu and Ken, according to the old financial system, although proclamation had been made in the 4th month of the 4th year of Meiji to pay direct to the national exchequer the whole amount of the land tax from the 4th year of Meiji inclusive.

This is an actual diminution of more than 24½ per cent, or nearly one-fourth of the whole.

Furthermore, there were many abolitions of miscellaneous taxes imposed according to the *Kusataka* (assessment on the production of rice in different districts, not on a general plan, but according to the special exigencies of certain neighborhoods). The tax was charged for the expenses of *Temma Shiku* (posting stations), fees for the management of government rice stores, and for the hire of *Roku shaku* (those whose business it was to carry the *kago* of dignitaries; and coolies for government service, paid in rice or money).

#### PART III.—CUSTOMS DUES.

Customs dues include the taxes on exports and imports in each open port, and fees of various kinds received by the customs bureau. During the seven and a half years under review, namely, from the 1st to the 7th month of the eighth year of Meiji, the grand total of the customs receipts of all kinds was Yen 8,497,665.084. The receipts for each term were as follows:—

	Yen.
First term.....	720,866.986
Second term.....	502,817.470
Third term.....	648,453.498
Fourth term.....	1,071,080.566
Fifth term.....	1,381,560.265
Sixth term.....	1,685,974.865
Seventh term.....	1,498,257.552
Eighth term.....	1,088,108.926

Total..... 8,497,665.084

These figures constitute self-evident proof of the gradual increase of our foreign trade. The excess of the receipts in the first term over those of the second and third terms is ascribable to the high price of the chief articles of export, namely, raw silk and silk-worms' egg cards, and the large exportation of these articles. In the second term the income was small, smaller in fact than that of any other term. The reason for this is that in that year there was a reform in regard to the duration of the fiscal year, the 9th month being made the termination of the period. This term was, therefore, short, lasting only nine lunar months, namely, from the 1st month of the 2d year of Meiji (February 11th, 1869) to the 10th month of the same year (November 4th, 1869). After the third term, customs receipts continued to increase, but in the 6th term they were larger than in the seventh. This was caused by a similar circumstance to that which affected the excess in the first term, to wit, the increased demand for raw silk and silk-worms' egg cards. The export of these articles increased, and their price rose, and importation was stimulated by the briskness in the outward trade. The eighth fiscal term of Meiji was a short one, consisting of only six months; but its receipts exceeded one million yen. This was not caused by an increase of exports and imports from a general addition to foreign trade, but was due to the fact that the sum of Yen 224,850.461, which properly belonged to the sixth and seventh fiscal terms, was brought over to the accounts of this period. There is another circumstance which requires to be explained, and this is the discrepancy between the figures above given and those recorded in the statistics of exports and imports for the whole seven and a half years. Now, if we compare the former with the latter, the first shows a deficiency of Yen 1,545,640.374. This discrepancy is accounted for by the fact that the calculation of the latter accounts was based on the conventional valuation of silver, which took three hundred and eleven *ichibu gin* as equal to one hundred Mexican dollars; one hundred of which coins were considered the equivalent of one hundred and one yen of our currency; but in preparing this statement, we have had to adopt a different standard, which is thus described. From the 1st year of Meiji (1868) to the 7th year of Meiji (1874) four hundred *ichibu gin* were considered equal to one hundred yen. From the 7th year of Meiji (1874), according to notification No. 933, issued in the 9th month of that year, the relation between the old and new coins was established on the new basis of three hundred and twenty and eight-tenths *ichibu* being equivalent to one hundred yen of the new silver coinage. It is obvious that the difference between the conventional and the national standards of value must have caused a considerable depreciation in the real worth of the customs revenues. On the other hand, by

the transformation of old into new coins an advantage was gained. The increase in the second term of the seventh section was mainly due to this cause. The latter standard having been used throughout all other branches of the revenues and expenditures, we could not adopt a different basis in these accounts for the customs duties alone.

#### PART IV.—MISCELLANEOUS TAXES.

These taxes are such as are generally levied by special enactments, and comprise also some accessory receipts. For the seven and a half years, the total revenues from those resources were Yen 17,215,520.717. The receipts of the eight fiscal terms were as follows:—

	Yen.
First term.....	427,429.060
Second term.....	540,534.659
Third term.....	456,542.692
Fourth term.....	489,419.588
Fifth term.....	461,625.515
Sixth term.....	2,724,476.864
Seventh term.....	4,892,583.015
Eighth term.....	7,772,909.815

Total..... 17,215,520.717

These figures show that the miscellaneous taxes fluctuated between Yen 420,000 and Yen 540,000 in five terms. In the sixth term they took a sudden development. In that period they amounted to some Yen 2,720,000; in the seventh term about Yen 4,890,000; and in the eighth term about Yen 7,770,000.

During the first and second terms, miscellaneous taxes were derived from three sources, viz., *Unjio* and *Miyoga*, dues from foreigners, and *Kokuyeki Kin*. The excess of the receipts of the second over those of the first term, by Yen 118,000 in round numbers, is due to the fact that *Unjio* and *Miyoga* from saké and spirits, which properly belonged to the first term, were actually received in the second. In the third term, by the notification issued in the 9th month of the 2d year of Meiji (October, 1869), the taxes on raw silk which had been levied under the names of *Unjio* and *Miyoga* were reformed, and a new tax was established on silkworms' egg cards, which had previously been exempted from duty. By the establishment of this new tax, about Yen 95,000 was obtained; but in this term miscellaneous taxes were less than those received in the preceding term. This was owing to the defective harvest in the north-eastern provinces. In the 11th month of the 2d year of Meiji it was decided to diminish by two-thirds throughout the country the amount of rice devoted to distillation. This reform caused a delay in payments.

In the fourth and fifth terms miscellaneous taxes were still small. This effect was produced by the comparatively small yield of the tax on saké and spirits. It is true that in the 9th month of the 3d year of Meiji (October 1870), distillation was again allowed to the full legal amount; but in the 7th month of the 4th year of Meiji (August 1871), the tax was altered. Previously, a duty of ten yen under the name of *Miyoga* was levied on each hundred koku of rice reserved for distillation. Then, this method was abolished and the tax was fixed at five per cent on the amount sold. According to this method it is plain that the tax which probably belonged to this term was actually paid in the next. In the fifth term receipts from the sale of postage stamps began to be realized (the imperial post office was first established in the 3d month of the 4th year of Meiji). The taxes on boats and *shikori-abura* (oil for lighting), which had been levied in accordance with different local customs under the names of *Unjio* and *Miyoga*, were reformed,—the former, by notification of the 8th month of the 4th year of Meiji, and the latter, by notification of the 9th month of the same year. In the term now under review these taxes began to be levied under the new regulations. By the amendment, receipts from these taxes were increased; and several duties on silk-worms' egg cards, which had belonged to the preceding term, were received in this. These items amounted to a considerable sum. On the other hand, the dues received from foreigners in the foreign concessions were greatly diminished. This latter is the reason why the increase of the receipts of this term over those of the preceding was only about Yen 22,000.

The increase of the receipts from miscellaneous taxes in the sixth term was, actually, 585.7 per cent over the average for the preceding five terms. This in-



crease was due to the establishment of several new taxes. For instance, by notification of the 2d month of the 6th year of Meiji (February, 1873), a stamp-tax was established. By notification of the 1st month taxes for servants, carriages, pleasure boats and shooting licenses were regulated. In the term now being considered the gross yield from all these sources was Yen 346,000 in round numbers. Furthermore, there were some duties the collection of which had not been uniform, because of the different local customs. The method of collecting all these taxes was also altered. Thus, fees for cattle dealer's licenses were reformed by a notification in the 11th month of the 5th year of Meiji; anchorage dues, by notification of the 1st month of the 6th year; and stamp-tax on silk, at the same time. By these reforms the taxes in question were unified. The charge for stamps on silk was intended to produce beneficial effects, in dispensing with the old tax. Again, by making the use of stamps compulsory it prevented fraud. The yield of this tax under the reformed method of collection was about Yen 108,000 in this term; and a considerable increase from various taxes was also observable. The following table shows the items in which an augmentation was appreciable.

	Yen.
Tax on saké, etc.....	increase about 944,000
Tax on silkworms' egg cards.....	" " 222,000
Dues from foreigners.....	" " 108,000
Postage stamps .....	" " 70,000
Ship licenses .....	" " 75,000
Shibori-abura .....	" " 71,000
Miscellaneous taxes under the headings of <i>Unjio</i> and <i>Miyoga</i> .....	" " 284,000
<i>Koku-yeki-kin</i> .....	" " 42,000
Tribute from Riu Kiu Han.....	" " 48,000

Miscellaneous taxes in the seventh term show an increase of Yen 1,668,000 in round numbers, over the preceding term. This is an increment of a little more than sixty-one per cent. The main causes of this advance are the increase of the tax on saké and spirits, miscellaneous taxes called *Unjio* and *Miyoga*, and the imposition of a tax on official incomes, which latter produced a little less than Yen 60,000. The increase of receipts from saké and spirits in this and preceding terms was ascribable to the perfection of a reform in the collection of that tax; namely, the abolition of a levy on the quantity of rice destined to distillation, and the substitution of a duty on the amount sold. The large growth of miscellaneous taxes in this term are accounted for thus:—The taxes which, having been reformed, as we have stated above, had still been received under the old names, were classed with these miscellaneous taxes. The subjoined are important items showing an increase over corresponding ones in the previous term:—

	Yen.
Tax on saké, etc.....	increase about 722,000
Miscellaneous receipts.....	" " 781,000
Postage stamps .....	" " 99,000
Ship licenses .....	" " 42,000
Anchorage dues .....	" " 58,000
Taxes on servants, carriages and pleasure boats.....	" " 50,000
Shooting licenses.....	" " 88,000

The following are the most important taxes which showed a diminution compared with corresponding ones in the preceding term:—

	Yen.
Dues from foreigners .....	decrease about 60,000
Stamp tax.....	" " 27,000
Silkworms' egg cards .....	" " 90,000

Miscellaneous taxes in the eighth term were more than those of the preceding term by about Yen 8,880,000. This is an augmentation of nearly 77 per cent. It must be borne in mind that this term consisted of only six months, namely, from the 1st month of the 8th year of Meiji (January, 1875) to the seventh month of the same year, yet the receipts were very large. This was partly due to the fact that arrears which had been accumulating for several years were paid in this term, as was mentioned in the introductory remarks, and partly to the collection of the tax on pensions belonging to the preceding term. This produced about Yen 2,040,000. Also, the mining tax began to be collected, according to the law of the seventh month of the 6th year of Meiji (July, 1878), and yielded Yen 44,000 in round numbers. The tax on carriages was reformed, and

was levied from the 1st month of the eighth year of Meiji (January, 1875) on the reformed basis, producing about Yen 96,000. Beside those already enumerated, some other taxes showed an increase in this term. Those below are the most important.

	Yen.
Postage stamps .....	increase about 411,000
Stamp tax.....	" " 108,000
Miscellaneous receipts.....	" " 246,000
<i>Koku Yeki Kin</i> .....	" " 160,000

Other taxes displayed a diminution compared with similar ones of the preceding term.

The subjoined are the most important:—

	Yen.
Tax on saké, etc.....	decrease about 878,000
Ship licenses .....	" " 118,000
Cattle dealers' licenses.....	" " 64,000
Tax on <i>Shibori abura</i> .....	" " 59,000
Dues from foreigners.....	" " 81,000

Explanations as to the causes of the increase and diminution of the miscellaneous taxes above mentioned will be given in the second portion of this report, where we shall find the actual accounts for each fiscal term. We have above merely stated in outline the results of the establishments of new, and reformation in the old, taxes.

It is also desirable to say something about the abolition of some duties. In the first place we will refer to the miscellaneous taxes called *Unjio* and *Miyoga*. During the time when the feudal system prevailed, the assessment and mode of collecting these taxes varied according to different places. Practice was simply regulated by local custom without any fixed principle to serve as guide. In some places imposts were collected on commodities; in others, on actual business transactions. Or, otherwise, there were indirect taxes on consumption in one place, and fees for licenses to sell in another. The names and kinds of the levies were so numerous that we have reckoned up more than two thousand. One can readily see how complicated they must have been. Moreover, they weighed too heavily on some commodities or businesses, and were too light upon others. Indeed, such a system as they involved could no longer be maintained, and, accordingly, they were entirely abolished in the 2d month of the 8th year of Meiji (February, 1875). In the second place we must refer to the tax called *Kokuyeki-kin*. This was levied on the inhabitants of the territories directly controlled by the Baku-fu, and on those of the small Han, and was devoted to the conservancy of the banks of rivers. It was very inequitable, and was, therefore, entirely abolished in the 2d month of the 8th year of Meiji. Thirdly, we will allude to the tax on *Shibori-abura* (oil for lighting). Formerly, this tax, also, was unfairly levied. So in the 9th month of the 4th year of Meiji (October, 1871), it was reformed and rendered equitable. Later still, and in order to encourage production of the oil, it was abolished. This occurred in the 2d month of the 8th year of Meiji (February, 1875). In the fourth place, as regards the taxes on servants, carriages and pleasure boats, they had been established in the 1st month of the 6th year of Meiji (January, 1873), but their returns proved meager, and their collection was a very complicated matter. They were accordingly abolished in the 2d month of the 8th year of Meiji, the tax on pleasure boats being incorporated with the measure which provides for ship-licenses; and the tax on vehicles, which, as a separate contribution, is still in force, was provided.

#### PART V.—INCOME DERIVED FROM GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIES.

The income which we treat in this part is derived from several kinds of industries established by the government. The total receipts during six and a half years (from the 2d year of Meiji to the 7th month of the 8th year) amount to Yen 6,776,102.899, and the receipts of each fiscal term are as follows:

	Yen.
Second term.....	83,528.574
Third term .....	87,848.978
Fourth term.....	118,927.801
Fifth term.....	148,964.857
Sixth term .....	2,002,518.817
Seventh term .....	1,987,884.900
Eighth term.....	2,451,489.477
Total.....	6,776,102.899



The receipts of the 2d and 8d terms were derived from the Yokosuka and Yokohama iron works only. In the 4th term the receipts from the Yokosuka dock (formerly Yokosuka iron works) increased; while more than Yen 80,000 from the Nagasaki factory and some returns from the Telegraphs were also collected. The receipts for the 5th term were a little more than those of the preceding term. This increase was caused by the fact that the mining tax began to be collected, amounting to something over Yen 88,000. The 6th term shows a large and sudden increase; the sum of more than Yen 1,096,000 from the mint (including receipts which belonged to the 4th and 5th terms), and more than Yen 544,000 from the railway between Tokio and Yokohama (being the total receipts since its opening in the 5th month of the 5th year of Meiji), were received in this term by the national treasury. Further the income from mines was increased by more than Yen 115,000; and from telegraphs by Yen 101,000. In the 7th term the receipts decreased somewhat. In the eighth term the receipts from the resources under consideration exceeded the average of the sixth and seventh terms by about Yen 456,000. Considering the short duration of the term, this is a considerable increase. It was due to the fact that the payments which should have been made in the previous terms, but had been delayed, were made in this term.

There are one or two things in regard to the income in question which need some explanation. Though the receipts from mines commenced to be reckoned only from the 5th term yet, as a matter of fact, such mines as Sado, Ikuno and Kozaka had already been worked since the 8d term; and the reason why these receipts were not realized before the 5th term, was that during those periods the government was engaged in establishing the mint and was busy recoinng old coins, and there was no time to spare for refining ore. Accordingly payment of duties was delayed. As to other government industries, details will hereafter be specially given. Receipts and expenditures in regard to the several items will, also, be detailed.

#### PART VI.—REPAYMENT OF ORDINARY LOANS DUE TO GOVERNMENT.

The repayment of ordinary loans which we shall consider in this part, is more fully mentioned in the 2d item of section VIII—Expenditures (see part I ch. 1). The total repayment of this loan during seven and a half years, from the 1st year of Meiji to the 7th month of the 8th year of Meiji, amounted to Yen 2,551,952.866; and the amounts collected in each year were as follows:

	Yen.
First term.....	124,521.771
Second term.....	55,697.845
Third term .....	120,229.205
Fourth term.....	866,919.171
Fifth term.....	602,097.184
Sixth term.....	679,885.056
Seventh term.....	259,987.171
Eighth term .....	842,665.468

Total ..... 2,551,952.866

There is scarcely anything requiring an explanation in regard to the repayment under consideration. However, it may be important to state that the reason why this part was separately inserted is simply to make the statement clearer than it would otherwise be. There are other kinds of loans—such as to Koku Daka wari, Tsusho shi, and other companies—loans made to encourage trade and industries. These advances are extraordinary in their character. We believe that ordinary and extraordinary advances should be carefully distinguished, especially in financial statements. This is why we are induced to consider this part of the subject separately.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."

LONDON, 4th February.

A conflict has taken place between the Police and Nihilists in St. Petersburg.

A Proclamation issued by the latter declares a death struggle against the Government.

Heavy reinforcements are being sent to Kandahar, and it is believed that a march upon Herat is contemplated. Mr. Parnell has made a speech in the United States House of Representatives (?) upon the land question.

(From the *Straits Times*.)

London, 26th January.—The immediate occupation of Tongking by the French is affirmed.

London, 28th January.—The interchange of notes upon the subject of the Mollah affair between Mr. Layard and the Porte is still going on.

Mr. Lowell has been appointed United States Minister to London.

London, 29th January.—The semi-official *Agence Russe* declares the report that Russian troops are concentrating in Poland to be unfounded.

The Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs has made a reassuring speech on the subject.

London, 30th January.—It is intimated that the German Government will not resume the silver sales.

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21st, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 15TH YEAR, 2ND MONTH, 21ST DAY, DO-YO-SI.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On the morning of Wednesday last the P. and O. steamer *Malacca* arrived from Hongkong, with the English mail of January 6th. The P. M. steamer *City of Tokio* arrived from the same port on the 15th, and was despatched for San Francisco on Tuesday afternoon.

The *Castello* left Singapore for Hongkong on February 9th.

The *Lydia* from Hamburg for China and Japan, put into Plymouth for repairs, on the 24th of December.

Thefts are common enough both in Tokio and Yokohama, but our readers will learn with regret that a robbery has taken place at the Yamaashita museum, in Tokio, and a number of ancient swords, banners, &c., extremely valuable from historic associations, have been stolen.

A general meeting of the shareholders in the Tokio Marine Insurance Company was held on the 13th instant. The report submitted disclosed an exceedingly prosperous condition of affairs, not a single vessel issued by the company having sustained damage during the period covered by the statement. Mr. Date was appointed managing director for the current year.

At the date of the departure of the last English mail, the successor to Monsieur de Geofroy, late French Minister to Japan, had not yet been appointed. Monsieur Garnier, formerly French Consul at Bangkok, has been transferred to the Consulate in Shanghai.

Intelligence was received in Tokio in the early part of the week that Asama-yama, a mountain in the prefecture of Shinano, was sending forth volumes of dense smoke and giving every indication of approaching active eruption. The news attracted considerable attention, and Dr. Martin has left the capital to inspect and report upon the phenomena.

The municipal authorities of Osaka have adopted a wise precautionary course which may with advantage be followed in the other cities and towns throughout the empire. Although cholera has disappeared, for the present, there can be little doubt that the germs of the disease still lurk in many localities. The Osaka officials have given strict orders that a thorough cleansing of their city is to be effected and every precaution

taken against a recurrence of the epidemic when warm weather again sets in.

Her Majesty the Queen, has been graciously pleased to intimate, through Lieutenant-General Ponsonby, her approval and acceptance, with thanks, of a copy of Mr. Streeter's new work on "Precious Stones and Gems."—*Morning Post*.

The Concert given last Saturday evening by some of our musical amateurs, with the assistance of Madame Claus, must have been a great success financially; a large and fashionable audience being present.

The entertainment opened with some fragments of Mendelssohn's Pianoforte trio in D minor Op. 49; the performance suffering much from the omission of the glorious opening *Allegro*, and the frequent absence of the Cello part, that instrument being sometimes quite inaudible. The *Scherzo* and *Finale* were also taken too slowly, and thus much of the Mendelssohnian charm was lost. After a Russian cavatina for a tenor voice came a show piece for the Violin by the French composer Alard, followed by one of the gems of the evening:—Schubert's "Aufenthalt" from the Schwanengesang of that immortal King of song. The programme next called for a Polonaise by Chopin; but some other piece was substituted with which we were not acquainted. A cavatina from Gonod's *Faust* brought the first part to a close. After a short interval came "Papa" Haydn's ever-welcome Quinten-quartet, with its wonderful canon in the last movement. The parts in this were not quite evenly balanced, and the general effect was sadly marred by the entry of part of the audience during the earlier movements. A song for Soprano with Violino obbligato (much appreciated) was followed by a *pièce de Concert* for piano alone, and No. 10 was replaced by a charming ballad of Kirchner's:—"Sie sagen es wäre die liebe." This was rapturously encored, when Schubert's song "Die Post" was given, and the evening came to an end with a Chorus for male voices by Kreuzer.

We were delighted to have the pleasure of hearing Madame Claus once again, her pure intonation and finished *cantabile* being especially noticeable in the Fantasia by Alard and in the accompaniment to Braga's song. As to the other numbers it would be unseemly to criticise too closely the work of Amateurs, all of them well known, and whom we have had the pleasure of hearing before either in the room of the Christian Association in Tokio or at the hospitable réunions of the Club Germania. We cannot, however, refrain from saying that the Piano solo in the second part was played by our *première pianiste* with inimitable brilliancy; also that the songs by Schubert and Kirchner were sung by a lady vocalist with grand artistic feeling. Every word and tone could be distinctly heard, and the audience was roused to enthusiasm befitting the occasion.

During the stay of the P. M. steamer *City of Tokio* in Yokohama harbour, between her arrival from Hongkong on the 19th of November and her departure for San Francisco on the 22nd of the same month, a remarkable spring of fresh water was discovered under the ship as she lay moored at her buoy, when tailing in a line with Honmoko point. The first intimation of such a thing occurred on opening the valve of the sea-cocks directly under the ship. The water was being conducted by a hose to the engine-room, on a level with the sea, when the Chinamen there commenced to wash their clothes in it. On being remonstrated with by one of the officers, they replied that the water was not salt but fresh, and the second engineer tasted it and found that such was the case. The matter was reported to the chief engineer, Mr. S. W. Hawzhurst, and we are enabled through his courtesy to give publicity to the discovery. This gentleman informs us that he has observed the presence of the spring two or three times, but only when the ship was in the position we have described. His impression is that it must proceed from a volcanic source, and be of some considerable volume and force, as otherwise it would scarcely reach the surface from a depth of some seven fathoms. The water was used on board for various purposes, and some of it was exhibited by Mr. Hawzhurst to the passengers, who pronounced it fresh. It was slightly impregnated with sulphur, but no trace of salt was noticeable; and it would be far preferable to much of the brackish water derived from the settlement. The position of the ship when tailing in the direction we mention, would make the water appear to come to the surface about

two hundred feet from the buoy, and with these indications we hardly think there would be much difficulty in finding it at any time. That such springs exist in other places, notably on the coast of Florida, is a well known fact, and there they are availed of to supply ships, &c., with perfectly fresh water, and are of inestimable value for that purpose. Certainly this discovery might be utilized here, at any rate for supplying steamer's boilers and for general ship's use. The matter is worth the attention of the authorities, and no doubt if the fountain were found to be in constant action there would be no difficulty in making it profitable as well as useful. Similar springs are known to exist off the coast of Idzu no Ōshima (Vries Island) and in any volcanic country can hardly be considered phenomenal. During the last passage of the *City of Tokio* to Hongkong, several sources were traversed; and a remarkable rise in the temperature of the water was observable in the neighbourhood of the isle, where the sea also showed quite an agitated surface. Mr. Hawzhurst reports that he did not notice the spring during the late stay of the steamer in the harbour, as he had not given the matter any careful consideration or opened the valves when the ship was in a similar position to that which she occupied when the spring was first discovered.

Some idea may be formed of the magnitude of the Indian tea trade from the fact that during the year 1879 no less than 38,126,447 lbs. were exported to Great Britain, as against 33,458,011 lbs. exported in 1878. In addition, a very large business is done with Central Asia.

The Hongkong *Daily Press*, says: "We are informed that, through the representations of Mr. J. Pitman, on behalf of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, to the Lords of the Admiralty, they have decided not to make any claim for salvage, for the services rendered by H.M.S. *Swinger* in towing off the Company's steamer *Yekia*, when she went ashore some time since at Chefoo. The sum paid over as deposit has accordingly been returned by Mr. Gardner, British Consul at Chefoo. In acknowledgment of Mr. Pitman's services, Mr. Tong King Sing has, on behalf the C. M. S. N. Company, forwarded him a cheque, which the recipient will devote to the purchase of a cup to be suitably engraved as a memento and token of friendship on the part of the Company."

The adjourned meeting of the jockey club was held on Saturday, the 14th instant, at the Gaiety Theatre, at 3 p.m., and was attended by Messrs. H. Allen, Junr., J. C. Haswell, N. P. Kingdon, Cope, Mitchell, Jaffray, Peacock, Waggon and others.

Mr. Cope, having been voted to the chair, stated that the object of the meeting was to pass the accounts of last year, and to take into consideration the future of the Jockey Club. It was evident that the present Club could not continue to pay expenses, but as there were reported other schemes under consideration for the promotion of racing, it would be as well to temporarily adjourn this meeting in order to ascertain whether any new Club was to be formed, and, if so, whether it would take over any properties that might belong to the Y. J. C. at a valuation, or otherwise.

Mr. Allen then read the accounts for last year, which on the proposition of Mr. Haswell, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, were approved and accepted.

Mr. Jaffray then proposed and Mr. Peacock seconded "that this meeting stand adjourned to the call of the Hon. Secretary."

After some discussion Mr. Kingdon proposed as an amendment "that the books, accounts, and vouchers of the Y. J. C. be placed in the hands of Mr. J. J. Keewick, Clerk of the Course, with the view of ascertaining to whom the various properties belong."

This amendment did not meet with a seconder, or with the approval of the members present, it being the general opinion that the present Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. H. Allen, had done everything possible for the interests of the Jockey Club, and that all accounts appertaining thereto should be left in his hands.

Mr. Jaffray's proposition was then put to the meeting and carried.

Mr. Allen stated that it was his intention to call a final meeting before the end of the current month.

The meeting then adjourned.

From the Hongkong *Daily Press* we learn that the following is a translation of a Chinese petition just presented to the local Government praying that the Japanese silver yen may be made legally current in this colony :—

"We, the undersigned Chinese bankers, merchants, and traders resident in Hongkong, having lived in this colony for years and knowing the circumstances, and also being largely interested in its commercial development humbly, beg to petition His Excellency the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to use his influence to make the Japanese silver yen legally current in Hongkong.

"It is now established beyond doubt that the Japanese silver yen is a coin of at least equal purity and weight with the Mexican dollar.

"It is coined at a Mint which ranks amongst the first in the world, and under the auspices of a responsible Government, whose interests are bound up in the maintenance of its purity and weight.

"The Osaka Mint is within five days' journey from Hongkong, and there is direct and regular steam communication between the two places, and it is, moreover, the only establishment of its kind available for the Far East.

"The legalisation of the Japanese silver yen in Hongkong would give great facilities, in various ways, for the conduct of business transactions between this Colony and Japan, which are now rapidly on the increase. It would also be of the greatest service in Hongkong itself, and if the silver yen be allowed to be legalised, commercial transactions will increase day by day.

"For the above reasons, we respectfully beg to urge that the granting of this petition, while it certainly would injure no interests whatever, would, on the other hand, contribute in a most important degree to the commercial interests and convenience of Hongkong, and the development of its trade."

The petition, read told, bears the chops of over two hundred Chinese hong.

An entertainment, as previously announced, was given at the Temperance Hall on the 19th instant, under the auspices of the Royal Naval Branch of the National Temperance League, recently established at this port. There was a good attendance, mainly composed of seamen from the ships in harbour, and, in addition, some fourteen or fifteen lady residents graced the occasion by their presence, a few of them contributing to the evening's amusement. Pianoforte solos, songs, recitations and temperance addresses constituted the programme. The gem of the evening in the vocal line was a song by a young lady, with piano accompaniment, which was rendered with much sweetness. The reverend gentlemen who delivered the addresses dwelt with much emphasis on the evils of intemperance, introducing several interesting anecdotes by way of illustration. Brief pointed addresses like those delivered, which do not allow the attention to flag, are, we consider, best suited to such occasions.

The following judgments have been delivered in the French Consular Court in the several cases in which our French confrères are interested :—

#### ANTOINE vs. LEVY.

The French Consular Court at Yokohama having heard the case and deliberated in conformity with the law, now delivers the following judgment in open Court.

Considering that it has been proved by documentary evidence and the pleadings that C. Levy, the editor and proprietor of the newspaper, the *Echo du Japon*, published in the issue of his paper of the 27th of January ultimo, a letter signed "Hanneton" containing a passage beginning, "Don't you know a nice old man" and ending "who has now taken to journalism" which contains three insinuations, of which the first and the third appear to have contemplated the lowering in public estimation of the person meant by the writer.

Considering that the Court has no doubt that the individual aimed at by the author of the letter, although not actually named, was the plaintiff Antoine, who is employed on the staff of the *Courier du Japon*, and that this is also the opinion of the majority of the readers of the said letter.

Considering that the proposal made by the defendant Levy, to state in his paper that he had no intention of alluding to the plaintiff Antoine, would not have the effect of removing the impression made upon the minds of the readers of the letter in question.

Considering that the Court is not called upon to ascertain whether the plaintiff has been slandered in a private or official

capacity, that point not having been raised by either plaintiff or defendant, the Court is justified in assuming that the plaintiff has sued as a private individual.

Considering that the libel and slander of private persons is punishable under the 18th article of the law of the 17th of May, 1819 which says "Slander of individuals in their private capacity is punishable by imprisonment for not less than five days and not more than one year, with or without a fine of not less than twenty-five and not more than two thousand francs; or by either of those modes of punishment according to circumstances."

As regards the damages claimed by the plaintiff :—

Considering that the injury he has sustained by the libel has not been accompanied by pecuniary damage and that the moral reparation to which he is entitled will make good any such injury, provided the same means are made use of as were employed to give offence. Therefore :—

The Court condemns Levy to pay a fine of fifty francs and forbids Levy from selling or circulating in any manner copies of the *Echo du Japon* of the 27th of January or the mail summary of the same journal published on the 7th of February. It is also ordered that the judgment of the Court be inserted in full, in one of the two next issues of the *Echo du Japon* and in its next mail summary. In default of the defendant complying with the judgment of the Court the plaintiff may apply to have the decision enforced. The Court orders the defendant to pay the costs of the proceedings.

#### HARMAND vs. LEVY; AND LEVY vs. HARMAND.

Both of these actions were dismissed, the plaintiff in each case having to pay costs.

If seniority be allowed due weight in the selection, Vice-Admiral Randolph will be the Commander-in-chief in China at the vacancy which will soon occur. The Vice-Admiral has a high reputation as a smart commanding officer; and is, moreover, known to be a diligent student of that much neglected subject, naval tactics.—"Atlas" in the *World*.

We publish in another column a translation of an address issued by Mr. Masuda, the manager of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, to those Japanese merchants who are desirous of obtaining information on the subject of trade with other countries. Mr. Masuda may well be looked upon as a type of progressive Japan. In 1860, when a samurai of the Tokugawa clan, then the great power in the country, he was attached, as student interpreter, to the American Legation, during the time of Mr. Townsend Harris. Mr. Masuda was subsequently a member of the embassy from the Shōgun's Government that visited France, and after his return received a commission in a cavalry regiment and was connected with the French Military Mission from 1866 to 1867. Upon the restoration all the Tokugawa samurai had to seek fresh employment, and Mr. Masuda was no exception to the general rule. He commenced business in Yokohama as a merchant in 1870, and continued there until 1872, when he was appointed Commissioner of the Mint, an office which he resigned in 1873. He then managed the Senshin Kuwaisha with great success until 1876, when he accepted the onerous position of chief manager of the Mitsui Bussan Kuwaisha, which he has completely reorganized and conducts with great skill and ability. This great trading company, in addition to its agencies all over Japan, has established branches in London, Paris, New York, &c., &c. and is the first Japanese mercantile house which has embarked in direct foreign trade. If success be at all attainable we have little doubt that under the guidance of Mr. Masuda the Mitsui Bussan Kuwaisha has before it a career of great prosperity.

Another daring but happily unsuccessful effort to assassinate the Emperor of Russia occurred, according to a telegram received here on Thursday, on Tuesday the 17th instant. On this occasion, the threat to blow up the Winter Palace was attempted, with, however, only partial success, as the Czar and all the members of the imperial family escaped injury, although many of the soldiers on guard were killed or wounded. The audacity displayed by the conspirators in the endeavour to accomplish their foul designs and the inveterate hate shown by them towards a monarch who has done so much to ameliorate



the condition of a vast multitude of his subjects, will certainly alienate every right-thinking person from any sympathy with the cause represented by the would-be murderers of innocent people. From the particulars to hand it appears that the explosion took place at the time the Emperor was about to take dinner, and, although the dining room escaped, the guard room which is evidently quite close to it was destroyed, six soldiers being killed and forty-five wounded. The men-of-war in harbour flew the Russian flag yesterday at the main, in honour of the Emperor's escape, and the Russian Minister, Rear-Admiral Baron Stackleberg, and other Russian officials, attended a thanksgiving service at the Russian Church in Tokio.

#### ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

##### TOKIYO MEETING.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society was held at the Shōheikuwan, Seidō, Tokiyō, on Tuesday, February 10th., Dr. Divers, President, in the chair. The recording secretary for Tokiyō announced the election of Capt. E. Wilson Haswell as an ordinary member, and Mr. J. B. Coughtrie of Hongkong as a non-resident member. The corresponding secretary read a letter from the late president, the Rev. Dr. Syle, referring to some interviews he had had with the authorities in America on the subject of tidal observations on the Japanese coasts. The Librarian reported the receipt of twenty-two numbers of the Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, and of various other periodicals, pamphlets, and books. Votes of thanks to the donors were passed.

Professor Atkinson then communicated a "Note of Analyses of Japanese Clays," after which,

Mr. Wm. Bramsen read a paper "On Japanese Chronology and Calendars." By consent of the council and the author it had been decided not to publish this paper in the transactions of the Society, as Mr. Bramsen desired to publish it himself, as part of another work, which would appear before the next number of the Transactions could be issued.

The paper began by describing the four modes of counting the years, viz., by the reigns of the monarchs; by year-periods (*Nen-gō*); by the Sexagenary Cycle, and by a continuous era beginning with Jimmu Tenno. The origin of all details concerning the two first named systems were given, and the author pointed out the drawback, that without reference to hand-books, one could not form an exact idea of the true place in history of events thus recorded. The Sexagenary Cycle was fully explained by diagrams, and its importance as a means of calculating the exact time of early events, was demonstrated.

After this, the author proceeded to describe the sub-division of the civil year. He explained the characteristics of the lunar calendars, as introduced from China, and the necessity of their containing months of twenty-nine or thirty days, the latter being more frequent than the former. The rules followed in fixing the length of the months were shown, and applied to a series of sixty-two months. In trying to adapt such lunar months to the solar year, so as to make the seasons occur with some degree of regularity in the same months of the civil year, we met with the difficulty that twelve lunations were about eleven days shorter than the solar year, while thirteen lunations would considerably exceed it. It thus became necessary to make the ordinary civil year twelve months (moons), and then occasionally to insert an intercalary month in order to bring the New Year's day back to its original place in the solar year. To understand how this was done, it was necessary to consider the solar year, and to explain the division of the sun's circuit into twelve parts, the dividing radii being the twelve *Setau*; these divisions being again divided into halves by the *Chū-setau*, making altogether twenty-four fixed periods in the solar year. It was thereafter shown, how by imagining the moon travelling round this same circuit, a lunation would, as a rule, comprise one *Setau* and one *Chū-setau*, although in exceptional cases, owing to the lunation being shorter than one-twelfth of the solar year, the lunation would only cover one of the twenty-four divisions, either a *Setau* or a *Chū-setau*; and it was demonstrated by diagrams, that by making it a rule, that when a moon did not pass through a *Chū-setau*, the month became intercalary, the lunar months and the solar year were brought to agree so far, that the new year's days of the civil years would always fall within certain limits, not exceeding about twenty-one days.

Mr. Bramsen therefore applied this rule to the sixty-two months of which the length, as above mentioned, had been calculated, and thereafter divided these months into groups of twelve, not counting the intercalaries; the result being a five-yearly calendar, as it would be according to the old Chinese system. In this calendar two short months could not follow one another, nor could more than two long ones be found together.

The modifications which the later systems of calendars have undergone, were thereafter explained, particularly the one that

had the effect of bringing three short months and sometimes four long ones together.

After this a list was given of all the different calendars that have been in use in Japan, the time of their origin in China, and of their introduction into Japan.

The author then proceeded to shew how the Sexagenary Cycle was applied to months and days, in the same way as to years. The intercalary months do not get any separate *E-to* (name by the cycle); consequently one cycle of sixty will be completed in the course of five years; the result being that the same *E-to* recurs in the same months with some kind of regularity. Mr. Bramsen here showed a Perpetual Table for calculating the *E-to* of any month, when the year from Jimmu Tenno, or the corresponding year by the Christian era, is known.

The last part of the paper was devoted to the division of time prior to the introduction of Chinese Calendars. In considering this question, it was impossible to decide, with certainty, how the Japanese counted their years in remote days. Through a lengthened argumentation and detailed calculations, in which the reputed long lives of the first emperors entered, the author came to the conclusion, that it was likely the Japanese originally counted their years from equinox to equinox, thereby making two years of what we now call one, and that after the death of Nintoku Tenno, the Chinese year, of double the length, was adopted. This, if correct, would make Jimmu Tenno's true place in history about 130 B.C., instead of 660 B.C. as generally surmised. To sustain this theory it became necessary to demonstrate, that the early historical work called the "Nihon-gi,"—in which the day of the cycle, the month and day of the very earliest events are given with scrupulous minuteness—is a pure fabrication. It was absurd to say that they could have counted by the cycle about nine centuries before the Chinese characters became known in the country, or that they could have calendars seven hundred years before Christ, when it was a fact, that the first Chinese calendar was introduced about seven hundred years after Christ; and the author showed, how even the dates given by the "Nihon-gi" for many years after calendars were really in use in Japan, are not in conformity with the systems ruling at the time, and therefore evidently compiled afterwards. Mr. Bramsen also showed how easy it was to copy from the records of Chinese calendars any number of years that was desired, and put them before the first genuine Japanese calendar, thereby making the Japanese history extend back, *ad libitum*. He did not hesitate to stamp the "Nihon-gi" and the calendars that were compiled simultaneously therewith, as one of the greatest literary frauds ever perpetrated.

The author thereafter demonstrated, how the circumstance, that the new-year's day assigned, in the "Nihon-gi," as the one on which Jimmu Tenno's reign commenced, can be proved to have been a day on which it was a new-moon,—a fact which has puzzled many writers on Japanese matters,—is of no significance whatever, being in reality but a necessary consequence of the whole scheme of fictitious chronology.

After passing a few remarks on a certain Chinese tradition, which by some writers has been associated with the invasion of Jimmu Tenno, but which on examination proves to have no connection whatever therewith, Mr. Bramsen brought to an end the paper, of which the above is but a brief résumé.

After a few remarks by the President, Mr. Satow gave some reasons for dissenting from the theory propounded by Mr. Bramsen that the extraordinary longevity ascribed to some of the early Mikados was owing to the Japanese having, previous to the introduction of the Chinese calendar, counted one year as two.

In reply to Mr. Satow's remarks, Mr. Bramsen said, that the ages on which he had calculated were those given in the "Domo Hitazoku," a book which he thought Mr. Satow had himself recommended as a good authority. As to Mr. Satow's statement, that the long lives of the emperors might be looked upon as a mere exaggeration, of no practical significance, Mr. Bramsen thought this did not help us out of the difficulty; for the reigns of several emperors were in themselves longer than any man could live; and the length of the reigns could not possibly be exaggerated without moving Jimmu Tenno further back in history, than his true place. If, as Mr. Satow stated, the sexagenary cycle was not used in China until the second century before Christ, this would only bear the speaker out in his statement, that the whole chronology contained in the "Nihon-gi," where the cycle is applied seven centuries before Christ, is a fiction; for nobody would possibly say that the Chinese got their knowledge of the cycle from the Japanese.

After some further observations by Mr. Satow, the president, and the author of the paper, the meeting was adjourned, the usual votes of thanks having been passed.

#### PARIS LETTER.

DECEMBER 20TH, 1880.

Alexandre Dumas, according to his habit, ever puffs any new production from his pen, some time before it appears before the public: he objects to no amount of incense: it pays. He is



rather late in the field with his work on Divorce; M. Naquet, an Israelite, has a monopoly of the honors of the agitation, certain to be crowned with success. In his paradoxes with the question of adultery, as revealed on the stage, Dumas has never conquered a following: people laughed or frowned as they viewed his thesis amusing or shocking, but no one for a moment ever accepted him as serious. It is no secret that he has been disappointed in not being canonized as a moralist; as a set off, he created a little noise, not a small reward for a Frenchman, and netted not a little cash, which is never a cause for complaining. In his present volume of 400 pages, he dips deeply into theology, quoting Philip against Philip as regards the relations of the Church and Divorce—which is tantamount to forcing an open door. The rest of the work is a string of commonplaces, where the effort to be sensational is evident, to make a *coup*, but for practical purposes far behind the business simplicity and brevity of a Naquet lecture. The volume leaves you under the impression that the writer aims less to gain his cause, than to secure himself a share of celebrity. Dumas has not been inaptly described as a *brocanteur* of literature. It appears he has two secretaries, his wife and unmarried daughter; it is the mother who copies such pages as would make a barrack of troopers blush. It does not detract from his patriotism to have bought the model Alsatian cottage shown at the exhibition of 1878, which he has erected in his garden to contain curiosities.

Nothing can exceed the gush of the Spaniards towards France, for organizing a fête to assist the unfortunate Murcians, and compelling sojourners to contribute to the relief fund, which ought to be respectable despite the enormous expense. There was a memorial journal brought out called "Paris Murcia;" a kind of album, with autographs and contributions from celebrities. The old Louis XIV saw, that the Pyrenees no longer exist, has been worked up in several forms: the Khedive sincerely pities the unfortunate *inondés*: Hugo of course is Olympian: for him the best arm against an overflowing river is an "augmentation of humanity;" the misfortune of Murcia has its rebound on Paris; the latter is "the capital of the world, and a grief of the universe is a grief for Paris." "The sigh that rends thy constant heart, shall break thy Edwin's too." One Spanish gentleman, a descendant of a Sergeant Hoff, states, "I have ever boasted to be the son of a father who shot thirty Frenchmen in the guerilla war; for the future I shall never allude to this prowess." That's the kind of Recording Angel the world wants, who will blot out accusations.

The material part of the fête was held at the Hippodrome, where every kind of Iberian high jinks was practised. The immense building was crowded, for there was in addition a lottery fund of some millions. Besides, Andalusia contributed some of her prettiest, where all are pretty, of Señoras. About 12,000 persons were present, being one-sixth more than the building could contain, but the crush helped to keep up the officially guaranteed temperature. The Hippodrome is, in point of distance, considered as a colonial possession; to reach it, first catch your cab, presumed to be warm inside, while the driver freezes on the box; a two-horse vehicle is a necessity, as the second animal helps, not to so much to pull the cab, as the other horse; the drive is like the passage of the Israelites through the Red Sea, only instead of walls of water on each side, they are of snow. On entering, the stewards directed you to five vestiaries at once, situated at the opposite cardinal points, so that the round of excursions was equal to a walking match. The arena had been converted into a card-board model of the town of Murcia in its happier days, and was worthy the talent of such architects and builders as Hoffmann or Perrault; all was gaiety, flags, illuminations, lakes, flirtations. After a musical overture, an ugly rush towards the doors was observed; people expected to hear the cry of fire, the crash of an avalanche, or an incursion of polar bears; it was worse; it was a simultaneous execution of a Hungarian march on fifteen pianos by thirty pair of hands. The ex-queen of Spain, who is renowned for her piety—she received in her day the "golden rose," the Vatican Prix Montyon, from Pio Nino—was on the conclusion of the thumping scene observed to make something like the sign of the cross beneath her veil. Next came the défilé, in brilliant costumes, of real Spanish soldiers and gendarmes, with their postscript of three ribbon bedecked mules. The most Spanish scene, however, was French—the dancing by the Opera ballet—and it was exquisite. The ladies' out of sympathy, patronized black veils and large hair-combs: one actress looked lovely in a long white veil as she sold lemonade for one franc a glass out of a pitcher. The legislative omnibus box was occupied by the embassy from Morocco; their costume whiter than our snow, which at present is all black from smuts and dust. The comtesse de Paris, an infant by birth, was with her uncle the duc de Nemours: She wore a pretty iron grey—the new color *premier de chemin de fer*—with red and yellow roses in the corsage. The Stewards were originally distinguished by a red and yellow flower in the button hole, but as there was a tree in the garden of Murcia, covered with the same flowers, every gentleman plucked one, and thus became *de facto* a steward, realizing, "Figurez vous, Figurez vous, Figurez vous." The Faucy Fair was brilliant; Sarah Bernhardt looked a trifle stouter in a white

satin robe, as she sold castanets and fans; Mme. Judic was somnambulist—the first time she was caught napping in her life: who told your fortune, or did not, for fr. 10, and assured a member of the Cabinet, he would remain minister till—superseded. Mlle. Legrand sold *camélias*, oh fi! Mlle. Granier, white lilac, and Mme. Theo the new doll called *Nana*—after Zola's latest foul heroine, but warranted not to say a word that would make a nun blush, or a boarding school mistress depart in hysterics.

The cold continues to make itself at home; some editors state we have a North pole and others a South pole temperature, but what disgusts is, that Paris should be selected by the clerk of the weather to be afflicted with a temperature fit only for Esquimo. Milton relates that, after the Fall, an angel was told off to give the earth a kick, and so destroy its character of eternal spring; has another kick been given to plunge us into perpetual cold? The clergy will pray for rain or fine weather, but the Thirty-Nine Articles make no provision for a supplication for elevated temperature. A Brahmin prayer-mill is offered for sale at the Hotel Druot; if there be a suffering Hindu in Paris, let him set it going to blood heat request, and he will merit a niche in the Pantheon from *la patrie reconnaissante*. The city is gay though citizens have blue noses and blow incessantly the tips of their fingers; if ordinary work is checked, more time is left to send round the hat, to relieve the thousand who exist as if the 24 degrees below freezing point were a Palais Royal joke. The soup kitchens are working day and night; temporary shelter is provided for the homeless, and one feels more and more at ease after these duties have been discharged. The best aid to digestion is the pleasure derived from having alleviated misery, irrespective of politics or religion.

There is not much to be obtained in the markets; vegetables are like fish—blocks of ice; milk might be sold by the pound and carried home in the market basket; game, though sport is prohibited during the snow, never was more plentiful, and it seems that poachers have become poulterers, as strange peasants hawk about the luxuries in hand-baskets. But the staple topic of conversation is not so much food, as combustibles; it seems that in a Paris house, all built of iron and stone, the more coal, coke, or wood you pile on the grate, the colder becomes the room; the doors and windows appear to have been constructed to play the part of Æolian harps. Where gas-pipes are frozen, houses that depend on gas for heat and light, are miserable sights: a goblet of oil does duty on the landing, or a candle in a bottle, while the servant purchases the coke by the kilogramme, and that soon will be as dear as a fancy loaf.

The ministry is doomed to death, but fated not to die till after the holidays, why add another chord to our melancholy? The plenary amnesty has been laid by a vote, and is as dead as a door nail; the Chamber of Deputies is occupied with a bill to reform the judicial Bench, much more required than muzzling Jesuit professors: the republican commission will not vote a very liberal press-law, knowing too well the consequences, while the Municipality calls upon the Government to prevent the endowed religions from draining the city of half a million of francs per year, and an inquiry is to be instituted as to the alleged cruelties inflicted on the Communists in New Caledonia.

It is a hard time for wedding parties, as they can no longer go to the Bois de Boulogne to breakfast and promenade—but then mothers-in-law escape thus many wilfully prepared slides: a bridal party in a closed up carriage looks about as cheerful as a funeral, and compelling the guests to remain all day huddled together over a feast of good things, is akin to Dantean horror. It is too cold for crime—and to this cause Byron attributes the virtuous character of northern nations. We have had a few clever swindles, the usual number of bolting cashiers, and the average of applications from married people for judicial separation. At Mendon a young servant girl committed suicide by throwing herself on the rails; about a dozen trains picked up and carried the body hither and thither during the night.

A joint stock company of manufacturers of artistic furniture, is being formed to lease all the green rooms of the theatres and convert them into halls for the exhibition of their wares.

The prospect is not bright for hatters: at Bernic has been established a society, whose members bind themselves never to salute, by taking off their hats, even where a lady is in the case: this will save brims; a branch of the society is being opened here. It is in the name of one of the three immortal principles—equality, that the society claims to act. It is a ridiculous custom in France to see a gentleman in the street, of a cold day, keep his hat in his hand, while talking to a lady, and the latter is much to blame for tolerating the absurdity. The military salute will replace the lifting of the hat. Old French ladies abhor the English custom of "shaking hands;" the strict card is to extend the hand to be kissed—queen like.

An industry that experiences the effects of the season is the collection of the ends of cigars; quite a number of old men haunt the precincts of cafés and theatres to pick up the rejected morsels, and which by a careful cutting and mixing, constitute the need for the very poor. It is on a par with the old crusts gathered in the house refuse; they, are roasted, ground, and form the base of cheap gingerbread or the dusting for knuckles of ham and galantines.

Jules Simon is celebrated for his unctuous character: he has always on his writing table a bouquet of flowers: when the water becomes frozen in the vase, he has only, it is said, to smile into it, to induce a thaw.

Père Loyson, like many celebrated orators, has a falling nother lip: being asked to explain, he said, it must be owing to auditors hanging on the lip of the speaker.

Between two gentlemen: "There, Sir, is my card, and I shall be at home all day to-morrow." "So shall I, monsieur."

In the Central Markets there is an enormous barometer like a public clock dial: many of the country people set their watches by it.

Small debts, like little children, cry loudest.

Lady; "I do not care whether my husband be brown or blond, provided he has an eye-glass."

### JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

#### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Notification, No. 3.

It is hereby notified that branch telegraph offices having been erected at Toyama, Daishoji, and Takebu in the prefecture of Iahikawa, they will be opened for business upon the 1st of March next.

YAMADA AKIYOSHI,  
Minister for Public Works.

February 14th, 1880.

#### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

Changes are said to be likely to take place in the Department of Justice, during next month.

Mr. Justice Yoshino, who has been on a visit to Yesso, returned to Tokio on Thursday last.

His Majesty the Emperor has presented the sum of five hundred yen to the funds of the foundling hospital.

A school for the study of the Russian language is to be established in the Colonisation Department, at Hokkaido.

Mr. Dickenson, an American gentleman, accompanied by His Excellency Okuma, Minister of Finance, has visited the Paper Manufactory at Oji. We have also inspected the Tokio *Fucho*, where he was interviewed by the Governor anent the wooden pipes (Wyckoff's) manufactured by the San Francisco Aqueduct Company.

In consequence of changes to take place in the judicial courts at different places, the number of officers is to be increased, and the Department of Justice in consequence is about to apply for an increase of its budget by the sum of 1,200,000 yen.

The new code for the administration of justice having passed the Senate House, it will shortly be put in force.

The cranes lately presented to the Japanese Government by Governor Hennessy, have been placed in the Museum situated inside the Yamashita gate.

Inouye, the Chief Superintendent of the Imperial Railways, returned to Osaka, on the 18th instant.

The members of the Local Governors' Assembly, after the session has closed, will be permitted to visit the gardens belonging to the Akasaka palace. The members will afterwards be presented to His Majesty the Emperor.

Mr. Yegawa Kumpei, the Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs, was appointed Consul at Shanghai on the 16th instant, and will proceed to his post at an early date.

Mr. Nagaoka, the Superintendent of the Kobe Customs, returned to his post by the *Tokio Maru*, on the 18th instant. Mr. Kawano, the head of the Hakodate Custom House, will leave for his post about the 23rd or 24th instant.

His Excellency General Yamada, is going to visit the districts of Kiushiu and the central provinces, for the purpose of inspecting the timber and stone to be employed in the construction of the new Imperial Palace.

Mr. A. Marks (a British subject), was appointed Japanese Consul for the city of Melbourne on the 18th of December last. The Foreign Department is about to forward two national flags and the consular commission, by the mail leaving on the 22nd instant.

Mr. Hanabusa, Japanese Chargé d'Affaires in Corea will leave for his post in March or April next.

A notification has been issued to the effect that His Majesty the Emperor, leaving the Imperial palace at 9.30 a.m., will attend the Local Governors' Assembly on the 23rd inst.

Judge Yoshimo, accompanied by Mr. Ota, an officer of the Judicial Department, who has been on a tour of inspection throughout Yesso and the Kurile islands, has returned to the capital the *Takachiho-maru*.

Mr. Ono, the under Secretary of the Finance Department, has also returned from Osaka.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

It is reported that a number of students are to be sent from the staff office to Corea, as soon as General Yamagata, the head of that department, returns from Atami.

The Japanese man-of-war, the *Kaimon Kan*, which has been in course of construction at the Yokosuka dock-yard, will probably be launched towards the end of next month.

His Majesty the Emperor has handed to the naval and military authorities the sum of 3,000 yen, to be expended in prizes to be competed for at the next Tokio rifle match.

Last Saturday's issue of the *Mainichi Shimbun* states that superior officers in the army, are at present undergoing a course of study in the Chinese language.

We learn from the *Mainichi Shimbun* that the construction of fortifications on the point of Futatsu, (which is a continuation of Saratoga point) on the coast opposite Yokohama, is shortly to be commenced. The works, it is expected, will take three years to complete.

The number of militia in Yesso is to be increased this year, and many of the *shi-oku*, of the old Aidsu and Sendai clans, are about to be enlisted in the ranks.

In March next, naval officers are to be despatched to the different provinces for the purpose of enlisting men for the marines.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* states that the Naval Department will shortly finish a complete chart of the coast of Corea.

The construction of a new man-of-war, to be called the *Tenriu Kan*, has been commenced in the Yokosuka dock-yard.

The following additions are to be made to the Imperial Guard out of the Tokio Garrison:—122 infantry, 30 cavalry, 14 artillery, 7 drivers and 9 sappers.

The *Hiei Kan* arrived at Shinagawa, on the 17th instant, and is to be stationed there for a time.

The troops of the Hiroshima Garrison, are to march through the provinces of Unahiu, Sekishiu, and Choshu, for the purpose of practising military manoeuvres.

The manufacture of rifles in the capital is being carried on as fast as possible, and the Tokio Arsenal now turns out eighty stand daily. This not being considered sufficient to meet requirements, a number of rifles, after the pattern lately invented by Major Murata, have been ordered from America.

#### INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

The Woollen Manufactory established at Senji, in order to provide a supply of the raw material, has imported several hundred sheep from Australia and America, but from some cause unknown, breeding has not been attended with success. In consequence of this it has been determined to make no further attempts to rear sheep, and the wool, in future, will be imported direct from Australia and America.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* writes:—"It is highly regretted by our economists that large quantities of shirtings are imported into our country. Certain authorities have at length taken up the matter and despatched officials to the provinces of Mikawa, Owari, Ise, Kawachi, Aki, Hitachi and Shimosa, &c., for the purpose of establishing spinning factories in those provinces."

The leading native merchants of Yokohama sent an application, on the 17th instant, to the *Kencho* authorities, for permission to establish a Chamber of Commerce.

The *Choya Shimbun* notes that certain bankers in Osaka are about to establish a Specie Bank in that city, with a capital of 3,000,000 yen.

The ceremonial opening of the Cotton and Sugar Competitive Exhibition took place in Osaka, on the 15th inst. Mr. Kawase, the chief Superintendent of the Board of Trade, represented the Minister of Finance, and Mr. Tanaka, the Chief Secretary of Finance represented the Chief Superintendent of the Board of Agriculture, the Secretaries of the Home and the Finance

Departments, and the Kioto and Osaka *Fu* were present: also a number of private gentlemen amongst whom were Messrs. Godai Tomotau, Nakano Goichi, and others:—altogether about two hundred and twenty persons.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is in receipt of the following telegram, dated 6.15 p.m., 15th inst., from its correspondent in Osaka:—"Four or five hundred prisoners have broken prison in our city, and set it on fire. Troops have been despatched, and some persons have been wounded. Further particulars will be reported, &c."

The same paper also adds, a telegram received at the Central Telegraph Department, runs as follows:—"A fire took place in the prison yard of the Osaka *Fucho*, after 11 a.m., on the 15th inst., which destroyed one building. There were two or three of the prison guards and prisoners wounded; the fire was extinguished about 12.30 p.m."

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* contains a rumour "that the Yokohama Racecourse is to be removed to somewhere near Goten-yama, Takanawa, Tokio." (?)

His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa will visit Otsu, near Kioto, about the 17th or the 18th instant, and from thence will proceed to Ishiyama, Mi-i, and Karasaki.

Mr. Shibusawa, the President of the First National Bank, had entertained Mr. Kennedy, Chargé d'Affaires for Great Britain and Judge Reunis of the British Court for Japan, at his country seat at Aji. Messrs. Masuda, Fukuchi, Yokoyama, and Okura were also of the party.

It is said that cholera has again made its appearance at Shimonoseki, in the province of Choshiu; and the Osaka *Fucho* authorities have despatched officials to enquire into the details of the outbreak.

The native papers lately reported that several cases of cholera had occurred at Shimonoseki, in the province of Choshiu. They now state that official inquiries have since proved that no such disease had made its appearance at the port indicated.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, February 15th, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 6,707.67
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 894.17

Total.....\$ 7,601.84

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$7,175.45
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 944.28

Total.....\$8,119.73

Miles open 18.

##### KOBE AND OOTZU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 15th February, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$12,045.23
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,393.70

Total.....\$13,438.93

Miles open, 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 9,750.70
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,468.65

Total.....\$11,219.35

Miles open 47.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

(From the *Indian Papers*.)

Kabul, January 5th.—During the past ten days not a single shot has been fired. Everything has settled down into its former state of tranquillity.

General Baker went out and destroyed the towers of Mir Butcha's village, together with his vineyards, without opposition. The strength of these forts was enormous; they gave much trouble when General Sale destroyed them in 1840. On returning, General Baker brought in with him many sirdars and headmen as hostages.

The insurgents, I hear, talk very big, saying that when their guns arrive they will pay us another visit. There are about

fifty-six guns altogether in various places in Afghanistan. The insurgents hope to get up sixteen guns, and return early in March, when everybody expects further fighting. The city and Kizzilbash quarter they completely looted. The damage done to the shops and bazaar is simply beyond conception. The people naturally are very indignant, both with them and us also, for not defending them. However we had enough to do to look after ourselves.

The Sherpur communications with India are again firmly established, a regiment being stationed at almost every stage to Gandamak. The enemy during the investment intercepted nearly all the private special daks. Of the nine letters sent to the Lattabund Brigade only two arrived.

Some men have died of pneumonia, owing to the heavy night work. Snow has almost entirely disappeared, but another downpour is expected in a few days.

Several men have been hanged; one, they say, being the man who cut down Mr. Jenkyns C. S.

The Bala Hissar is now occupied by General Charles Gough's Brigade.

The 14th Bengal Lancers and 12th Bengal Cavalry are going to Jallalabad for the winter, being short of fodder.

All the wives of Sirdars who were well disposed to the British and fell into the insurgents' hands were stripped naked, but not further dishonoured.

The late events, and the fact of our having to remain solely on the defensive has, I fancy, considerably changed the political aspect of affairs.

All villages within one thousand five hundred yards of Sherpur are now rapidly being destroyed.

The casualties of the enemy in the ten days fighting amounted to about two thousand five hundred killed and wounded. Had it not been for a deficiency of ammunition on our part they would have suffered more.

Kabul, January 9th.—There is a report of the gathering of Kohistanis at Charikar.

Most of the Maliks are at Kabul, and Logaris are daily expected.

Faiz Mahomed Khan of Logar, and Padshah Khan of Ghilzai, have arrived in the city.

Sirdar Nur Mahomed has gone to Maidan and has made arrangements for the security of the road.

Some excitement continues amongst the eastern Ghilzais.

General Roberts has held a durbar in the tantonments, attended by many of the Kohistan Maliks and influential men from Logar, Padshah Khan of Tazia, and other Ghilzais, with several Hazaras, and all the Sirdars and principal men of Kabul, including Kazzilbashar. Sir Frederick assured the assembled Maliks of the good will and friendly intentions of the British Government toward the people of Afghanistan, and their desire to respect lives, property, and religion, and not to molest any one who will live at peace with them. He pointed out how unsuccessful the late rising had been, and the generosity and forbearance shown by Government in not punishing them more severely. He expressed his satisfaction that the more intelligent and well-informed of the people of Afghanistan had taken no part in the recent disturbances, and thanked by name the various Sirdars who had remained in Sherpur and taken no part in the rising, and presented *khillats* to the Kohistanis who had remained with him. At their own request he appointed Sirdar Shahbaz Khan Governor of Kohistan, and he invited them to select some of their number to remain with him as a medium of communication. He then dismissed them to their homes.

Calcutta, January 11th.—General Roberts telegraphs from Kabul on January 10th, that the durbar which was held yesterday for the Kohistanis went off well. All who had come in, under the terms of the recent amnesty proclamation and were present, seemed reassured; others will doubtless now follow their example.

The gathering of Mohmunds at Palosi across the Kabul river continues. Their object is uncertain.

Throughout the Kaudahar province all is quiet.

Mir Afzul fled from Furrak to Persia. The local chiefs have plundered the Furrak fort, carrying off the ammunition.

Dr. Porter, Principal Medical Officer, died the previous day of pneumonia.

Large convoys of ammunition, treasure, warm clothing, and commissariat stores are now en route from Gandamak to Kabul. Reports received from Pezwan state that all missing mail bags have been found. Letters now come regularly.

Jallalabad, January 13th.—Owing to information received that armed men were once more crossing the river, fifty men of the 1-12th Foot were again sent to strengthen the post at Ali Boghan. Yesterday evening a party of three hundred men under Mogul Khan, crossed the river in rafts at Sungisarai to the village of Girdikas and attacked the Ali Boghan post at midnight. After an hour's fight they were driven off. One man of ours was wounded. A force consisting of 200 men each of the 1-12th Foot and 28th Punjab Infantry, 25 men of the 45th Sikhs, and a squadron of the 3rd Bengal Cavalry, under the command of Colonel Walker, of the 1-12th Foot, started to-day to intercept Mogul Khan's party. News has just been



received that the enemy recrossed the river and fired a few shots at Colonel Walker's force as they rounded the hill near Girdikah.

General Doran reports that two thousand five hundred Mohmunda crossed the river, and as there were only four hundred and fifty men and two guns available to be sent against them from Lundi Kotal, he applied to Peshawar for reinforcements to enable him to make up a strength of one thousand, when he will attack.

Colonel Macgregor and Colonel Lowe, of the 13th Bengal Lancers, who have been appointed directors of transport 1st Division, started for Kabul this morning.

A new post is about to be established between Jallalabad and Gandamak, doing away with the Rosabad fort, Major Batty dividing the journey into two marches instead of three.

Certain influential merchants of Kabul are said to have been called upon to produce six lakhs of rupees as a loan to the British Government. Syndjan Dadaahere is named among those who declined the proffered investment of 3 per cent., whereupon a hint of coercive measures was conveyed to them. Whether the money was then forthcoming has not transpired.

The son of Shere Ali Khan, chief of the Hazaras, tendered his submission to the British authorities at Kabul.

Rome, January 13th.—General Garibaldi's marriage with Signora Raimondi has been declared invalid by judgment of the Court of Appeal.

General Bright from Jellalabad reports that Moghul Khan of Goshita sent about 250 men from Kamah across the Kabul river to the right bank, at a spot about midway on the road from Ali Loghan to Girdikah, on the 11th and 12th. Their advanced parties occupied a ruined tower about two miles from Ali Boghan, thus cutting off the river road. The post near Ali Bogham was strengthened, and a force of infantry and cavalry were ordered out from Jellalabad on the 13th to cut them off before they could recross. The force found that our men there had been attacked the previous night, and had driven off the Mohmunds without any loss. The infantry and cavalry moved down by the river road, but the Mohmunds had recrossed into Kamah, as the force reached a spur about a mile from the spot where rafts had been constructed to re-cross the river. Moghul Khan's men assembled with several standards about 1,200 yards from the bank in the plain. Some forty or fifty men rushed down to near the bank, and opened fire as our men moved to Girdikah, but were driven off by a few shots, and the force returned to Ali Boghan through a circuitous road without any casualties. General Bright was informed by signals that a large force of Mohmunds had advanced to the river bank and were crossing the stream between Ali Boghan and Jellalabad. The cavalry and guns were ordered to proceed immediately to the most suitable place for dispersing them. The guns opened fire on the Mohmunds collected on the islands between the two streams. The Mohmunds fled on the first shell bursting, and were driven away completely, losing many. They collected in Khanjar Khel. General Doran's column left Lundikotal at 4 a.m. to attack the Mohmunds. News from Dakka up to 2 p.m., states that the enemy was driven off the west side of Garhills between Dakka and Kam Dakka, retiring upon Kam Dakka, and if the Lundikotal column has reached Kam Dakka the enemy ought soon to be surrounded and destroyed. The Shelmars had engaged to hold the Shelmars Ghakka against the Mohmunds.

Calcutta, January 16th.—The first passenger train is reported to have reached Sibi on the night of the 14th. General Roberts has issued a proclamation announcing the abolition of the Military Governorship and the appointment of Wali Mahomed to administer the Kabul district, including the city, on our behalf. The Military Commission has ceased to sit. Further reports have been received of the alleged collection of Kohistanis at Charokar, and that disbanded sepoy are being drawn to Ghasni by promise of pay and food. The hostile Mohmunds who had crossed the Kabul river near Dakka to the number of nearly 5,000 were attacked and defeated, and driven across the river by the troops under Colonel Boisragon from Dakka. Our loss is one Jemadar of the N. I. killed and seven sepoy wounded. The Lundi Kotal column arrived too late to cut off the retreating enemy.

From Kandahar, 15th.—Everything is quiet in Kandahar, Kelat-i-Ghilzai, and the neighbourhood. Previous reports are confirmed of Ayub's position at Herat, and of the bitter animosity between the Kabul and Herati troops and people. Festivities are being held at Jolabad on the completion of the Ruk-Sibi section of the railway. Sir Richard Temple has telegraphed his congratulations. The first division of the convoy started to Kabul this morning. Colonel Macgregor and Colonel Lowe of the 13th Bengal Lancers, have been appointed Directors of transport.

Bombay, January 16th.—Surmises point to the possibility of Sir Richard Temple either proceeding to Calcutta to relieve the Viceroy or to Westminster to consult on Afghan affairs. The Hon'ble Sir Ashley Eden will come to Bombay. Sir R. Temple at present expects to proceed to Kandahar.

Bombay, January, 17th.—The 7th Fusiliers and the 9th and 10th Bombay Native Infantry, have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Southern Afghanistan.

London, January 20th.—Mr. Stanhope, the Under-Secretary for India, in a speech at Hackney, said that the financial position of India had improved and that he regarded the budget without apprehension. He believed that the surplus revenue for the current year would cover the Afghan war expenses, and the charges in connection with the frontier railway. *The Times* supports Mr. Stanhope's views. It is reported that Russia has offered to withdraw her troops from the German frontier at the desire of the Austrian and German Governments.

London, January 21st.—The *Standard* publishes a telegram from St. Petersburg, expressing an opinion as to the possibility of the British occupying Herat in order to prevent a Russian advance on Merv.

The defeat of the Russians by the Turkomans at Tchitkisar is partially confirmed.

The Home Rule members of Parliament have resolved to prevent the work of the House of Commons unless attention is given to the condition of Ireland.

The Band and Kirwee Booty case comes on again on the 28th of January. Obituary: M. Jules Favre.

Constantinople, January 21st.—The *El Jascab*, in a leading article, advises the selection of a Prince from the family of the Grand Sheriff of Mecca as the Ameer of Afghanistan, who would be respected as a descendant of the Prophet by the people, and would serve British interests better than anyone else.

London, January 22nd.—A colliery explosion took place yesterday at Leyce, near Stafford, in which from seventy to ninety lives were lost.

The Home rule members have voted a motion of sympathy with the Irish peasantry, proposed by the O'Donoghue, and have resolved to adopt an independent attitude in Parliament.

M. Vambery suggests that the British Government should annex Kandahar and revise the Treaty of Gandamak.

The *Standard* publishes a telegram from Berlin, stating that the Russian Government is augmenting its garrisons in Central Asia, and that the division of Cossack cavalry at Orenburg is to proceed to Tashkend.

London, January 22nd.—The defeat of the Russians by the Turkomans at Tchitkisar is not confirmed, and originated in the transfer of the Russian base of operations from Tchitkisar to Kransnovosk.

Madrid, January 22nd.—The Cortes have voted for the abolition of slavery in Cuba.

Berlin, January, 22nd.—A Bill has been introduced by Prince Bismarck in the German Federal Council, for increasing the German army by eleven infantry regiments, two artillery regiments, and one pioneer regiment, besides thirty-one batteries of artillery, thus making a total increase of 60,000 men on a war footing and 26,000 on a peace footing. The Bill states that the measure is justified by the strength of the neighbouring states.

London, January, 23rd.—The *Times* urges that it is the duty of the Indian Government to declare its intention as regards the future of Afghanistan. It is reported that General Skobelloff will succeed General Gergukasow in Central Asia.

## THE JAPANESE PRESS.

### TREATY REVISION.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

(Continued from the "*Japan Weekly Mail*" of the 14th Feb.)

IT is unquestionable that there are great difficulties in the path of obtaining even the gradual abolition of extra-territoriality, but those difficulties are trifling in comparison with the obstacles to be successfully encountered in doing away with the infliction at once: any attempt to do so will as surely prove barren of result as an endeavour to catch fish in trees. There can, however, be little fear that Foreign Powers will pass over unnoticed the vast alterations which have taken place in this country, and cling with obstinacy to the old treaties, if only our functionaries will rest content with tentative measures, so that in course of time the evils of extra-territoriality will be got rid of altogether.

There are several methods of accomplishing the desired end; but, if we were to disclose them at present, our doing so might prove a source of embarrassment to the Japanese authorities and therefore we consider it more judicious to preserve silence, being fully convinced that our Ministers will do all that the necessities of the situation may demand.

It appears to us very probable that the first concessions towards the abolition of extra-territoriality, might easily be obtained at the present time; but, if the reasonable requirements of the Japanese authorities are contemptuously thrust aside by the Treaty Powers, then we most decidedly advocate this Empire standing upon its unquestionable rights under the treaties and resolutely assuming the civil and criminal jurisdiction which, as we have already demonstrated, still remained



rested in Japan after the treaties of 1858 were entered into. The antagonism which would inevitably follow the adoption of such a vigorous and resolute policy is doubtless unpleasant to contemplate and to be deplored, but almost anything is preferable to further enduring the illegal seizure of the independent sovereign rights of this, our country.

At the risk of unnecessary repetition we will again state what we consider to be the exact position. We believe that Japan is entitled at the present moment under the existing treaties, to exercise complete and unquestioned jurisdiction over all disputes arising between the subjects or citizens of one nationality and the subjects or citizens of another nationality; and also over all offences against the government or community, by whomsoever committed. The Consuls have their executive power to arrange disputes amicably (article 6) with the assistance, if necessary, of the Japanese authorities; but, if an amicable settlement cannot be arrived at, then the only properly authorised legal tribunal to decide the question at issue, is a Japanese Court of Law. Of course our contention does not apply to actions for debt, when the defendant is a foreigner; all such cases come within the purview of article 7 of the treaty with Great Britain.

The jurisdiction we have pointed out, which is as a matter of fact, only an almost infinitesimal portion of the inherent sovereign rights of every independent nation, was allowed to remain with Japan by the Plenipotentiaries who negotiated the first treaties in 1858. Although since illegally arrogated to themselves and exercised by the Consuls; yet, if it be once admitted that the affairs of this world are governed according to equity and reason, then there can be little doubt that the Foreign Powers will consider the vastly improved condition of Japan, and restore in 1880, the authority they were willing this country should exercise in 1858 when just emerging from a lengthened seclusion from the other nations of the earth.

We have no desire, however, to see hostile or harsh steps taken, if by any reasonable means they can be avoided, and as we have already stated, much prefer the adoption of the "middle course."

The laws and system of Government of Japan are, even yet, certainly not as perfect as those of nations occupying the front rank in civilization; but there is no comparison between the state of this country at the present time, and what it was in 1858. The great progress made by Japan is undeniable and has attracted the wonder and, we may truly say, the admiration of all unprejudiced people. Is it then under the circumstances too much to expect that, as this country continues to progress, the immunities of extra-territoriality will be gradually abandoned and the independent sovereign rights of the Empire recovered? If the Treaty Powers refuse to adopt this very reasonable view of the situation they will be acting in direct opposition to the great principles of peace and friendship mentioned in the treaties. This we feel convinced the Powers will never attempt, nor can we harbour the thought that they will refuse to comply with any moderate demands respecting extra-territoriality, when the revised treaties come to be discussed.

However, when the negotiations are entered into for a rearrangement of the treaties, if it should be found that misfortune follows upon misfortune, and nothing can be done amicably with a view of getting rid of extra-territoriality, while at the same time no resolute and independent course is adopted; on who's shoulders will the onus lie that the Empire of Japan is then oppressed? The Japanese functionaries charged with the conduct of the negotiations should reflect upon the magnitude of the interests confided to them and their consequent grave responsibilities.

As our readers will have observed, we believe that the gradual abolition of extra-territoriality will be inaugurated under the revised treaties. In order that abolition should be subsequently rapidly carried into effect, a considerable improvement will be necessary both in the laws and the system of administering the affairs of this country. We therefore appeal to the public to shake off its lethargy and actively assist in the great national cause of the complete extrication of Japan, from the trammels of foreign interference.

Before discussing the alterations in our laws and system of administration, which it may be necessary to carry into effect, we will relate to our readers the experiences of the editor of this journal when travelling in Europe some years ago. It was a matter of no concern to him whether or not there were any mutual extra-territoriality privileges existing between the Government of Japan

and the Governments of Great Britain, France, Germany and Italy because, in those countries, such great reliance had been upon the territorial laws and the equitable and impartial manner in which they are administered, that he would have had not the slightest hesitation in confiding to them his property, his life and even his honour. If any difficulty had arisen our Editor was fully resolved to appeal to the tribunals of the country for protection, and therefore he was enabled to prosecute his travels through those particular nations without feeling the slightest uneasiness or apprehension. He then went to Greece, and thence to Austria where he embarked on a mail steamer, and sailing through the Sea of Marmora arrived at the world-renowned "Golden Horn" and landed in Constantinople, the capital of the Turkish Empire. Immediately upon his arrival he suddenly recollected that he was no longer in a land governed by the just and beneficent laws which obtain in Western Europe. "What course," thought he "shall I adopt? I do not feel any confidence in the peculiar laws and customs of Turkey nor in the administration of justice, and I do not think it prudent to trust myself to their protection." The result was, that he called upon one of the Foreign Ministers at Pera and producing his credentials stated the object of his visit. This was that as the country which the Minister in question represented possessed extra-territorial rights in Turkey, our editor desired to be taken under the protection of that Power during his stay in the place. This the Minister willingly complied with and the traveller was relieved from all further anxiety.

Now from our editor's point of view not alone Turkey but all the other European countries are foreign nations; and the laws of the Turkish Empire of and the state under whose protection he placed himself are alike different from those of Japan. How then was it that in some countries he felt quite at ease, never troubling his mind about treaties or compacts and yet when he came to Turkey he was under such apprehension that, as a matter of precaution, he felt it judicious to seek the protection of a foreign state? It was not that other European countries are more familiar with Japan than Turkey is. No, the solution is this; that in the four states named he had the most implicit confidence in the system of laws and the administration of justice, while in Turkey he could place confidence in neither.

Some there are, who, in discussing this burning question of extra-territoriality attribute its establishment and continuance to the circumstance of our religion and customs being different from those of the various countries of Europe and America, and they even go so far as to assert that, even if the laws of Japan and their administration were in every respect on a par with those of Europe and America, yet the Treaty Powers would not sanction the abolition of extra-territoriality. This opinion is altogether erroneous. There might perhaps have been some ground for it in the Middle Ages when the religious element entered so largely into the affairs of everyday life and the policy of nations; but in the present advanced state of the world we do not believe in the existence of any such ideas. A distinct line of demarcation is now drawn between politics and religion and the experiences of our editor had certainly nothing to do either with his religion or the different Christian and other religions adopted in the various countries he travelled through. To us it is as clear as the sun at noon-day, that if once the people of Europe and America reposed such confidence in the judicial system of Japan, that they would not hesitate to intrust their lives, liberties and property to its protection, then the remoteness of this country and its dissimilarities in religion and customs would be found to interpose no bar to the abolition of extra-territoriality.

At this stage it becomes necessary for us to inquire, how far the existing laws of Japan could be enforced against foreigners without causing them anxiety that the result would be prejudicial both to their lives, liberties and property; but before following up this branch of the subject, let us first consider to what extent these same laws are enforced against Japanese without exciting their apprehension; in short, whether our judicial system is such that the inhabitants of this Empire place implicit confidence in it.

We very much regret that for many cogent reasons we are unable to write as freely on the subject as we should have liked, however, as we have entered upon the discussion we cannot pass over this essential point in entire silence. It is impossible to disguise the fact that those Japanese who are

well acquainted with the different enactments in force in this country, and also with the general principles of law recognized among civilized nations are constrained to acknowledge that they cannot with implicit confidence entrust their lives, liberties and property, to the protection of the existing judicial system of this Empire. Submission to the law is unavoidable, and does not arise from any admission that it is either perfect, or even suited to the necessities of the country.

How sad it is to reflect that Japan has suffered under imperfect laws for so long a time. We have no desire to refer to the old days of the Shōgunate when the mere will of the ruler was omnipotent. Ever since the restoration, the Government has devoted great attention to the improvement of the judicial system, the arbitrary power of making new laws or abolishing existing ones has been done away with, and both the civil and criminal codes have been improved from time to time as the people progressed in civilization. These proceedings are well known to all men; it is admitted by everyone that our present judicial system is infinitely superior to the old method of arbitrary government. But at the same time when we come to compare our present laws with the excellent systems of foreign countries, then indeed a great discrepancy is noticeable and therefore it is that Japanese who are acquainted with the laws of other lands are dissatisfied with those of their own country.

It may be taken for granted that before we can expect foreigners to repose confidence in the judicial system of Japan, an example must first be shown by the Japanese themselves. When this has been done we can then consistently demand that the citizens of foreign countries shall also be subject to the territorial laws of this Empire. We believe that once it is established that we Japanese are, as a nation, perfectly satisfied with our own laws, and repose in them the same confidence which obtains in all civilized communities, then there will be no difficulty in procuring the abolition of extra-territoriality.

It may be asked;—In what respect do the laws of Japan fall short of the recognized standards? We reply, Look at marriage, the most important of human relations and the foundation of all civil communities, what enactment have we bearing upon this subject? Are our marriages arranged either in accordance with law or even religion? How are our individual liberties protected? What law is there providing for the guardianship of children or females? Then again, look at the absence of satisfactory legislation regulating the ownership of landed property, inheritance, contracts, debts, public companies and bankruptcy. Enactments have doubtless been passed referring to all these subjects, but if we are asked if they are sufficient to afford complete protection, our readers known quite as well as we do that we would be much embarrassed to return a direct answer. After careful consideration we have arrived at the conclusion that, when a Judge has to decide a case, if any express law exists bearing upon the question, the decision is given accordingly; if there is no express enactment then according to custom if the point has arisen before, but if there is neither law or custom to guide him, the Judge decides as he thinks best. It thus happens, that owing to the want of legislation, cases have frequently to be decided by customs which differ in many parts of the country and according to the ideas of Judges, who, in numerous instances, adopt antagonistic views upon precisely similar subjects. This state of things indubitably leads to much uncertainty in legal proceedings, and must be remedied by the enactment of a perfect and comprehensive civil code, if we wish to succeed in procuring provision for the gradual abolition of extra-territoriality in the revised treaties.

If anyone taking a cursory glance through our contentions was to ask if the establishment of a complete civil code would be sufficient to satisfy our requirements preparatory to doing away with extra-territoriality, we would point out that, although a civil code embraces those important subjects which relate to individual rights and property, it does not affect questions of far greater magnitude, viz:—criminal offences and the system of the administration of justice, which exercise paramount influence over the liberties of the community and therefore in the interests of our own countrymen further legislation on these subjects is also imperatively necessary.

It cannot be denied that the criminal procedure of Japan is much less satisfactory than the civil. The reason

for this has not to be far sought, because improvements in the civil laws have kept pace with the progress of the country, while the contrary has, to a very great extent, been the case with criminal jurisprudence. The "new" and the "revised" codes have apparently been looked upon as models for the present reign, and although notifications have been issued from time to time effecting slight alterations, still in the main the criminal law has not improved in unison with the onward strides of the Empire.

What rules are there referring to objections, (on good ground of course) to a particular judge presiding at a trial? Are there any fixed rules respecting the examination of witnesses, preliminary examinations, trials in subordinate courts, or trials upon indictment? Persons who are thoroughly acquainted with the practice of the law courts may, perhaps, be in a position to answer these interrogatories satisfactorily, and even to mention cases where the points involved have been decided, but at the same time it is utterly impossible for anyone to assert that there are properly established rules on these subjects.

The public is well aware that the "new" and the "revised" codes are in force throughout Japan, and we have no desire to discuss either their merits or demerits. If however we are asked;—In what respect does our criminal jurisprudence differ from that of civilized nations, is it more lenient or more rigorous, is it more primitive in procedure or more formal, is it more or less comprehensive? we should be obliged in the interests of truth to point out, that although the people willingly submit to the present criminal laws, still they are far from equal to those of other nations. There are matters relating to the authority of the police, the powers of punishment vested in judges, the examination of witnesses, the reception of documentary evidence, and the accurate definition of the jurisdiction of inferior and superior courts, &c., &c., some of which have already received attention in our existing codes, while others, although equally necessary, have so far been allowed to remain in abeyance. It must therefore be apparent we cannot contend that the present criminal jurisprudence of Japan is in an altogether satisfactory condition.

Is there any provision made for establishing the great principle, so essential to individual liberty, that "every man's house is his castle"? On the contrary, we all know that the police enter people's dwellings as matter of right. Is it part of our judicial system that "every man is to be considered innocent until his guilt is proven"? Is a warrant naming a particular person, necessary before the police can arrest that person? Do search warrants in any way specify to what investigations the officers executing them are to confine themselves? Have accused persons to be brought to trial within a limited period or else released? What provision is there for bailing out a prisoner? Must criminal trials take place in open court? Are prisoners allowed the privilege of counsel? Can a prisoner, who has been acquitted, be again placed in jeopardy for the same offence? Has trial by jury been established? We submit that until satisfactory replies can be given to each and every of these queries, it cannot truly be said that the criminal code of this Empire is on an equal footing with that of civilized communities.

Let us now give an example of what may befall a native of Japan under the existing laws. Suppose that a gentleman by his conduct, in some way arouses the suspicions of the police. They can enter, or if necessary break into, his house at death of night, without giving the slightest notice or having any warrant. Although they may be disguised and have nothing to evidence the fact of their being constables, they can arrest him, rummage through his private papers and effects as they please, and then thrust him into prison, where he may be kept for weeks or months undergoing preliminary examinations. The unfortunate accused may be charged with all kinds of offences, refused bail, denied all intercourse with his friends, in fact, deprived of every trace of freedom and, after all this if the preliminary investigations prove his innocence, he has no redress for the injuries sustained and is obliged to be thankful for his escape and accept some small monetary compensation for his inevitable losses. On the other hand, if the preliminary examinations result in the charge being sent to a higher tribunal for investigation, the accused must there answer all interrogatories put to him. Al-

though the court may be sitting with closed doors and the public excluded, no objection can be taken to it. The accused will not be allowed the assistance of counsel in his defence and altogether, unless he happen to be remarkably clever and well versed in law, it is almost hopeless to expect he will be able to extricate himself from the meshes of the net which surrounds him, although he may be perfectly innocent of the crime laid to his charge. Then again an accused person is placed in a very awkward position, as law books are not allowed in prisons and he is therefore precluded from referring to them when preparing his defence. Trial by jury is unknown, and consequently the question of guilt or innocence is in the uncontrolled discretion of the judge who presides and, in many cases, conducts the trial. No doubt there is a right of appeal in existence, but that is also to a single individual, and if he happens to adopt a similar view to the judge of the inferior court, the accused is without further redress. It is also a fact, that if a person is acquitted on a charge, he may be tried for the same offence again and again.

In the example we have adduced there may perhaps be one or two things not exactly technically accurate, but it is undeniable that the general public is fully convinced that such incidents are by no means uncommon. If the even possible existence of such things be compared with the assured protection to the liberty of even the meanest citizen, which obtains in every civilized country, it will be very easy to judge whether or not the people of Japan are enamoured with the present system of criminal jurisprudence. The practical lesson to be learned from what we have pointed out, and the proceedings in the cases of Messrs. Hayakawa Isami, Nakano and Fujita (which attracted so much attention and provoked such comment recently) is, that the criminal codes of Japan do not afford due protection to the lives, liberties and property of the inhabitants, and require very considerable reforms to be instituted before they meet with general approbation throughout the Empire.

Under these circumstances we naturally desire to see prompt measures taken by the authorities, to revise and place upon a proper footing, the entire civil and criminal jurisdiction and also the administration of justice, so that the people of Japan may at length repose implicit confidence in the laws which rule them. The adoption of such a course is the proper way to lead up to the abolition of extra-territoriality; the important question of a National Assembly does not affect the improvement of the laws nor the questions we are dealing with and therefore we will not discuss it.

We have now shown, we trust satisfactorily, that law reform is a necessary condition precedent to any arrangements being made for the abolition of extra-territoriality: we will complete our task with a few remarks in conclusion to which we heartily invite the earnest attention of our fellow-countrymen.

We have stated that the two great objects the public desires to see achieved are, the restitution of power to regulate the tariff, and the submission of foreign residents to the territorial laws. Now suppose both these objects accomplished, can Japan even then take rank, not nominally merely but actually, as an independent sovereign Empire on an equal footing with the nations of Europe and America? We think not, and will give our reasons for an assertion which is undoubtedly calculated at first sight to surprise our readers.

It is very generally supposed that it is only necessary for Japan to obtain the sole control of the tariff and the abolition of extra-territoriality in order to effectually recover her position. But this supposition is manifestly erroneous, forasmuch as the independent sovereign rights of a country do not consist solely in the power to impose a custom's tariff without interference and in foreign residents being under the necessity of conforming to the territorial laws. There are several countries both in Europe and America which possess these privileges to the full, and yet are not independent sovereign states on a footing of equality with some other nations.

According to the most reliable authorities "the independence of a nation depends upon the energy, intelligence, and industry of its inhabitants." How true indeed is this remark! The local judicial authority and control of the tariff are what no sovereign state should brook

interference with; but when these important matters are not considered in themselves to constitute the whole means necessary to maintain all the sovereign rights of an independent nation, then we must seek out what further is requisite.

It is in the accepted fitness of things that the Government and people of a country shall both perform their respective duties towards the general welfare. The judicial administration and control of the tariff pertain to the functions of the governing powers, and will be exercised by the authorities of this Empire if arrangements to that effect can be made in the revised treaties; but how does the general public stand as regards its obligations to the community? How comes it that the trade and commerce of this country are almost entirely in the hands of foreigners who exercise the most complete control over all mercantile matters? For this state of things we cannot hesitate to blame the public. For example, the continual excess of imports over exports is due in great measure to the growing love of luxury among the people, who are not content with the useful articles of life but require the superfluities also. The fault rests with them also that the export trade has not increased. On reviewing the mercantile affairs of Japan it is almost impossible to mention a solitary instance in which foreigners have not reaped the earlier and most important benefits. In many cases our countrymen have sustained losses which they should not, and been deprived of their legitimate profits, and it is evident that both in financial and commercial matters Japanese traders are entirely ruled by foreigners. This is beyond the power of Government to avoid; the tariff and judicial procedure have nothing to do with the subject, and even if the Government were in possession of every power and right which we wish to see vested in them, they would still be helpless. The remedy lies with the people themselves and until they follow a course which will relieve the country from the burden of foreign control, the trade and commerce of Japan will inevitably remain in the hands of foreigners.

Treaty revision can get rid of the evils of extra-territoriality and interference with the judicial rights of the Empire, this concerns the functionaries and more especially the Minister of Foreign Affairs. If foreign war vessels armed with the enormous guns produced by modern science attack our coasts, the military and naval authorities will have to undertake the defence of the country, but they cannot interfere if foreign merchants by the judicious employment of capital and importing goods with discrimination have brought the commerce of Japan into a flourishing condition and succeeded in monopolizing the mercantile interests of the Empire. This is a task for the people themselves to accomplish, and more especially those who are engaged in financial and commercial pursuits.

The seizure of the judicial rights by foreigners is no doubt a grave matter, but as compared with the monopoly of our commerce it is of small moment, as there is no anticipating where the latter will end: if not cut down now when a sapling, it will shortly grow into a tree requiring an axe to destroy it. Immediate action is the more imperative since this monopoly is rapidly developing into huge dimensions.

The annual imports to Japan largely exceed the exports, and it is now noticeable that imported articles which a few years ago were looked upon as luxuries are now regarded as positive necessities of life. This is so with respect to cotton yarn, shirtings and sugar. During so long as these were treated as luxuries it was easy to discourage their use on the score of economy, but now that these articles have become, as it were, part and parcel of the everyday existence of the people, the same course is no longer available. This is the great danger we apprehend from the constant excess of imports over exports, month after month and year after year; as this excess gives foreigners a continually increasing hold upon the commerce of the Empire.

If the native merchants supported by the public are unable to successfully compete with foreigners and break down the existing monopoly, ought they to adopt a course frequently mooted, and appeal to the Government for the imposition of a protective tariff? This handing over to the authorities of a duty which properly falls upon the people themselves is extremely distasteful to us. It is true that protectionists can adduce many apparently sound



arguments in favour of their views; but to us it seems that their object is to destroy the import trade by means of prohibitive duties and this we firmly believe would most inevitably entail the utter annihilation of the export trade also. This result would mean in effect, the total extinction of the commerce of Japan.

It is no doubt to be deplored that imported articles, once luxuries are now necessities, but such being the case, it is impossible to effect an alteration and the only remedy for the consequent evil results is to be found in an augmentation of exports. This can only be effected by increased production.

When we look abroad we find that a large and steadily improving demand exists for the products of Japan. We possess in our agriculture, mines, fisheries and manufactures the means of supplying all the possible requirements of our export trade. We have most, if not all, the sources of national wealth, and unrivalled facilities for transportation by water. Labour is plentiful and cheap, and yet with all these manifold advantages our exports are less than our imports. Who must bear the opprobrium incident upon this anomalous condition of our commerce?

Some critics of the views we have enunciated, may perhaps remark that it is through the Government not affording due assistance to the people that the latter are unable to prevent the continuance of the foreign commercial monopoly. Now, what is meant by government assistance? Is it that the authorities shall pass laws granting special privileges, make advances of money—or what? Anything of this kind we should think would be equivalent to the Government undertaking the duties which properly pertain to the people. Government assistance should be afforded merely for the purpose of clearing away occasional commercial and financial obstacles, so as to give greater freedom of individual action. The Government ought not to go any further, nor should the people either demand or expect it to do so.

Let us consider what might have been accomplished in opposition to foreign monopoly. No doubt the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steam-ship Company have succeeded in preventing the coast trade being absorbed by foreign shipping, although the Government assistance afforded is, in great measure, to be credited with their good fortune. But putting this company aside, can a Japanese merchant be named who has won the confidence of foreigners and extended his business to other countries and opened branches in them, as foreign merchants are in the constant habit of doing? Have any of our merchants been able to enter into successful competition with foreigners abroad? What Japanese merchant is there in our own open ports who occupies any prominent position in the import and export trade? Are there any Japanese banks having business relations with other countries, so that similar foreign institutions should not reap all the benefit of financial operations with this country? We are led to believe that there are no instances of the kind on record. It may be said that there are many merchants quite competent to enter into successful competition with foreigners, but who are unwilling to do so without help from Government. If this can only be substantiated, by all means let assistance be afforded them, but what a lamentable state of things is disclosed when we find our merchants without the requisite energy to embark in new enterprises except when induced to do so by Government aid.

Japan is in a position to produce a coinage which would circulate freely all over the world and yet its value, as compared with the currency of other countries, is controlled by the London market. We are not without wealthy mercantile institutions and yet the foreign exchanges are in the hands of alien banks. Japan possesses many vessels sailing under the national flag, but if we except the Mitsui Bishi Company, the commerce of the country is entirely carried on in foreign bottoms. If this miserable state of things continues for any great length of time, the monopoly of aliens will have attained such a deep-rooted hold upon the commercial life of this Empire, that it will be wholly impossible to free the nation from its trammels. The possession of complete judicial authority and unrestricted control of the tariff will be utterly impotent to prevent this disastrous termination. We therefore confidently submit we have fully proved our contention:—that it is fruitless to expect treaty revision alone to place this Empire in the same rank with the foremost countries of the

world, as an independent sovereign state, not in name only but in actual fact, with all its manifold accruing advantages. Spain, Portugal, Greece, Mexico, Peru, enjoy all the benefits which treaty revision can ever possibly give us, but it is patent to the world that these countries are still under the domination of aliens as regards their commercial and financial affairs. Let the example of other states act as a warning for our good. Let the people of Japan realize the magnitude of the disasters consequent upon a foreign monopoly of the commerce of the Empire and the utter impossibility of shaking it off by diplomatic action alone. Let every lover of his country devote all his energies to the great object in view; so that after a revision of the treaties we shall see accomplished the dearest hope of our lives:—the Empire of the "Rising Sun" a free, independent and prosperous sovereign state.

#### MR. MASUDA'S ADDRESS TO HIS FELLOW-MERCHANTS.

(Translated from the *Bukka Shimpō*.)

GENTLEMEN,—I, Masuda, the manager of the Mitsui Bussan Kuwaisha (company dealing in native productions) have the honour to bring under your notice the following particulars respecting those commercial interests in which we are all engaged.

It is altogether unnecessary for me to remark, as you must be aware of the fact, that it is absolutely necessary in order to secure success in commercial enterprises to be thoroughly conversant with all the details of the special line embarked in. You are all doubtless well acquainted with the different phases of business in our own country, but as regards foreign trade, the reverse is, almost without exception, the rule.

In consequence of the manners, customs and ideas of the people of alien states being so opposed to those of our own country, it is very difficult for us to become acquainted with the state of trade in foreign lands, unless we have some special knowledge on the subject, in fact we are like men searching for something in the dark.

What we do ascertain, is gleaned in many instances by running about from one foreign house to another, from one merchant (or their resident managers) to another, and trying to arrive at some conclusion as to the actual state of the markets, either from their statements or proceedings. It need hardly be said that this has proved an exceedingly disastrous course to pursue.

These disadvantages, under which the majority of Japanese traders labour, are perfectly well known. It is manifestly impossible to carry on business successfully without having some basis of calculation to work from, and thus it is that honest and cautious merchants and reckless speculators, alike sustain great losses.

This is not the case with foreign merchants; they devote unceasing attention to all the constantly recurring changes of commerce: they have special knowledge of the subject, the result of arduous training, and thus their operations are almost uniformly attended with success, and they accumulate wealth and increase in prosperity and power. Hence we can easily account for the foreign merchants exercising so great a control over the trade of this Empire.

Messrs. Mitsui & Co. directed their attention to the subject, and established the Mitsui Bussan Kuwaisha, appointing me commercial manager, principally because my views coincided with their own in this matter. As a natural consequence, ever since the company commenced operations I have had numerous consultations with the members of the firm and we decided to devote special attention to commerce with foreign countries. Accordingly branch houses of the company have been opened in London, Paris, New York, Shanghai and Hongkong, &c., and we have now had three years experience in conducting a direct trade with abroad, without the interference of the foreign merchants resident here in Japan.

However, as only a comparatively short time has elapsed since this company commenced operations, and we have had to devote attention both to the home and foreign trade, we have not, as yet, been able to make our system as complete as we desire. At the same time we wished other merchants to embark in the direct trade with abroad, but found it impossible to induce them to do so.



Now nothing will tend to advance the prosperity of the Empire more than to place our traders in full possession of the actual state of commercial matters abroad, and thus enable them to carry on an export business without incurring loss except through their own negligence. It therefore becomes a duty incumbent upon those engaged in foreign trade abroad to carefully ascertain the condition of business in the places where they reside, and transmit all the information they can gather there, to Japan, for the benefit of their fellow-traders.

As I have already mentioned, the company of which I am manager—the Mitsui Bussan Kuwaisha—has established branches in the most important commercial centres abroad, and although I do not pretend for a moment that we are in possession of every possible information respecting foreign trade, still I can truly affirm that, from the intelligence we continually receive from our correspondents in other lands, we are kept well acquainted with the conditions and requirements of both the import and export trade, the probable demand and supply, the condition of freights, the price of goods at the place of production, the probable margin of profit if sold here in Japan, and last but certainly not least important, the demand which exists from time to time in foreign countries for Japanese produce, such as silk, tea, rice, &c.

The principal object with which our company was established being the development of the direct trade of this country with abroad, such trade being carried on by Japanese merchants without the intervention of resident foreigners, all the information which we have procured is most heartily at the service of our fellow-traders. Every Japanese merchant desirous of information on any points connected with foreign trade is earnestly invited to call upon us, and all our knowledge is at his service. Anything I am personally unacquainted with, I will probably be able to ascertain from our correspondence, and as we employ a foreigner who is well skilled in commercial matters as an adviser, there can be little doubt that between us we shall be able to satisfy all reasonable requirements.

Some people may perhaps imagine that my present course in addressing you, is dictated by a regard for the interests of the company I represent; such, however, is not the case. I have already explained the principal object the founders of the firm had in view; and I ask you to harbour no unjust suspicions, but gain a benefit to yourselves through our instrumentality. If this be done our company will have accomplished the original design of the members, and perhaps also reaped some advantage at the same time.

With a view of hastening the work I have borrowed this space from the *Shimpo*, in order to explain in full to you the objects of our company.

#### THE LOOCHOO QUESTION IN LONDON.

AS the dispute between Japan and China on the subject of supremacy in the Loochoo Islands, has been the cause of considerable correspondence in the columns of the *Times*, we republish letters to the editor of that journal from the pens of Mr. E. J. Reed, M.P., Mr. John Russell Young, and Mr. Robert K. Douglas, as well as a *Times* editorial article on the same subject.

Sir,—References to the existing dispute between China and Japan are so frequent in the columns of the European Press, and so many persons find in it a probable cause of war, that it may interest your readers, both at home and abroad, to see the grounds of dispute set forth in your columns. I therefore submit for publication, if you consider them worthy of it, the following facts and observations:—

The cause of quarrel lies in the group of islands lying south of Japan, known to us as the Loochoo Islands, but called *Riu Kiu* in Japanese and *Liu Kiu* in Chinese. In 1872, after the Shogun's office had been abolished and the Empire of Japan remodelled, the present Emperor granted to Shotai, the King or Chief of Loochoo, the title of Prince-Suzerain of Loochoo, gave him a palace in Tokio, and sent officers from the seat of government to assist in the administration of the Islands. Subsequently—during the present year, in fact—a further change has been made. Just as the quasi-Royal Princes and Daimios of Japan had a few years since to surrender their more or less independent feudal governments, so the Loochooan chief has been required to surrender his feudal functions, and the government of Loochoo has been assimilated to that of the 35 Kens or prefectures of the country, and is now administered by responsible officials. It is against this incorporation of Loochoo in the common Empire of Japan that China protests, and she adds to her protest a demand for the repeal of the Imperial decree under which the incorporation has been effected.

The grounds upon which China puts forward her demands are as follows.—She states that the kings or chiefs of Loochoo have for ages past submitted to the ceremony of investiture by the Emperor of China: that Loochoo has occasionally paid tribute to China: has, nevertheless, always recognized the existence of Loochoo as a separate autonomous State; and that the recent acts of the Japanese Government in the matter are a breach of the agreement which binds both China and Japan to respect each other's territorial rights. Admitting—as facts to be referred to presently make it necessary to admit—that Japan has exercised great rights and powers in Loochoo, and has long both received tribute from it and afforded it protection, the Chinese Government contend that they have themselves, nevertheless, possessed limited suzerain rights in the island kingdom, and that Loochoo has been, in fact, under a sort of allegiance to both Japan and China at the same time. This dual suzerainty, so to call it, should have deterred Japan, say they, from ignoring the claims of China in the matter and from absorbing Loochoo into the Japanese Empire.

On the other side, the Government of Japan, while acknowledging the fact of the Chinese investiture of the Loochooan chiefs or kings, and of tribute having on some occasions been paid to China, declares that these acts indicated no more than a remote and shadowy relationship between the two countries, resembling that purely ceremonial and honorary relationship which has subsisted between China and some other unimportant territories in the China seas; whereas the relation of Loochoo to Japan has been substantial, intimate, responsible, and wholly inconsistent with the claim of suzerainty set up by China. By geographical position, by language, by manners and customs, by religion, and, above all, by political history, Loochoo has been connected with Japan—say the Japanese Government—from very early periods, while as regards homage and tribute, of these history is said to furnish abundant examples. Let us look a little into these representations.

As regards geographical position, it is needless to occupy your space, as a single glance at any trustworthy map will suffice to show that, alike by formation, and by proximity of intercourse, the Loochoo Islands are geographically Japanese. The province of Satsuma, in Japan, is, so to speak, their geographical suzerain, and any claim of China would be, in this respect, groundless.

As regards the language, I cannot do better than take the following passage from a paper on Loochoo written seven years ago by an English gentleman, Mr. Ernest Satow, of the British Embassy in Tokio (who is an admirable Japanese scholar), for the Royal Asiatic Society of Japan. Mr. Satow says:—

"The language spoken by the Loochooans, so far as I can judge at present from a vocabulary which Dr. Willis has kindly sent me from Kagoshima, appears to differ very little from Japanese. One or two of the heads of the (Loochooan) Embassy now in Yeddo, with whom I had an opportunity of conversing a few days ago, spoke Japanese with perfect correctness. It is also stated that the higher officials are acquainted with the Court dialect of China. It would not be a hazardous conjecture to suppose that the Satsuma dialect of the Japanese, which contains several words unknown in other parts of this country, is closely allied to the Loochooan tongue."

Mr. W. G. Aston, M. A., also of our Embassy in Tokio and an accomplished master of the subject, in his "Grammar of the Japanese Written Language," published two years ago, speaks still more confidently. He says:—

"The only dialect which contains any considerable proportion of words which are also Japanese is that spoken in the Loochoo islands. Loochooan differs sufficiently from Japanese to render necessary, or at any rate convenient, the service of interpreters, but it is only a dialect of Japanese, and resembles it almost as much as Lowland Scotch does English."

This testimony is decisive on the matter of language, which is now deservedly considered so important an element in the settlement of national and international claims.

It may be added that *Okinawa*, the native collective name for the Loochoos, is a purely Japanese word, as is likewise, *Amami* (*"the Heaven-descended"*), which is the name of him from whom the Loochooans claim descent.

The manners and customs of the Loochooans, like those of the Japanese themselves, appear to have been largely due in the early ages to Chinese influence. In cases where the present customs of China and Japan differ, however, Loochooan habits for the most part resemble those of Japan. Chinese visitors to the islands have themselves remarked this, pointing out that the islanders in question build their houses, sit upon the floor, take their meals off low stands, wear straw sandals and clogs, &c., all in Japanese fashion. It is even said that the etiquette observed in Loochoo on State occasions is that established by a celebrated Japanese Master of Ceremonies.

In the matter of religion, although the precepts of Confucius are observed in Loochoo, the religion of the country is said to be that of ancient Japan, which is Shintoism, a religion found nowhere except in Japan and Loochoo, and thought to be peculiar to people of Japanese extraction. The principal deities worshipped are those of the Shinto faith; and the only Buddhist sects known in the islands exist in, and were doubtless derived from, Japan.

Coming now to the much more important question of the political history of Loochoo, I may observe that it is usual for European scholars to carry their accounts of the island State no further back than the 12th century. Japanese histories, however, particularize events of very much earlier date. They tell us, for example, that as long ago as the first decade of the eighth century the Emperor, Mommu, of Japan conferred rank and presents upon some of the inhabitants of Loochoo, then known as *Minami-Shima*; and that shortly afterwards homage was done to a succeeding Emperor by people from several of the islands. Before the middle of the same century the local Government of *Kiu-shiu*, in Japan, sent an officer to Loochoo to arrange anchorages for vessels, fresh water supplies, &c. In the tenth century Loochoo was mentioned

as being under the government of Kiu-shiu, the Prince of which territory received from it tribute in the form of the red wood of the country.

In the 12th century two great military families rose to positions of enormous influence in Japan, and passed rapidly from friendship to rivalry, and from that to antagonism, and finally to fierce warfare. These were the Taira and Minamoto, the story of whose struggles I have recounted in my forthcoming work upon Japan. Suffice it here to say that during those struggles the Minamoto were once badly defeated, and one of them, an archer of immense personal strength and prowess, named Tametomo, was made prisoner and exiled, as it was called, to an island on the south coast of Japan, called Oshima, in Idzu. Thence he took to cruising in the seas and among the islands to the south of Japan, and after a time fixed his residence in the Loochoos, married the chief's daughter, and there by her had a son born to him. He himself ultimately returned to Oshima, but his son, named Shunten, or Son-ten, remained behind and became the chief or king of the islands. Mr. Satow says:—

"Shunten was succeeded by his son and grandson, after whom the throne was occupied by descendants of the ancient Sovereigns during five generations. The son of the last being a child only five years old, the people set him aside, and elected the Governor of Urasoe named Satto, to be their King. From him is descended in a direct line the present Sovereign, Shotai, who is the 34th since Shunten."

Mr. Satow, when writing this in 1872, was perhaps not aware of a very important fact viz., that the chief Shoyen, who recovered the ruling power in Loochoo about the middle of the 15th century, was a direct descendant of Shunten and of Tametomo, who, being Minamoto, were themselves descendants of the Imperial house, Seiwa-Tenno, who took the throne in 859, being their ancestor. Shotai, who has now been in a certain sense deposed to make way for the new system of government, is consequently himself a scion of the Imperial family of Japan. The descent of Shunten from an early Emperor of Japan is recognized by the Chinese.

We have already seen that in very early times Loochoo began to come somewhat under the control of Kiu-shiu, of which Satsuma is the leading principality. Since the middle of the 15th century the dependence of Loochoo upon the princely house of Shimadzu of Satsuma appears to have been most definite and certain. Under the Ashikaga Shoguns these islands were conferred as a reward for public services upon Shimadzu Tadakuni by the Shogun Yoshinari. In the 16th century, when the great Taiko of Japan was about to invade Korea, the taxes of Loochoo being in arrears, the chief was called upon to contribute provisions for the use of the Japanese army, and sent supplies accordingly. In the reign, so to speak, of the Taiko's successor (the first of those Tokugawa Shoguns who ruled from 1603 to 1868) the Prince of Satsuma, by order, sent an expedition to Loochoo to punish the chief for neglecting to perform his full duty in the above matter, and both the Chief Shonei and his governing Council were carried off to the Shogun's capital. Both this Shogun and his successor confirmed the authority of Satsuma over Loochoo, and the Prince of Satsuma reformed the government of the country, sent officers of his own to help in administering it, regulated the taxation of the islands, forbade the carrying of arms there, and so forth. The revenues of Loochoo became a recognized part of the income allowed by the Shoguns to Satsuma.

But more than this. I have mentioned the carrying off to Yeddo of Shonei and his council. From Yeddo they were taken to Kagoshima, the military capital of Satsuma, and detained there three years. Shonei then made oath to the effect that he would ever more remain faithful to Satsuma. In the formal oath, which has come down to us, he began by declaring that Loochoo had from ancient times been a dependency of Satsuma, and after reciting his shortcomings and the clemency of his "Lord," promised to obey the Prince in all lawful things, to keep the ordinances laid down for him, and to hand the oath down to his posterity in writing, that they might observe and keep it. The Council took an oath similar in substance, which also still exists. The very first of the ordinances prohibited the importation of merchandise from China without leave first obtained from the Prince of Satsuma. On the return home of the Loochooan authorities, among other ordinances which were issued was one binding them to maintain the institutions of the mainland of Japan, and no other. All this occurred nearly three centuries ago, and the Japanese Government maintain that Loochoo has ever since been thus completely subject to Satsuma, and, consequently, to Japan, and they ask if it is reasonable to suppose that this part of their Empire could be allowed longer to continue exempt from these new and improved administrative systems, derived from Europe, under which the rest of the Empire, including Satsuma itself has been lately brought.

I must for a moment advert to a circumstance which will be in the recollection of your readers. In 1873 a Loochoo junk was wrecked upon the eastern coast of Formosa: Japan, in the exercise of its functions as the protector of its Loochooan people, resolved to exact redress from the Formosans. To prevent a misunderstanding with China touching any rights which it might suppose itself to possess in Formosa, Japan, in the first place, appealed to China itself for redress. Its Ambassador obtained an audience in Peking, or as an American author (Mr. Griffis) characteristically says, "The Japanese Ambassador stood upright before the Dragon Face and the Dragon Throne, robed in the tight black dress-coat, pantaloons, and white neck linen of Western civilization, bearing the congratulations of the young Mikado of the Sunrise to the youthful Emperor of the Middle Kingdom." The Chinese Government disclaimed responsibility even for the Formosans, and thereupon Japan sent a costly expedition to that great island, and chastised its eastern chiefs in the interests of Loochoo. Then China roused itself, avowed its rights in Formosa, censured the act of Japan, and brought matters to the brink of war. Again

Japan sent one of its ablest Ministers to Peking—Mr. Okubo who was subsequently murdered in Tokio,—and not only was war averted, but after lengthened negotiations China paid to Japan a large indemnity for the expenses of the Formosan enterprise and undertook to protect for the future any Japanese subjects who might be shipwrecked upon Formosa.

It is in view of the long array of facts above detailed that China now sets up its claim to Loochoo and calls upon Japan to reverse an act which there is no sort of prospect of its ever reversing. I cannot for my part for a moment believe that China will carry its pretensions to the length of war in such a case as this. It is probable that the Ministers of China have hitherto been unacquainted with the nature of the connexion between Japan and Loochoo, and have hastily inferred that it was not materially different from its own. I am glad to say the Government of Japan are taking the utmost pains to bring the real state of the case to the knowledge of China, and thus to enable China to depart from its first position without any loss of honour. And besides communicating the facts, Japan is giving China the warmest assurances of its friendship and of its desire for peace; and while perfectly firm and unmistakable, as its Ministers are bound to be, as to the impossibility of conceding the claim of China, is urging China not to compromise the good relations between the two countries and bring about the many calamities of war between them without graver cause than the administration of a few outlying islands which can be of no great intrinsic importance to either Empire, but which have long been Japanese in almost every particular.

I am bound to say, however, that, remembering the raw susceptibilities of Governments, and knowing how swiftly, strange to say, the hand even of the civilized man and the Christian clutches at the sword-hilt, my best hope of the preservation of peace in this matter lies in the rumoured interposition of our able and distinguished Minister in China, Sir Thomas Wade. It was lately stated, in your columns I believe, that this experienced and zealous officer had offered his pacificatory services, and I earnestly trust they have been or will be accepted. It is pre-eminently a case for such assistance, and one in which the resort to war would be wholly inexcusable.

But for the fear of evil consequences I should like to offer a few remarks upon the capability of Japan to defend herself; in the interests of peace, however, I consider it best to avoid altogether the discussion of that question. Japan unquestionably desires "peace with honour," and I trust she may preserve both.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

E. J. REED.

Broadway-chambers, Westminster.

Sir,—I have read with much interest Mr. Reed's letter on the Loochoo question between China and Japan. It is fair and kind, but presents only the Japanese side of the controversy. Mr. Reed adds that his best hope for the "preservation of peace lies in the rumoured interposition of our able and distinguished Minister in China, Sir Thomas Wade." Other events have occurred in the Loochoo question of which Mr. Reed is not perhaps aware, and a brief history of them, writing as I do from personal knowledge, may not be without interest.

General Grant, the ex-President of the United States, was in Peking last June and to a certain extent the guest of the Chinese Government, whose members treated him with a ceremonious courtesy hitherto unknown in their reception of foreigners. Prince Kung had a long conversation with General Grant on the Loochoo controversy. His Imperial Highness spoke with feeling about the action of Japan in the annexation of the Loochoo Islands. He complained that Japan refused even to discuss the question with the Chinese Ministers, regarding the annexation as a matter belonging to the Japanese Government and not meet for the consideration of a foreign power. Prince Kung requested General Grant, who was on his way to Japan, to acquaint himself with the Chinese case and to urge upon the Emperor of Japan a policy of conciliation and justice towards China, for unless there was such a policy the honour of China and the dignity of the Throne only left one alternative. General Grant said that his journey to Japan was that of a private citizen without office or authority, that he was not familiar with the question, and that the American Minister was the proper person to attend to diplomatic affairs. I remember Prince Kung replying by quoting a Chinese proverb "No business is often business," and saying he had found at times that most important results were often brought about at a dinner or in informal friendly meetings. He only spoke to General Grant in the interest of peace, and because he believed that the General's name and fame would give exceptional value to anything he would say to the Japanese in the interest of peace.

When General Grant returned to Tientsin from the capital he was waited upon by Li-Hung-Chang, the Viceroy of the province, and perhaps the foremost statesman in China in position and ability. Li-Hung-Chang came by the command of the Chinese Emperor to present the Chinese case in all its details. It was an elaborate case, presented with force and cleverness and only came to an end after two or three meetings. The Viceroy emphasized the declarations of Prince Kung as to the feelings of the Chinese Government, and while he wished for peace spoke always as a man with a clear and resolute purpose.

In the latter part of June, General Grant arrived in Japan. The occasion for which he had expressed a hope in his conversations with the Chinese rulers—the occasion when he could speak with the Japanese—came a few weeks later, while General Grant was spending some days in the interior of Japan at the beautiful mountain town of Nikko, famous for its temples and its shrines. The Emperor sent two members of the Cabinet, General Saigo, Secretary of War, and Governor Ito, Secretary for Home Affairs, as well as Mr. Yoshida, Japanese Minister to the United States, to Nikko,

to confer with General Grant and present the claim of Japan to the Loochoo Islands. This conference was held, taking nearly all of a long summer afternoon. The case of Japan, substantially as given in your columns by Mr. Reed, was presented by Governor Ito, but at greater length, accompanied by documentary evidence and diplomatic correspondence. Governor Ito, who speaks English with almost idiomatic fluency, did this with marked ability, and, while anxious to make any concession to bring about good feeling on the part of China, showed that it was impossible for Japan to abandon the position she had taken and fall back upon that urged upon her by China.

On the return of General Grant to Tokio to the palace of Enriokwan, where he was staying as the guest of the Emperor, there was a further conference with members of the Japanese Cabinet, at which Mr. Iwakura, the leading statesman in Japan, was present. There was also a long conversation with the Emperor, His Majesty coming to Enriokwan for that purpose. General Grant said he had studied both cases, the Chinese and Japanese, with great care. Much of the evidence on both sides was historical or traditional, and he could not follow it. As to the merits of either case he would rather not express an opinion. He saw the difficulties which surrounded Japan, that she could not retire altogether from her position. But he saw also that something was due to the wounded susceptibilities of China. He pointed out to the Emperor and his Ministers the gravity of war; that it was to be avoided at any sacrifice save the honour or life of a nation. He further shewed that no matter how well a war might be fought between Japan and China, the only parties who would benefit would be the outside Powers, and the end would undoubtedly be the spoliation of both countries by some European nation. He recognized the superior army and navy of Japan, which would compare well with European armies and navies. He knew that against this Power, armed and trained as it was, China could now make a feeble resistance. But China's real power would be felt in a second or third campaign, when her rulers and the people were driven by the stress of war to develop their limitless resources. He pointed out to the Emperor and his Ministers that China and Japan were now the only two great nations left in Asia who had reserved even a measure of independence and had not become drawers of water and hewers of wood for younger and more energetic civilizations. He felt the deepest interest in the preservation of this independence. He cited the example which England and America had shown in the Alabama case. Arbitration, of course, never satisfied either party at the time, but it satisfied the conscience of mankind, and the result of no war, no matter how triumphant, could do more. Before even seeking or accepting arbitration, however, the General said that nothing could do more towards a lasting peace and a perfect understanding between the two countries than for their rulers to settle it among themselves. If the intervention or even friendly advice of a foreign Power could be avoided, it would be better.

As a result of these conferences, General Grant addressed a letter to Prince Kung. In this letter, which has not yet been made public, the General gave the result of his good offices in Japan, and suggested a plan of compromise which would satisfy the honour of the two countries. He strongly urged its acceptance upon Prince Kung. This letter, which met the approval of the Japanese Emperor, was sent to Peking in the latter part of August. General Grant left Japan on the 3d of September. It is within my knowledge that since the arrival of the General in the United States he has been informed by a high official in the Japanese service that Prince Kung had written a very satisfactory reply to his letter—a reply "which indicated that the matter was not likely to give the two nations any further serious trouble."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN RUSSELL YOUNG.

46, Fleet-street, Dec. 12.

Sir,—Without in any way wishing to play the part of the Chinese State-jurist, who, as you say in your leading article of this morning, might doubtless adduce endless facts and statistics in opposing the Japanese claims to the Loochoo Islands, I venture to lay before you a few statements drawn from Kanghe's Imperial Encyclopædia on the Chinese side of the question.

Between nations which trace back their histories through countless ages it is scarcely worth while making a point of a century or two, but if Mr. Reed is right when he says that Japan first began to interfere in Loochooan affairs in the beginning of the eighth century, then China has a prior claim to the field by a hundred years. In the year 508 A.D. the Emperor Yang-te, of the Sui Dynasty, sent ambassadors to Loochoo, with orders to draw the islanders by gentle suasion within the Imperial sway. But, either through the maladroitness of the envoys or the obdurate independence of the islanders, the mission proved a failure. The Emperor, however, was bent on conquest, and finding gentle measures unavailing for his purpose, despatched an expedition against the offenders. Between such unequal foes the result of the contest could not be doubtful, and without meeting with any serious opposition, the Chinese general took the capital, beheaded the ruling King, burnt the city, and returned to China with a train of several thousand male and female captives.

As seems also to have been the case with the Japanese Emperor Mommu, according to Mr. Reed, this first assumption of sovereignty satisfied the ambition of Yang-te, and both he and his successors allowed the three Kings of Loochoo, for the islands were divided into three principalities, to remain in undisturbed possession of their freedom for several centuries. The next Imperial intermeddler from the west in Loochooan affairs was Khubilai Khan, who, while engaged in the Herculean task of consolidating his newly acquired empire, found both the time and inclination to seek to revive China's claim to supremacy in the islands. But it was not

until the accession of Hung-woo, the founder of the Ming Dynasty, in 1368, that Imperial sway over the three Kings was finally acknowledged and established. From that time until within the last few years the Kings have constantly presented tribute, sometimes in person and sometimes by ambassadors, at the Chinese Court, at intervals of from one to five years. On the death of each Sovereign the heir-apparent has, if not in every case, certainly with very few exceptions, sought and obtained investiture at the Imperial hand; and on the occasion of internal quarrels the Kings have, without demur, laid down their weapons at the command of the Chinese Emperor. So anxious also was Hung-woo to confer on the islanders the advantage of intellectual light, as well as of political privileges, that in the 25th year of his reign (1393) he founded a college at Nankin for the instruction of young Loochooan officials in the language and literature of China. This system has until quite lately been maintained, and at different times the sons and nephews of the Kings have presented themselves among the students, and have received, in common with their fellow learners, regular gifts of summer and winter official clothing from the Imperial tailors.

Such is a brief sketch of the Chinese case, which with the addition of further details, might readily be worked up into a formidable rejoinder to the Japanese claims. But, after all, the true matter, in dispute between the two countries is not affected by the question whether Yang-te's archers or Mommu's spearmen first invaded Loochoo. The real cause of contention arises from the eager haste with which the Japanese in the exercise of their great imitative faculties—which, properly guided, are admirable, but which under any circumstances are extraordinary—have set aside in favour of European knowledge everything in politics, religion, and literature which they learnt from the Chinese, and to which they owe entirely their rise from barbarism to what in the East passes for civilization. The rapid changes and reforms executed by these facile Asiatics are so many causes of anger, not unmixed with contempt, in the minds of the Chinese. Never was there a better illustration of the French proverb, "*Le mieux est l'ennemi du bien*," than in the present condition of the two empires; and until they approach a nearer level of thought and feeling, there will always be some question to stir up the restless spirit of the Japanese, and to ruffle the dignity of the Mandarins.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

ROBERT K. DOUGLAS.

December 12th, 1879.

The following are the comments of the leading London journal on Mr. Reed's letter.

Japan has secured a redoubtable champion in its controversy with China on the right to the Loochoo Islands. Mr. E. J. Reed, it is well known, builds its ironclads. But then he impartially does the same kind office for Peking. If Japan possesses a fleet which would compare not ill with European navies, China has been furnished by Mr. Reed's firm with a squadron of armed hornets able to sting many a respectable navy to death. So far the balance of the Member for Pembroke's favour to the two States has been hitherto about equal. Now the scale is inclined very much to the Japanese side by Mr. Reed's literary power, which is almost as formidable as his constructive ingenuity. He has constituted himself historian of Japan, and pronounces judgment for it with an edifying appearance of conviction that after he has spoken the dispute must end. We fear that the *litterati* of China will not be inclined to avail themselves of the gold bridge Mr. Reed offers them. He tells them that the quarrel has arisen from their want of acquaintance with the nature of the connexion between Japan and Loochoo. Their ignorance having been enlightened by Mr. Reed, they will, he believes, be able to abandon their original position without dishonour. Any who have studied the Chinese character will be very sure that even two of our columns would not contain a hundredth part of the facts and statistics a Chinese State jurist would be prepared to launch against the Japanese claim. In giving our readers the benefit of Mr. Reed's researches into the question, we must warn them that they are necessarily one-sided. At the same time, when the issue turns on contentions between Empires which apologize for adducing evidence so recent and merely contemporary as that of the twelfth century, it is something to obtain a clear view of what one side says. We are grateful for Sindbad the Sailor's autobiography, though conscious that the Old Man of the Sea might have been able to show it was prejudiced.

The Japanese, it may be remembered, have not now for the first time quarrelled with China over Loochoo. Six years back the Formosans pillaged a Loochoo ship which had been wrecked on their coast. China was known to have claimed imperial rights in the island. Consequently, Japan demanded at Peking redress for the wrong inflicted on its subjects, the Loochooans, by Formosans, the subjects of China. The Court of Peking did not at that time protest against the title of Japan to represent Loochoo interests. It pursued a rather illogical course. First it repudiated, on its own behalf, any responsibility for Formosan misconduct, and then it threatened Japan with war for having exacted vengeance for itself from Formosa. The Loochooans on their part have been well content to trade under the protection of the Japanese flag. They had a King of their own; but they recognised the suzerainty of the great Japanese feudatory of Satsuma, and thus indirectly of the Mikado, as the Prince of Satsuma's superior. When, seven years ago, the Japanese Central Government was consolidated, the Mikado assumed more direct authority over the islands. The King of Loochoo paid his homage immediately to the Japanese Emperor, though retaining apparently as much personal authority as he had enjoyed under the suzerainty of Satsuma. The Chinese Court would probably not question this practical dependence of the Loochoo chiefs upon



Japan, though they would deny the further inferences the Japanese desire to draw from it. On their side they insist upon a very remarkable fact, which also is not disputed by the advocates of Japan, including Mr. Reed. This, as we mentioned some months since, when we had occasion to refer to the strife, was the usage, dating from immemorial times, by which the Loochoo Princes accepted investiture of their dignity from the Chinese Emperors. Until the present year this tripartite arrangement endured in the Loochoo Islands. Loochoo had its own King, whether or not descended, as Mr. Reed has been informed by Japanese antiquaries, from the Imperial family of Japan. But this native Prince confessed a double relation to two much mightier potentates. He acknowledged Loochoo to be a dependency of the Japanese Crown, and obeyed its orders, though perhaps hardly with the uniform docility asserted by the friends of Japan. On the other hand, he commonly solicited as an honour as well as a duty the sanction of Peking for his enthronement. Sometimes even he is known to have paid tribute to the Chinese Emperor. Last spring the Japanese Government determined to fuse its Loochoo dependency with the body of the Japanese Empire. The great Japanese feudatories had already been deprived of their prerogatives. It is contended that what could be done without dispute to the fief of Satsuma, on which Loochoo previously had depended, can in the very nature of things be done to Loochoo. Mr. Reed and the Japanese Ambassador at the Court of Peking have drawn their inspiration from the same source and speak the same language. As will be seen from our Shanghai correspondence of to-day, the Japanese Minister to China has taken what we might have doubted was the best way of "allaying the irritation in high Chinese official circles at the so-called annexation of Loochoo." The Japanese emolument consists of a positive assertion that Loochoo has always been, in fact, an integral portion of the Japanese Empire, and a positive denial of the Chinese claim to a half share in the suzerainty. The Japanese manifesto assumes that the dethronement of the Prince and the reduction of the islands into a Japanese prefecture are simply Japanese administrative acts with which no other Power than Japan can have the least concern. While Japan retained its old feudal system Loochoo was as part of Japan, administered feudally. Japan having annulled the States it formerly established, and turned them into "departments," it became a thing of course that the fief of Loochoo, like the fief of Satsuma, which comprised it, should be included "in the general unification of the empire." Mr. Reed seems to go a step further than the Japanese Ambassador himself. He puts it as almost an injustice to the Loochooans that their islands "should be allowed longer to continue exempt from those new and improved administrative systems, derived from Europe, under which the rest of the empire, including Satsuma itself, has been lately brought."

Taking the facts as stated by Mr. Reed, used in the Japanese State paper, we are unable to see how the Japanese can be right in their contention technically. Loochoo has obviously on the given evidence been for centuries treated by Japan, even when in a position to exercise what power it pleased, as a dependency and a tributary rather than as a constituent part of Japan. When the Japanese Government took over the fief of Satsuma it must in theory be supposed to have taken it with the obligations attaching to it under the former tenure. The dependency of Loochoo henceforth would depend on the Mikado instead of the Prince of Satsuma. But in strict right the Mikado would not be entitled to incorporate in Japan a tributary kingdom because he had chosen to revolutionize the relations between the empire and a particular province of the empire to which that kingdom paid tribute. Here, it is true, we come upon controverted ground. Japan asserts that Loochoo was not an "autonomous" principality at all, and that the Loochooans have not for several centuries formed in any sense a nation. Yet the long exercise by China of the right, however shadowy, of investiture is sufficient proof that at one period, at all events, Loochoo was sufficiently a separate State from Japan to be able to acknowledge a kind of allegiance to another empire. It is for Japan to show, what it has not shown, when and how a condition of things which once existed terminated. If the Loochoo chiefs have been in any degree so far free agents as to have the capacity of maintaining the connexion of a formal dependence with the Chinese Emperor, Japan clearly commits an injury to China by destroying the system of Loochoo government by which alone that formal dependence is rendered possible. The incorporation of Loochoo in the Mikado's empire breaks the link between Loochoo and Peking. There is no longer any Prince of Loochoo to do homage and bring gifts. Loochoo loses its identity. It is henceforward swallowed up in Japan, from which no such signs of submission can be exacted. Nepal, it is notorious, acknowledges the same sort of indefinite allegiance to Peking as Loochoo. Had Nepal, as a consequence of the bygone war between it and Great Britain, been incorporated into British India, England would have acted entirely within its right; but not the less would the Chinese Court have suffered, in sentiment at any rate, a loss. Whether Japan, considering the intimate nature of its relations to Loochoo and the very unsubstantial character of those of China, be not justified morally in overriding the Chinese ghost of suzerainty, is a different matter. China can have no right to keep flags flying in isolated spots throughout Asia over which it is absolutely unable to exert any real authority. Rights divine without the smallest pretension to possession are as inconvenient and generally troublesome as the existence in old English law of a thicket of bare legal rights. It is, however, hardly more vexatious for Japan to find its way barred, or attempted to be barred, in Loochoo by a ragged board warning off trespassers in the name of Peking than it is mischievous for Peking to be tempted into wasting resources, andly wanted at home, on vain-glorious claims far away. Could it, as it is not at all likely that it could, occupy these islands, it would be unable to put them to any use. We cannot affect to sympathize with Mr. Reed's commendation of the policy of the Japanese

Government in dissolving a local administration which apparently suited the Loochooans very tolerably. At the same time, there can be no doubt on which side must be European sympathy when the question is whether Chinese or Japanese influence is to predominate. Chinese triumphs in Central Asia have indisposed Englishmen to look with any pleasure on the prospect of the Court of Peking transforming one more of its many obsolete titles of suzerainty into armed occupation.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

BY CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XXXVII.

#### SABURO'S REVENGE.

It is scarcely possible to appreciate, and it certainly were a hopeless attempt to set forth in words, Yoshitsune's feelings as he followed his guide towards the path that led from the summit of Mount Iso to the castle euciente. If the descent were practicable, the capture of the Taira stronghold might be regarded as almost certain; if otherwise, the failure of the assault, the annihilation of the three thousand chosen soldiers and the everlasting disgrace of the leader who had planned so rash an enterprise, were all inevitable consequences. Human nature may present many degrees of fortitude, but it will scarcely be found within the compass of any to contemplate such an alternative with composure.

Yoshitsune therefore refused to be accompanied by any of his knights when he proceeded to the examination of the defile. If disappointment were in store he may well have doubted his own ability to suffer its first shock patiently, and for the rest, his own resolve was independent of both circumstance and suggestion. Nevertheless, he would not willingly have foregone the support of his tried friends, Benkei and Saburo, but the two men had disappeared, how and when none could tell, and their absence suggested not a few disquieting conjectures. To one conversant with the story of Saburo's life it was not difficult to fancy that seeing himself at last within reach of his mortal foe, he had found the delay of even a few hours intolerable, and his demeanour of the preceding night made this supposition more than probable. But that Benkei should have permitted, much less participated in any design of which his chief was not cognizant, appeared altogether unlikely. Could it be that the two men, harassed by a disquiet no less than that of their leader, had attempted to explore the descent during the darkness, and in doing so met with the fate that had overtaken their five comrades on the causeway? If this were so—and for the moment no other idea suggested itself—the question of the castle's accessibility was immediately answered, and the death of his staunchest followers seemed to Yoshitsune a not unfitting prelude to the catastrophe their failure foreboded.

Washi-no-O had from the first persisted in his statement that to reach the valley safely would be no small feat of agility even for one on foot. At the same time he admitted that he had never himself made the attempt, but that he judged entirely from hearsay. There was always therefore a hope that report had magnified the difficulties, or that however impracticable the path had once been, time might have worn away something of its steepness and carried debris from the hill sides to fill up its hollows. Of such changes there had been many instances, the hunter said, among those southern mountains, and to this faith Yoshitsune resolutely adhered.

But when they reached the verge of the precipice—for it could be called nothing else—a single glance downwards showed that the place's worst reputation did not exceed the reality. The track was simply a groove worn in the hill-side by some ancient rill, so that the only reasonably secure foothold it afforded was at those points where the stream, winding to the right or left in search of softer channels, had cast down little hillocks of debris or formed banks to save itself from too headlong a progress.

Nevertheless the route would have been by no means impracticable for men or even horses, had it not merged into a veritable precipice some three fathoms high at a point about midway between the base and summit. Over this steep scarp impended an immense bank, whose supports each succeeding rainfall had helped the stream to under-



mine, until at length the mountain of mould hung in mid-air like a ruined arch, lacking one buttress and threatening every moment to break away from the other's frail support. At this place the perils of the descent culminated and ended at the same time, for looking through the arch one could discern a gentle declivity beyond, and see that the water course had its issue in a little dell hidden from the castle enceinte by a thick grove of pines and bamboos.

This last feature and the advantages it might have afforded did not escape Yoshitsune, though for the moment his attention was engrossed by something which at first sight almost startled him. From the point where he stood to the commencement of the final scarp, the bed of the watercourse had been hastily levelled, its most salient ridges having been cut away, while its deepest hollows had been filled in with material taken from the banks on either side, and the work was so recent that the frost which sparkled on every leaf and rock around had failed even to blanch the surface of the freshly displaced mould.

It was impossible to mistake the object of this work. Plainly it had been undertaken for the purpose of improving the condition of the path, but by whom and for whose passage? Moreover the real impracticability of the route consisted not in the ruggedness of its upper half but in the precipice to which it led below, and if the latter were in truth the insuperable barrier it seemed, any labour expended in correcting the former could be productive of no useful result whatsoever.

Scanning with disquiet eye every trace of this inexplicable performance, Yoshitsune's glance rested for a moment on the bank overhanging the precipice, and to add to his bewilderment he found himself suddenly possessed by an idea that this mass of earth trembled from time to time as if about to topple over, and that its motion was either preceded or accompanied by a dull sound like the stroke of a mattock.

A moment's examination proved to him that he was not mistaken. It was no longer possible to avoid associating what he saw with the presence of his own men in the Vale of Iso, though whether the aim of the work was to promote or prevent the design of his expedition, he could not immediately determine. Involuntarily, however, the thought of his two liegemen's disappearance connected itself with the things that were going forward, and as he made his way round to the brow of the hill above the precipice, his hopes began to gather fresh life.

Scarcely twenty paces farther on he found Benkei lying fast asleep among the bamboo grass. The giant was covered with mould and mud from head to foot, and it was easy to conjecture the utter weariness to which he had succumbed, for though his bare bosom was wet with the dew of the frost, he slept as soundly as though the bitter east-wind had been a comfortable fire's breath. In his hand he grasped an implement whose use would have been inexplicable under any other circumstances, but Yoshitsune knew it at once to be an extemporaneous spade formed by binding one of the huge man's iron chausses to the handle of a glaive.

The first words Benkei uttered when roused from his sleep explained the cause of his absence from the camp on the preceding night. "Is it down, then, Saburo? I never thought we could have finished the work by dawn, no more than I believed human sinews capable of such toil as yours have endured. And how does the path look now, think you?" Then suddenly recognizing Yoshitsune and the hunter, he sprang to his feet, surprise and contrition written on his frank face.

Yoshitsune could not refrain from smiling at the other's rueful mien. "I think I can answer for it Benkei," he said, "that whatever your hands have been seeking to overturn is not likely to stand firm much longer. But tell me; how come you to be separated from Saburo? I can understand what you have been about though I cannot sufficiently thank you for it, but I should not have looked to find you alone."

"And most heartily ashamed I am that it is so. The truth is these limbs of mine are capable of less endurance than those of a man half my size."

"Nay, nay. You malign yourself, Benkei. If any has outdone you, his strength comes from a source other than that which supports ordinary thews."

"By my faith you speak truth, in part at any rate. It's

my belief that not a province within the four seas could furnish a man capable of keeping his shoulders level with Saburo Yoshimori; at least if his performance of last night be an honest measure of his force."

"But what have you found to give you so much occupation, Benkei? Had you not done more wisely to husband your strength for the deeds you have to do to-day?"

"I fear me they had been deeds of small profit but for Saburo's forethought," said Benkei, shaking his head. "It were an evil plight to be imprisoned on the summit of a mountain while the Heike varlets held our comrades at bay below, yet surely no better chance was in store for us a few hours ago."

"Have you then accomplished something to forestall it?"

"Not I, by my faith; not I, but Saburo. Come and judge for yourself how he has fared." So saying Benkei led the way with not a little difficulty down the southern face of the mountain. Here a few stunted scrubs afforded points of support for the feet in a descent which would otherwise have been impracticable, and creeping along the edge of the precipice, the three men presently reached a projecting bluff recognized by Yoshitsune as the same he had observed in his original examination of the pathway. Looking down now, however, he could see that the scarp was half as high again as he had estimated it at first, though lower apparently at this place than anywhere else on the castle side, but for the rest he had not judged falsely, for the slope below was sufficiently gentle, and if only this one obstacle were past, no further difficulty suggested itself. For men in armour however, and much more so for their horses, a drop of thirty feet was an insuperable barrier, and as neither tuft nor ledge relieved the verticality of this marl wall, its base could only be reached by a sheer leap. Something of this obstacle Benkei and Saburo had gathered from their conversation with the hunter, and making their way to the place while their comrades slept, they had perceived and immediately proceeded to apply the only possible remedy.

Their plan was to cut away the support of the overhanging bank, in the hope that its debris would suffice to fill up the space between the top of the scarp and the incline beneath. An immense mass of earth would of course be needed for this purpose, but the volume of the bank seemed more than enough, and the configuration of the ground at the base of the wall was admirably adapted to retain the falling mould. The labour needed to effect this purpose was, however, so enormous that it seemed incredible two men could have seriously undertaken it with imperfect tools and a limit of time. Yet Benkei and Saburo had not only deemed the exploit possible, but had actually succeeded in forming across the neck of the impending hill a cutting so spacious and deep that Saburo, working in it, was completely concealed from view. "There he goes," cried Benkei with a burst of enthusiastic admiration. "For five hours he has never laid aside his mattock nor rested his sinews, and I swear that to every foot of excavation formed by my hands, his have added three at least. Pshaw! Shave my head and set me to chaunt litanies if I ever claim to be a strough man again."

Benkei's eulogy was not exaggerated. Whatever allowance might be made for his own labour, the extent of the achievement rendered it evident that Saburo must have toiled with a force and an endurance well nigh superhuman. Even now he showed no symptom of fatigue, but seemed rather to develop fresh energy in proportion as the growing sunlight found his work unfinished. Not much however remained to be done. Yoshitsune's eyes had not deceived him when he fancied he saw the arch of earth vibrate, for at each of Saburo's vigorous strokes it trembled perceptibly from base to summit, and when Benkei, leaping down into the chasm, brought his immense strength to bear upon the unstable mass, it toppled slowly over and fell with a heavy but noiseless thud on the shoulders of the hill below.

For a moment the thick cloud of dust that ascended to where the onlookers stood, prevented them from estimating the results attained, but as this subsided, they saw that the workmen's most sanguine hopes had been realized. The precipice no longer existed. In its place a newly formed hillock raised its head even above the level of the pathway it had once overhung, and the way to the valley lay freed from all peril or obstruction.

"Saburo," said Yoshitsune as his follower sprang nimbly

to his side, "it is not the overthrow of a mere mound of clay that you have achieved, but the fall of the castle of Fuku-hara."

"Not so, Sir," the other answered, "for of my own judgment I have done nothing. The spirit of one we both loved has gone before me since we turned our faces to this mountain, and is waiting now in yonder valley to guide us again. I have but prepared the path that we may follow."

Since Iné's death this was the first time Saburo had ever directly alluded to her, and it did not for a moment occur to his comrades to doubt the reality of what he said. Washi-no-O alone seemed uncertain whether he had not fallen in with some preternatural beings when he coupled these words of Saburo's and the fashion of their reception by his fellows with the inexhaustible strength the two men had displayed. He remembered the story of the twenty knights in white mail who had led the Heike army over the "Black Steep," and conjectured not unreasonably that a column of warriors riding to the assault by paths hitherto deemed impracticable and with spirits for their guides, were something more than common mortals.

Although Yoshitsune had taken all possible precautions to prevent his soldiers' confidence from being shaken by exaggerated rumours of the difficulties before them, he could not provide against inferences suggested by the perils they had already encountered and by the appearance of the surrounding mountains. Taught by the din of the combat now at its height before the castle, that they had been suffered to advance with impunity almost within bow-shot of the enemy's position, the knights, growing at once impatient of delay and mistrustful of its cause, had begun to tell each other that however careless the garrison of the fortress might be, its founder had been a soldier too astute to be satisfied with a mere hypothesis of his stronghold's invulnerability. If there were really any means of access by this route, it would never, they argued, have been left unprotected, and this doctrine having been once promulgated, distorted versions of their hunter guide's descriptions, or of the country folk's creed, were not wanting to confirm it. Their leaders return was therefore expected most anxiously, for it seemed to these strong men a grievous thing that they should be banished to a hill-top while their comrades battled against overwhelming odds in the plain, and when Yoshitsune rejoined them, their excitement had reached such a pitch that they might scarcely be withheld from leaving their bivouac and committing themselves to the guidance of the gods and of their own ardour.

Under these circumstances the order to advance was received with a fierce joy that presaged evil things for those whose fate opposed them to the first shock of the Genji onset. Yoshitsune rode in the forefront of the column. For all his quiet bearing there was not a man of the whole three thousand who had more pain to restrain himself from adding his voice to the well known refrain borne upward by the morning breezes from the castle enceinte. A tumult of delight stirred within him at the certain prospect of crossing swords with his father's foes, and the almost unendurable memory of his past suspense now first enabled him to appreciate the misfortune he had escaped. With very different feelings had he followed this same path an hour before, deeming death the only certain refuge from the troubles that were gathering around him.

A life of separation from sympathy had however taught him no common lesson of self-control, and moreover he was not insensible to the necessity of checking his followers' impetuosity. A little rashness might still undo everything for if the presence of the troops became known before the descent was accomplished, an occasion would be presented to the garrison of striking a fatal blow at a moment when effectual resistance was impossible. Better never to have come within sight of success than to fail now for lack of a moment's heedfulness, and Yoshitsune, keenly alive to this danger, spoke such stern words of caution that the knights reined in their horses, and instinctively resumed the same circumspect order of advance they had maintained during the darkness of the preceding night.

Even in its improved condition the track down the hill side would have presented a serious obstacle to deliberate cavaliers, but in the eyes of the Genji soldiers its difficulties were as nothing to the marvel of its preparation. Whether the gods had impelled their enemies to the mad-

ness of this work, or themselves procured its accomplishment in their sympathy for the Minamoto cause: these appeared the only reasonable surmises, for the few who had noted Benkei and Saburo's absence, never for moment thought of accrediting them with such an achievement. So it happened that when the whole column had reached the valley in safety and ranged themselves in battle order behind the grove of pines that hid them from the castle, there was not a man there who entertained the smallest doubt of speedy victory.

Yoshitsune read this confidence in his followers' bearing as he rode out to speak a last word of exhortation: "Comrades," he said, "it is not the first time we have fought side by side, yet is it the first time I am able to say, let mercy begin when strength fails. Every man that escapes you to-day must be met and struck down hereafter. Follow me then, and let none hold his hand so long as a Taira neck offers a mark for his sword."

The ringing shout that greeted this address was the first notice the Heike army had of the three thousand's advance. Up till that time the melody had surged backwards or forwards beyond the outmost barriers, for despite the desperate efforts made by the assailants not a single man had gained a footing within the enceinte, though many a stout soldier had sacrificed his life in the essay. But a small fraction of the garrison too had as yet shared in the defence, for so strong was the position by nature that a handful of men could have held an army at bay, nevertheless the followers of the red pennon had such scant faith in themselves and such large fear of their foes, that their whole available force was drawn up by way of reserve within the inner line of intrenchments, where standing with sheathed swords, they cheered on their comrades or derided each fresh failure of their opponents.

Into the midst of this unsuspecting crowd Yoshitsune and his following rode pell-mell. Utterly unsuspecting of an attack from the quarter they deemed of all others least accessible, the Heike men were at first too much astonished to resist. Hundreds were cut down or trampled under foot and the three thousand charging hither and thither, found nothing to obstruct their progress, but the corpses piled up in their path.

The disparity of strength between the assailants and the assailed was however too great to remain long unperceived. Before the panic spread to the defenders of the outworks, the immense force assembled within had begun to rally and close in upon their foes with a determination that must soon have turned the tide of victory. But Yoshitsune had foreseen all this. Just as his knights found themselves constrained to think of defence rather than assault, a thick column of smoke began to ascend from the castle roof and a cry was raised that the fortress was in flames.

Now the destruction of the castle would not have been in itself a sufficient cause to paralyze resistance under ordinary circumstances, but in the present case it signified very much more than the loss of a battle or a stronghold. In the southern wing of the building was lodged Kiyomori's grandson, the young Emperor, Antoku, and with him were those Imperial princes and court dignitaries who from choice or necessity had followed the Taira chief in his retreat from Kiyoto. An incalculable source of strength, in that it constituted their opponents rebels, this presence of royalty nevertheless added a heavy weight to the responsibilities of the Taira leaders, for though disaster was little likely to imperil the Emperor's personal safety, his capture by the Minamoto troops would have virtually put an end to the struggle between the two clans.

To provide against such a fatal contingency no less than to protect the castle's sea front, an immense fleet of war sloops and transports had been assembled in the bay, and so soon as the flames kindled by Benkei and Saburo attained the main building, the garrison abandoned all attempt to defend the approaches and made precipitately for the boats. It was perhaps the wisest though not the most valiant thing they could have done under the circumstances, seeing that from the moment they deserted their position, their chances of escape depended altogether on their promptitude. No attempt whatsoever was made to cover the retreat. With the exception of the Emperor's body guard, and a few stout soldiers who preferred death to the disgrace of defeat, none found anything dearer than safety, and the troops actually engaged in the defence of the outworks only held their

ground so long as they were ignorant that their supports had retired. Assured of this they fled with a celerity that almost bewildered their opponents, who for a time thought rather of dealing havoc among the fugitives than of turning their victory to the fullest account.

Yoshitsune himself, carried away by the pride of triumph and the fascination of the fight, was content to find wherever he turned fresh food for a sword of whose achievements veteran warriors spoke afterwards with almost fearful admiration. Followed by the flower of his knights he drove always into the thick of the mellay, and never held his hand till the piles of dead bodies were the only representatives of the Heike host.

Those however of all others most likely to be found at his side, and to whose exertions the victory was mainly due, had withdrawn from the combat even before the issue was perfectly assured, and little leisure as men found for comment or inquiry, the absence of the giant glaivesman and his sad-eyed comrade did not pass unnoticed. It was well known that to these two the duty of firing the castle had been entrusted, but since this had been accomplished early in the day, it did not seem a sufficient explanation of the mystery. At the same time it did not occur to any to suppose that evil had befallen either Benkei or Saburo. The prowess of both men was too justly appreciated to permit such a fancy, and the feeling of those that missed them in the mellay was less one of anxiety than of surprise that they should omit such an opportunity of achieving the vengeance they were known to have vowed against Kiyomori's kith and kin.

It was in one of the very latest incidents of the battle that the explanation of these things was discovered. The boats containing the Emperor, the ladies of the court and many of the chief nobles had already put off and the Genji knights were still hotly engaged with the remnant of their foes on the north side of the fortress, when a man emerged from the castle plaisance, carrying on his shoulders a pair of boxes with silk coverings on which were embroidered the arms of one well known in the Heike camp. This vassal—for such he seemed to be—had apparently escaped from the fire with no little difficulty, for the back of his doublet was charred, and his head, as well as the greater part of his face, were enveloped in a woman's girdle completely discolored by smoke and flame. Otherwise, however, there was nothing in his appearance to attract attention. Hundreds of retainers and servitors were similarly employed, and many of those that sought to gain the boats bore more grievous evidences of the day's misfortunes than a blistered limb or a singed garment. The man therefore made his way through the tumult unobserved, and reaching the water's edge, inquired hurriedly for his lordship Hiromori's barge.

It was a long time before he could gain the desired information. Some said the boat had already started; some that they knew nothing about it, and others refused to answer at all, but neither failure nor rebuff seemed to daunt the box-bearer's pertinacity. From boat to boat he passed, growing if anything more earnest in his search, until at last on the outer verge of the fleet in a spot removed from the centre of turmoil and within easy access of the castle moats he discovered the object of his search; a large barge, well appointed, fully manned and in all respects so completely prepared for a voyage that one could easily see its crew had not been over-burdened with the duties of the defence. Two or three of them left their oars and relieved the newcomer of his load, at the same time remarking carelessly that they hoped his portage fees would suffice to buy him a new doublet as his own had apparently been closer to the fire than was wholesome.

To this the man made merry answer that a scorched coat was a small matter so long as it covered a whole skin, and that for the rest he would be more than repaid by a passage in his lordship's barge, since it was his misfortune to have been left behind by his own master: a request which was granted without demur, and the vassal preparatory to taking his place in the boat, moved a little to one side and began to pull off his charred doublet.

At that very instant another but a smaller boat shot out of the castle moat. It was sculled by four men, and in its stern sat a knight in full armour, who, unlacing his helmet as he neared the waiting barge, disclosed the features of Hiromori, the captain of spies.

Had his skiff held on her natural course, he must have entered the barge on the port side and within a few feet of the spot where the sometime box-bearer sat, but for a reason not immediately apparent, he directed his oarsmen to steer for the opposite gunwale, and jumping out while his boat was still under way, gave the signal to cast off immediately.

Meanwhile the man who had asked for a passage, noting this unexpected manœuvre, had taken a hasty step forward, as though in the fear of being left behind he contemplated an attempt to enter the barge without permission, but if he had any such intention it was frustrated by the rapidity with which the crew obeyed their master's orders, casting off the hawser and plying their oars almost before Hiromori had reached his place in the bows.

For a moment then it seemed that this vassal, who had imperilled his life in the service of the Heike captain was about to be abandoned to the fury of the Genji soldiers, and whether he was appalled by the prospect, or whether his injuries, more serious than they appeared at first sight, were beginning to weaken him, those that chanced to turn their eyes shoreward saw that his features were suddenly and strangely contorted, and that a trembling like a fit of palsy fell upon him.

It so happened however that in the hurry of starting one of the oars slipped from the rollock, and the barge swinging round, glided for the briefest possible space of time with its side parallel to the shore. In that instant the supposed vassal, by an exercise of force that report has no doubt exaggerated but which must nevertheless have been well nigh marvellous, sprang at a single bound from the shore into the boat. He had cast off the covering from his head, shewing to the astonishment of all who watched his wonderful leap, that his hair was snow white, and as he passed through the air he yelled rather than shouted these two words, 'Saburo Yoshimori.'

The master of the barge cowered down under the gunwale as if the hand of death had already stricken him. He had never before met Saburo face to face, but for all that he had no difficulty in recognizing the blight his crime had cast upon the strong man's life, and seeing this avenger of blood leap upon him with the aspect of a spectre and the strength of a giant, he seemed to know that the message of the gods might not be gainsaid. He made no attempt to draw his sword and scarcely struggled in Saburo's iron grasp, so that before any could stretch out a hand to save him, his assailant had leaped with him into the water and dragged him far up upon the beach.

But Hiromori's followers were not disposed to abandon their master thus. In a moment the barge was thrust ashore and half a dozen men-at-arms sprang forward sword in hand, not to rescue but to avenge their lord, for Saburo's dirk was already buried in his throat. They had as they thought only one opponent to deal with and stalwart a soldier as he had shown himself to be, it was easy to see that he was utterly careless, nay almost unconscious of everything beyond the fate of the man whose head he was eagerly severing from the lifeless body.

They were however rudely undeceived. Before one of them could come within striking distance of Saburo, a man of gigantic proportions rushed along the beach, brandishing a glaive that beat down the Taira blades as though they had been rice stalks, and shred away limbs as if they had been of pith rather than flesh and bone. Benkei alone would probably have been more than a match for the whole boat's crew, but almost at the same moment the clatter of hoofs and armour warned Hiromori's men that the Genji knights were upon them and taking to their boat they pulled away for dear life, not however before a flight of arrows had laid more than half their number low.

(To be continued.)

## YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

### DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

### UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0



## TRIPLE ACROSTIC.

(With Double Solution)

When from the shore we seaward gaze,  
With dimmed eye or aching heart;  
This wish is wafted through the haze,  
To the good friend we see depart.

1.  
A living composer, well practised with bow;  
His score much read; his fame but so-so.

Bulgarian atrocities filled Europe with ire,  
But these, impaled by Turks, are put on the fire.

2.  
A town in Erin's isle; the rapids' ford 'tis named.  
Where, fighting long ago, the English often gained.

In different ways old Italian poets tell us  
A tale of love—hot, furious and jealous.

3.  
A well known opera describes the fame  
Of cruel hero who in sorrow and shame,  
Did repent; but "goes to the dogs" all the same.

Romeo's friend, gentle, cheerful, happy;  
Not unlike our own Mark Tapley.

4.  
See, here it now lays before you.  
Catch it quickly; it may leave you.

A household god, not made of stone,  
'Tis found in every Russian home.

AU REVOIR.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF FEB. 14TH, BY "SAYONARA."

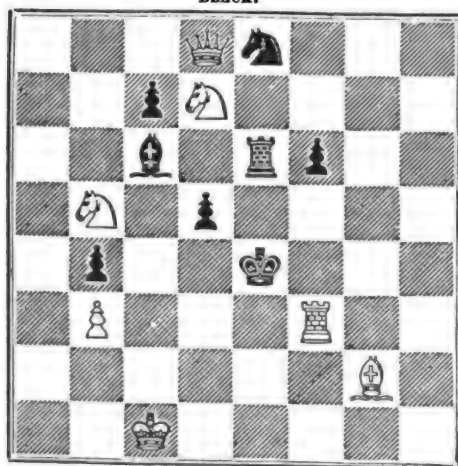
Mail		Days.
M.		D.
A	zale	A
I	vor	Y
L	are	S

Correct answer received from Au Revoir. Others incorrect.

## CHESS PROBLEM,

BY R. BRAUNE:

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF FEB. 14TH, BY J. Schlesinger.

White:	Black:
1—B. to K. B. 6.	1—R. Kt. 4.
2—Kt. to B. 3, ch.	2—K. Q. 5.
3—Kt. to B. 5, mate.	
	or 1—K. Q. 4.
2—Kt. B. 4, ch.	2—K. moves.
3—Kt. or B., mate.	

No answers received.

## YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

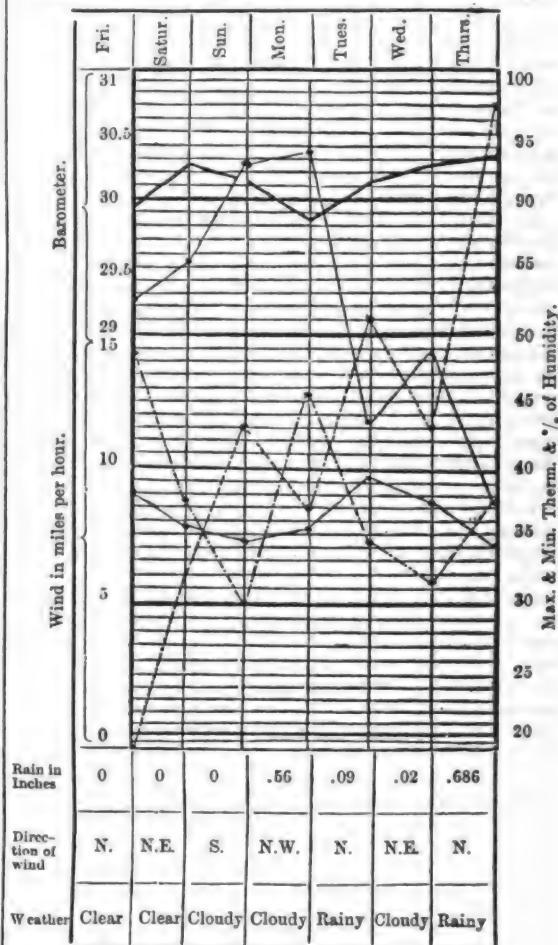
DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.15, 1.30, and 4 P.M.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—7.0 and 9.45 A.M. and 12 noon; 1.30 and 4 P.M.

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH, 1880.  
Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujimicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.  
Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.  
-----represents velocity of wind  
.....percentage of humidity  
Max. velocity of wind 24 miles per hour on Friday, 9 a.m.  
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.  
The highest reading of the barometer was 30.383 inches on Thursday, at 7 a.m., and the lowest was 29.760 inches on Monday, at 7 a.m. Unusually high temperatures prevailed during the early part of the week; the maximum being 63°.5 on Monday. The total quantity of rain during the week was, 1.356 inches.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Feb. 15, American steamer *City of Tokio*, Maury, 5,050, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. M. Co.  
Feb. 16, Japanese barque *Sakurajima Maru*, Cheetham, 581, from Nagasaki, Coals, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 16, German brig *Hermann*, Lembke, 210, from Takao, Sugar, to Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
Feb. 16, German 3-masted schooner *Caroline*, Michelsen, 274, from Takao, Sugar, to Walsh, Hall & Co.  
Feb. 16, Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru*, Peters, 1010, from Yokosuka, to Lighthouse Department.  
Feb. 16, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 16, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Kilgour, 908, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 17, American ship *Hagarstown*, Whitmore, 1,903, from New York, Oil and General, to C. & J. Trading Co.  
Feb. 17, American ship *Highland Light*, Reynolds, 1400, from New York, Oil and General, to Adamson, Bell & Co.  
Feb. 17, British barque *Glenhuntley*, Bidwell, 546, from Sunderland, General, to J. D. Carroll & Co.  
Feb. 18, British steamer *Malacca*, Reeves, 1,709, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.



Feb. 19, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230 from Shanghai and way-ports, Mails and General, M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio* from Hongkong:—For Yokohama, Miss Reeves, Mr. H. Bellamy, Mr. and Mrs. Bridges, Mr. D. Kay; for San Francisco, Mrs. McGilvary and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Pye, Mrs. Grey, Mr. and Mrs. Schenck and child, and Mr. and Mrs. Forbes.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, from Kobe:—25 Japanese. Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. Oishi, Onuma and Tanabe; 1 European, 2 Chinese and 65 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Malacca* from Hongkong:—Messrs. E. Johannsen and S. Johannsen; from Hongkong, Mr. S. Cope.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Shanghai and way-ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Ono and child, Mr. and Mrs. Hiroyama, Messrs. E. W. Drummond, J. Wolf, H. Braescher and servant, J. J. Quin, J. Bush, E. R. Holmes, A. E. Arolofsky, (H. I. R. Consul), Taneda, Tenda, Maruya, Sta, Fujiyeda, Ohinata and Kameyama, in cabin; 2 Europeans, 4 Chinese and 190 Japanese in steerage.

## OUTWARDS.

Feb. 15, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Thompson, 800, for Kobe, General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 16, British steamer *Benarty*, Potter, 1,119, for Kobe, General, despatched by Smith, Baker & Co.

Feb. 16, Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Moore, 896, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 16, Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Steadman, 661, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 17, American steamer *City of Tokio*, Maury, 5,050, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. Co.

Feb. 18, British steamer *Escambia*, Wildgoose, 1,404, for Kobe, General, despatched by Hudson & Co.

Feb. 18, Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, Pyne, 295, for Yokkaichi, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 18, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, for Shanghai and way-ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 19, British barque *Lord of the Isles*, Watt, 317, for Takao, General, despatched by Chinese.

Feb. 21, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio* for San Francisco:—For Europe: Mrs. G. M. Dare, Mr. and Mrs. H. Ludwig, and Mr. Carl Rhode. For New York and San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Farr and five children, Mrs. H. S. Love, Messrs. A. A. Meyer, W. R. Seaver, R. A. Robertson, G. H. Trench, G. A. Batchelder, Mrs. McGilvary and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Pye, Mrs. Grey, Mr. and Mrs. Schenck and child, and Mr. and Mrs. Forbes; 2 Europeans and 66 Chinese in the steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and way-ports:—Mrs. Warren and child, Miss Matsunaka, Mrs. L. Belder, Messrs. R. D. Robinson, D. Key, P. Colomb, Madda, Nosed, Ito, Abe, Komuro, Nita, Dr. Soma, Messrs. Sanno, A. Patterson, Furukawa, Shibuya, Takahama, Satoyama, Nagoka, Hori, Fujita, Sakai, Kodama, Machida, Hanjee, Enouye, and Yamagata.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Mrs. Honda, and Messrs. L. Davis, D. Fraser, E. C. Kirby, D. Reynolds, M. Raspe and Kuma.

## CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—Treasure ... .. Yen 10,000.00

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure ... .. \$ 12,000.00

Per British steamer *Malacca*, from Hongkong:—General... .. 3,395 pkgs.

Sugar ... .. 1,381 bags.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Shanghai & ports:—Treasure ... .. Yen 12,000.00

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Treasure ... .. \$4,000.00

## REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* reports: Experienced strong S. W. winds with rainy weather from Kobe to Rock Island, thence to port, light winds and fine weather.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* reports: Left Hongkong 7th Feb. at 6 a.m. Experienced light variable winds with foggy weather to Chapel Island; thence to Kobe strong N.E. winds with rainy weather. Arrived at Kobe at 11.30 a.m. 14th Feb. Left Kobe 15th instant at 4.20 a.m. strong S.S.E. winds to Rock Island; thence to port moderate N.E. winds and fine. Arrived at 3.45 p.m. 16th Feb.

The British barque *Glenhuntingley* reports: Left Sunderland October 17th, 1879; past Lizard 26th same month, and crossed the equator November 20th. Made Sandalwood Island 17th January, and arrived at Yokohama, February 17th, 115 days out.

The British steamer *Malacca* reports:—Left Hongkong at 6 a.m. 11th instant. Experienced strong monsoon with high sea to Ooshima; thence to port variable winds with fine weather. Arrived at 10 a.m. 18th instant.

The American ship *Hagarstown* reports Left New York on the 30th of August, 1879; had moderate southerly winds and fine

weather in the North Atlantic, and crossed the Equator in Long. 28 W. on the 10th of October. Had light S.E. trades and crossed the meridian of the Cape of Good Hope on the 9th of November; made the easting before strong westerly winds; and sighted Van Dieman's Land on the 13th of Dec. Came up east of Australia with light variable winds; and crossed the Equator in the Pacific, in long. 164 E., on the 23rd of January. Experienced strong N.E. trades; and fresh northerly winds and rough weather to the coast of Japan on the 7th of February; being detained 10 days by strong northerly gales and a swift current setting to the south-east. Arrived in port on the 17th of February. Passage, 170 days.

## NEXT MAIL DUE FROM

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 1st*
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Feb. 26th†
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 6th
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 1st
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 27th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 26th

\* Left San Francisco, 7th February, *City of Peking*.

† Left Hongkong, 19th February, *Volga*.

## NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 6th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG, .....	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 28th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG, .....	M. M. Co.	Feb. 23rd
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 6th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 4th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	Feb. 25th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

## NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 21st February, 1880.)

		Yen Satr.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
		A.M.	Noon	Clos- ing.				
1880.								
Monday.....	Feb. 16	555	554	554	378	326	113	102
Tuesday.....	" 17	562	556	554	—	—	—	—
Wednesday.....	" 18	564	564	565	—	—	—	—
Thursday.....	" 19	556	561	559	—	—	—	—
Friday.....	" 20	560	561	561	—	—	—	—
Saturday.....	" 21	561	560	562	—	—	—	—

## VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

## LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Jan. 2	Flintshire (s.s.)	LONDON	Yokohama
" 2	Ullock	"	"
" 2	Virginia Schilizzi (s.s.)	"	"
" 2	Meath (s.s.)	"	"
" 2	Saxon Monarch (s.s.)	"	"
Dec. 18	Alice Buck	NEW YORK	Hiogo
" 30	River Logan	HAMBURG	Yokohama
" 30	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 30	Vale of Nith	"	"
Jan. 2	Scottish Fairy	GLASGOW	"

## LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red): barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground): brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground): schooner, flag F. (white ball on red ground) all commercial cede, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND RIG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16 '79	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Malacca	Reeves	British steamer	1,709	Hongkong	Feb. 18	P. & O. Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13 '78	M. B. Co.
Takasago Maru	Young	Japanese steamer	1,230	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 19	M. B. Co.
Tanais	De la Marcelle	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Feb. 12	M. M. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	Feb. 4	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Caroline	Michelson	German schooner	274	Takao	Feb. 16	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Ching-too	Baikie	British schooner	304	Takao	Feb. 13	N. Trading Co.
Glenhuntley	Bidwell	British barque	546	Sunderland	Feb. 17	J. D. Carroll & Co.
Hagarstown	Whitmore	American ship	1,903	New York	Feb. 17	C. & J. Trading Co.
Hermann	Lembke	German brig	210	Takao	Feb. 16	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Highland Light	Reynolds	American ship	1,315	New York	Feb. 17	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Kate Davenport	Mallett	American ship	1,248	New York	Jan. 30	Frazar & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	—	German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Leonard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Nimrod	Clark	British barque	696	Nagasaki	Jan. 28	Mitsui Bussan Kaisha
North Star	—	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Oakland	Purinton	American ship	1,237	New York	Jan. 28	Fearson, Low & Co.
Otome	Jensen	Russian schooner	55	Nemuro	Feb. 9	Russian Authorities
Otsego	Isacsen	Russian schooner	46	Bonin Islands	Jan. 27	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH.—Pegasus ...	6	1,124	900	Sloop	Nagasaki	Com. Hon. H.N.S. Hood
FRENCH.—Champlain ...	10	1,901	—	Corvette	Chefoo	Com. Michaud
AMERICAN.—Alert ...	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ...	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostok	Captain Schance
„ Crayser ...	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Cruise	Captain Nazimoff

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ...	Tibre	M. M. Co.	Feb. 23rd, at 7 a.m.
Hongkong via Kobe...	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	Mar. 6th, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco ...	Belgie	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 6th.
Shanghai and way-ports...	Takasago Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 25th, at 4 p.m.

## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**IMPORTS.—Yarn.**—Speculation ceased and a fair business at quotations for consumption. *Shirtings* still out of demand, but quotations nominally higher. Other *Cottons* unchanged. *Woolens* dull and inactive at former rates.

**COTTON YARNS:—**

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$31.50 to \$36.50
" " Good to Best ... "	\$37.00 to 38.00
Bombay, No. 20 1/2 ... "	\$31.50 to 34.00
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... "	\$37.50 to 38.50
" " Good to Best ... "	\$39.00 to 42.50
" 38 to 42 ... "	\$39.00 to 41.00

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—**

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece	28 1/2 yds. 39 in.	\$1.65 to 1.85
" " 8 1/2 lb. " "	38 1/2 " 39 in.	\$1.85 to 2.30
" " 9 lb. " "	38 1/2 " 45 in.	\$2.20 to 2.25
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " "	24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.65
Drills, English: 14-15 lb. 40 " "	30 in. " "	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12 " "	44 in. " "	\$1.80 to 1.82 1/2
Prints:—Assorted... " 24 " "	30 in. " "	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Satens Black	32 in. " "	\$0.11 1/2 to 0.14 1/2
Turkey Red: 2 to 3 1/2 lb. 24 yds. 30 in. " "		\$1.35 to 1.55
Do. 2 1/2 to 2 3/4 lb. 24 " 30 in. " "		\$1.60 to 1.67 1/2
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in. " "		\$1.75 to 1.90

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.**

Velvets:—Black ... 35 " 22 in. per piece	\$8.75 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns:— " 12 " 42/3 in. " "	\$0.75 to 0.79
Taffelclass:— " 12 " 43 in. " "	\$1.75 to 1.80

**WOOLLENS:—**

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in. ...	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... 28-30 yds. 31 in. ...	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... 29-30 yds. 31 in. ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 yds. 32 in. ...	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Cords ... 28-30 yds. 22 in. ...	4.00 to 5.25
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.17 to 0.17 1/2
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy... 48 in. to 52 in. ...	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... 54 in. to 56 in. ...	0.40 to 0.50
Presidents ... 54 in. to 56 in. ...	0.55 to 0.60
Union ... 54 in. to 56 in. ...	0.32 1/2 to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs ... per lb. ...	0.35 to 0.41

**SUGAR.**—A good business has been done in Formosa Sugar during the past week, some 20,600 bags being settled at prices from \$4.30 to \$4.38 per picul. Stocks are estimated at 6,000 bags. The *Hermann* and the *Caroline* have arrived, both with cargoes from Takao. Advices are to hand of the following vessels that are now loading at Takao for Yokohama, viz:—*Anna Bertha*, *Johann Henrich*, and *Gustav*.

**KEROSENE.**—The market is very dull. Settlements for the week are reported at 2,720 boxes. The *Hagarstown* and *Highland Light*, with full cargoes, have arrived from New York during the week.

Sagdr:—Takao in bag ... per picul	\$4.30 to \$4.50
" " in basket ... "	\$5.20 to \$5.00
Taiwanfoo in bag ... "	\$5.20
do. in basket ... "	\$5.00
Ohing-pak and Ke-pak ... "	\$8.00 to \$9.00

China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fab. per picul	\$6.25 to \$8.00
Daitong ... " "	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... " "	\$2.60 to \$3.00
Kerosene Oil ... " "	\$1.60 to \$1.65
Newchwang Peas ... " "	\$2.20 to \$2.25

## EXPORTS.

**SILK.**—During the past week there has been a fair amount of activity in our Silk market, and about 550 native bales have been brought into buyers godowns; against this, however, rejections on inspection have been unusually heavy, and the actual sales resulting from all the transactions reported have therefore been very insignificant and do not reach 200 native bales.

There are, however, evident signs that buyers for the American market are still inclined to operate, and at any moment it appears probable that large purchases may be made.

Stock in Yokohama about 3,500 native bales. Total shipments to date 15,629 bales against 16,005 bales at the corresponding period last season.

Prices remained very firm; and desirable silks are becoming scarce.

	In London at 3/9 1/2 per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.		In London at 3/9 1/2 per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.
Hanks, —Superior, nom...			Kakeda, —Extra ...	\$730 to 750 24/9 to 25/4	fra. 68 50 to 70 00
" Best ...	\$680 to 690 23/1 to 23/5	fra. 64 00 to 65 00	" Best ...	\$690 to 710 23/5 to 24/1	fra. 65 00 to 67 00
" Good ...	\$660 to 670 22/6 to 22/10	fra. 62 00 to 63 00	" Good ...	\$630 to 670 21/7 to 22/10	fra. 59 50 to 63 00
" Good Medium ...	\$640 to 650 21/10 to 22/2	fra. 60 50 to 61 50	" Common ...	\$780 to 800 26/4 to 27/	fra. 73 00 to 75 00
" Medium ...	\$610 to 630 21/3 to 21/6	fra. 59 00 to 60 00	" Best ...	\$730 to 770 24/9 to 26/	fra. 68 00 to 72 00
" Common, In'r...	\$580 to 590 19/11 to 20/3	fra. 54 80 to 56 00	" Good ...	\$680 to 720 23/1 to 24/6	fra. 64 00 to 67 80
Oshius, —Best ...	\$630 to 670 21/6 to 22/10	fra. 59 50 to 63 00	" Med. & C'n ...		
" Medium ...	\$630	21/6			
Hamataki ...	\$630	21/6			

## EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9 1/2
" " 6 " "	3/9 1/2 nom.
" " Bank Bills on demand	3/8 1/2
" " Private 4 months' sight	3/9 1/2
" " 6 " "	3/10
ON PARIS—Bank Sight	4.71
" " Private 6 m. sight	4.84
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	2 % prem.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight	par.

ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72 1/2
" " Private 10 days sight	73 1/2
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	89 1/2
" " 30 days sight Private	91 1/2
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	90 1/2
" " 30 days sight Private	91 1/2
Kinsats...	562
Gold Yen...	877

# FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF JAPAN.

Capital - - - - - Yen 1,500,000.000.

Reserve Fund - - - - - „ 275,000.000.

HEAD OFFICE—TOKIO.

BRANCHES:—Osaka, Yokohama, Kobe, Saikio,  
Morioka, Sendai, Ishinomaki, Fusan, (Corea.)

SUB-BRANCHES:—Furukawa, Akita, Yokote,  
Honjow, Miyako, Ichinoseki.

Agencies:—SHANGHAI, HONGKONG.

Agencies—(For Exchange only):—

Nagasaki, Hakodate, Nagoya, Fukuoka, Yamaguchi, Akamagasaki, Okayama, Kochi, Wakayama, Oita, Gifu, Yamanashi, Fukushima, Mayebashi, Tatebayashi, Kirew, Nagahama, Otsu, Matsuyama, Matsuyae, Akashi, Kishiwada, Obama, Fukui, Idsuhi, Tottori, Kawanoishi, Sayegi, Sendai, Awamori, Morioka, Hirosaki, Ichinoseki, Akita, Tanabe, Nagaoka, Yonezawa, Miharu, Tsurugaoka, Koriyama, Tokushima, Kuwana, Kameyama, Hikone, Tsuwano, Tamashima, Itahara, Tsu, Handa, Yodo, Tsuruga, Nakatsu, Saijo, Uwajima, Yamagata, Obi, Choahi.

## THIRTEENTH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Court of Directors to the Proprietors,

For the Half-year ending 31st December, 1879.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the Proprietors was held at the Head Office, on 18th January, 1880, at which the Directors had the honour to submit the annexed General Statement and Balance Sheet of the affairs of the Bank, as at 31st December last.

The net profit of the Head Office and Branches amounts to Yen 198,793.668 (deducting remuneration of the officers, their travelling expenses, and all other payments, inclusive of interest). Adding to this sum the unappropriated balance of last Half-year, namely, Yen 36,772.855, and Yen 80,000 set aside as a special reserve for bad and doubtful debts, the total comes to Yen 315,566.523. From this sum Yen 36,371.575 will be taken to extinguish the bad debt of Onogumi; Yen 50,000 will be set aside as a special reserve for bad and doubtful debts; and Yen 24,200 will be given to the officers as a bonus; and the remainder is Yen 204,994.948, from which Yen 50,000 will be added to the Reserve Fund, Yen 120,000 will be divided amongst 15,000 shares, being Yen 8 per share, which is at the rate of 16 per cent, per annum, and the balance, Yen 34,994.948, will be carried forward to next half-year.

The debt incurred by Onogumi has been written off, and amounted to Yen 36,371.575, taken from the Special Reserve of Yen 80,000, which has been supplemented by the addition of the sum of Yen 50,000, an amount which, the Directors are of opinion, will amply suffice to meet any further contingencies that may arise.

SHIBUSAWA YEICHI,  
Chairman.

General Statement and Balance Sheet of the  
First National Bank of Japan, for the Half-year  
ended 31st Dec., 1879.

### LIABILITIES.

	YEN.	YEN.
Deposits .....	960,018.107	
Bills Payable .....	227,252.962	
Loans .....	755,000.000	
Total due to Government...		1,942,271.069
Notes in Circulation .....	1,196,440.000	
Fixed deposits... ..	861,166.569	
Current deposits .....	1,046,823.377	
Post Bills in Circulation ...	546,927.933	
Bills Payable .....	103,285.885	
Other deposits ... ..	691,875.105	
Due to Agencies .....	265,384.222	
		3,516,163.091

Total due to the Public.....	4,712,603.091
Capital .....	1,500,000.000
Reserve Fund.....	225,000.000
Special Reserve Fund for Bad and doubtful Debts .....	80,000.000
Balance brought forward from last half-year .....	36,772.855
Balance of Profit and Loss Account ...	198,793.668
Accounts not yet Realized .....	19,919.386
	2,060,485.909
Yen.....	8,715,360.069

### ASSETS.

	YEN.	YEN.
Gold, Silver, and Copper Coin and Paper Money .....	1,366,110.703	
Gold and Silver Bullion.....	34,744.538	
Government Bonds lodged in the Finance Department, to secure notes in circulation .....	1,088,531.400	
Government Bonds on hand.....	442,706.917	
		2,932,093.558
Loans receivable, and other sums due to the Bank .....	5,107,667.720	
Bills discounted and Bills receivable...	201,227.619	
Premises .....	32,299.390	
Due by Agencies .....	442,071.782	
		5,783,266.511
Yen.....		8,715,360.069

### RESERVE FUND.

	YEN.
By Balance brought forward from last account .....	225,000.000
By Transfer from this Profit and Loss account .....	50,000.000
YEN .....	275,000.000

### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	YEN.
By Balance brought forward from last half-year.....	36,772.855
By Net Profit for the half-year ended 31st December, 1879 .....	198,793.668
By Special Reserve Fund brought forward from last half-year .....	80,000.000
YEN .....	315,566.523

	YEN.
To loss for writing off a bad debt .....	36,371.575
„ the special reserve fund for bad and doubtful debts .....	50,000.000
„ Bonus to the Officers .....	24,200.000
„ Addition to Reserve Fund .....	50,000.000
„ Dividend on 15,000 Shares .....	120,000.000
„ be carried forward to next half-year .....	34,994.948
YEN .....	315,566.523

SHIBUSAWA YEICHI,  
Managing Director.

SASAKI YUNOSUKE,  
Accountant.

MITSUI TAKAYOSHI,  
SAIONJI KINSHIGE,  
SAITO JUNZO,  
MITSUI HACHIROJIRO,  
Directors.

NAGATA JINSICHI,  
Director and Manager.

Tokio, December 31st, 1879.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

**HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

PAID-UP CAPITAL ... .. \$5,000,000.  
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,200,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. SARSOON, Esq.  
Deputy Chairman—WM. H. FORBES, Esq.

E. R. Bellios, Esq., H. L. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppins, Esq.,  
Hon. W. Keswick, Adam Lind, Esq., Wilhelm Reinera, Esq.,  
W. S. Young.  
Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

## LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillips, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.  
E. F. Duncanson, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.  
Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

## SHANGHAI:

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo, Hankow,  
Saigon,  
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

## YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

I tares allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.  
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o  
" " " " 6 " " 4 "  
" " " " 3 " " 4 "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description  
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,  
India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

A. M. TOWNSEND, Acting Manager.

Yokohama, April 13, 1878: 6mly.

## MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA, (HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

PRIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class,  
let at the rate of from 50 sen to 80 sen per day, and  
from 12 yen to 20 yen per month.

## BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class .....	{ 1.50 yen per day, or
	{ 40.00 " " month.
3rd class .....	{ 1.00 yen per day, or
	{ 28.00 " " month.

All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or  
small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates,  
for FUJYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood  
of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged  
from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

  
**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tl.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## W. & A. GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS.

W. & A. GILBEY have special facilities for carrying  
on an extensive Foreign Trade, having held for  
many years in their Excise Bonded Stores, for the purpose  
of their Home Trade, a stock of not less than 12,000  
Casks of Wines and Spirits, which are equally  
available for Export. These stores are by far the largest  
private Duty Free Warehouses in the World, and are under  
the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially at-  
tached to these Warehouses.

THE EXTENT of W. & A. Gilbey's purchases enables them  
to give the best VALUE to the public, as a twentieth part of  
the Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom is  
supplied from their stock. In the year 1876 W. & A.  
Gilbey paid duty on 1,881,049 gallons of Wines and Spirits,  
and the average quantity bottled and sent out by them  
daily was 3,050 dozens or 36,600 bottles.

QUALITY is guaranteed by W. & A. Gilbey, and is the same  
whether the Wines or Spirits are obtained direct from their  
Head Establishments or from any of their Agents. The  
purity and genuineness of every article in this list are  
guaranteed in accordance with Act of Parliament, 38 and  
39 Vict., Cap. 63.

W. & A. Gilbey have always adhered to the *standard* of  
Bottle Measure recently recognised by the Government,  
namely—

6 bottles contain one gallon; 12 half-bottles contain  
one gallon.

SECURITY is ensured to the purchaser, each bottle bearing  
W. & A. Gilbey's seal and label guaranteeing *quality* and  
*measure*, and the *strength* also in the case of Spirits.

## W. &amp; A. Gilbey's Head Establishments:—

England.—(Offices) Pantheon, Oxford Street, London;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Oval Road, Camden  
Town, London.

Ireland.—(Offices) Upper Sackville Street, Dublin;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Upper Sackville St.,  
Dublin.

Scotland.—(Offices) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh;  
(Warehouses, Duty Paid) Haymarket, West  
End, Edinburgh.

France.—Principal Establishment, Chateau Loudenne,  
near St. Estephe, Medoc.

Excise Bonded Stores.—Warehouses, Nos. 1 to 5, North-  
Western Goods Station, and Bonny Street,  
Camden Town, London.

Distillery.—James Street, Camden Town, London.

Printing Department.—Poland Street, Oxford Street,  
London.

**J. J. GARGAN,**  
**ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,**  
No. 88, Creek Side.

Machinery of all kinds overhauled and  
Repaired.

House Building and Repairs Con-  
tracted for.

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**E. P. & W. BALDWIN,**  
WILDEN WORKS.  
STOURPORT, ENGLAND.

**SHEET IRON,**

BRANDED

"BALDWIN-WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

**TIN PLATES,**

BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"  
"ARLEY," "STOUR."

*Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,  
and Close Annealed.*

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane, London, E.C.  
April 6, 1878.

**KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES,**

COUGHS,  
ASTHMA,  
BRONCHITIS,

ACCUMULATION OF PHLEGM.

Composed of the purest articles. These Lozenges contain no opium nor any deleterious drug, therefore the most delicate can take them with perfect confidence. Their beneficial effect is speedy and certain. The old unfailing family remedy is daily recommended by the most eminent Physicians. (In use nearly 60 years).

**MEDICAL TESTIMONY.**

July 25th, 1877. 22, Cold Harbour Lane, London.

Sir,—Your Lozenges are excellent, and their beneficial effects most reliable. I strongly recommend them in cases of Cough and Asthma. You are at liberty to state this as my opinion, formed from many years experience.

J. BRINGLOE, M.R.C.S.L., L.S.A., L.M.

Mr. T. KEATING, Indian Medical Service.

Dear Sir,—Having tried your Lozenges in India, I have much pleasure in testifying to their beneficial effects in cases of Incipient Consumption, Asthma and Bronchial Affections. I have prescribed them largely, with the best results.

W. B. G——, Apothecary, H.M.S.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are sold by all Chemists, in bottles, of various sizes, each having the words "KEATING'S Cough Lozenges" engraved on the government stamp.

**KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,**

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.—SOLD IN BOTTLES BY ALL CHEMISTS.

Proprietor, THOMAS KEATING, London,  
Export Chemist and Druggist.

April, 1879.

**ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,**

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,  
ENGLAND.

**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND  
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

**MACHINERY.**

May 4, 1878.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## THE GREATEST

**WONDER OF MODERN TIMES  
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakay that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

**SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!  
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.**

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World  
May 17th, 1879. tfs

## The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art:—Per annum, \$24; Six months, \$13; Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY Edition, being a Summary of the foregoing, is published for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays excepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community. Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for circulating local advertisements. It has a large and constantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within the means of all classes of the community. It therefore affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.

### AGENTS OF THE PAPER.

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"	Bates, Hendy, & Co., 4, Old Jewry.
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SAN FRANCISCO.....	White & Bauer, 413, Washington Street.
HONGKONG.....	Kelly & Co.
SHANGHAI.....	China and Japan Trading Co.
HIOGO & OSAKA.....	F. Walsh & Co.
NAGASAKI.....	China & Japan Trading Co.

Who are authorized to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements for these papers.

Printed and published for the Proprietors by the Manager  
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16 Bund  
Yokohama.

# THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF  
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. IV. No. 9.]

Yokohama, February 28, 1880.

[ $\$24$  PER ANNUM.]

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## A BUILDING ACT FOR TOKIO.

### II.

**L**AST week we gave a few of our reasons for proposing a Building Act for Tokio, and referred to some of the points which such an enactment should include. There are other evils equally crying with those already enumerated which call for remedy and may be referred to here. It is beyond doubt that the rage of epidemics in certain seasons, as well as the yearly death rate from general sickness, would be much diminished by certain reforms in the sanitary condition of the dwellings.

An arrangement of sewers and complete underground drainage such as we have the advantage of possessing in large European cities would at present be quite impracticable in Japan. The agriculture of the country is greatly dependent on the use to which the sewage of all towns is put. Still any loss on this head could be avoided by causing the drainage to issue outside the towns into large cesspools forming stores of manure to be emptied when required. But the efficiency of such drainage would demand a perfect water supply connected with each house, and proper water-closet apparatus. In this as in other matters Japan must frame her own regulations in an initial and experimental manner with special reference to the needs and means of the poorer classes. Laws might certainly be drawn up with regard to the position of wells relatively to the street drains, house closets and other sources of impurity. It is quite customary to see a well within a few yards of a closet, portions of the sewage of which have for years been allowed to percolate through the surrounding soil. These receptacles moreover survive a whole generation of houses. One house burnt or ruined, its successor adopts the old well, closet, and other landmarks. The wells of all houses should be efficiently cemented or lined with material impervious to the draining of foul liquids

through the surrounding earth. In certain parts of the city, water is supplied by wooden aqueducts and brought for some distance, from the rivers. Medical men are agreed as to the necessity of examining, cleansing, and reinstating these. It would perhaps be also possible to introduce into their channels some complete means of filtration so that the water from them should be absolutely pure. It would be outside the province of an article dealing with the matter of arrangement and construction of buildings to consider the general sanitation of towns. It is here enough to indicate that the proposed act should contain rules relating to certain unhealthy appendages to the dwellings. The holes or cesspools forming the receptacles below the closets should be compulsorily lined with metal, earthenware, or brick and cement, so as to prevent the surrounding soil being saturated with the superfluities. Such pans should be subject to special inspection and emptying at regular intervals; they should also be provided with an overflow and pipe to some adjacent cesspool to avoid overflowing. Closets or conveniences of any kind should be placed at a fixed distance from the rooms of dwellings;—if necessary approached by a separate boarded passage, but on no account adjoining the inhabited rooms. Many know the frequent discomfort to the olfactory nerves from sleeping in a teahouse or sitting in a theatre in close proximity to certain quarters; and in the case of children and weak and infirm people the number of diseases and deaths due to unwholesome inhalations must be very great.

The low position of the street houses with regard to the road drains must be extremely unhealthy and productive of damp and noxious vapours. In many cases in the city of Tokio, the roads have been improved at the expense of the houses, and there are numerous instances in which the houses being lower than the roads the surface drainage must necessarily find its way immediately under the tenements, sending its damp through the thin low floors. The troughs or gutters which run along the streets are not, it is true, as in certain old continental towns, the recipients of the worst kind of filth and sewage, but the stagnant water, mud, vegetable and other decaying matter which their cleansing lays bare, bode no good to the inmates of adjacent houses. Such channels should be properly cemented or lined and laid to a proper fall so as to quickly carry off the contents, in addition to which periodical cleansing should take place. It is needless to say that such laying open and cleaning of gutters, drains and moats should not be made, as is often the case, in the hottest season of the year, when any stagnant impurities are likely to do most injury to health.

In addition to the construction of ordinary street dwellings which we have hitherto considered, and certain sanitary regulations affecting all buildings alike, part of the Building Act should have special reference to erections built in the so-called foreign style. Considering the extremely fragile and unsound construction of

many houses or bungalows inhabited by foreigners or the higher class of Japanese, it is a wonder that more frequent accidents do not occur than are actually recorded. Results from the recent earthquake show that, whereas the chimneys and other parts of such constructions have been split, broken, and sent flying, the more solidly built Government erections have sustained comparatively no injury. A hard material such as brick or stone, not pliant like wood, must necessarily have a tendency to crack during a very severe shock, but experiment shows that such slight injuries are rarer when the walls are low, strong, and bonded well with cement or good mortar joints, than in cases of light and flimsy constructions. Whereas a few insignificant cracks have been detected in some of the large buildings in Tokio, constructed with common pure lime mortar having the property of never properly setting, no cracks have been detected in one building bonded entirely with cement, although the bricks used are far softer than, and inferior to, the ordinary Tokio bricks. A limit must be imposed upon the height of buildings and walls, and a scale must be fixed for the thickness and diminution of walls according to their height. All heavy stone corners or projections near the top must be prevented as much as possible. The area of openings in walls with regard to the total surface, and the construction of arches and other supports for great superincumbent weight, are all matters to be taken carefully into consideration.

The common rules of building, with regard to the thickness of chimney-breasts, brickwork round flues, and the connection of wooden floors and roofs where abutting against such chimney stacks, are often grossly neglected. With regard to these matters it would be sufficient to copy the rules contained in the London Metropolitan Building Act, with certain modifications as to the length and construction of chimney stacks above the roof, on account of the danger of overthrow from earthquake. In addition to this, stoves inserted in wooden buildings have in more cases than one been the cause of conflagration; and the position and mode of fixing stove-pipes, stoves, and the floors and ceilings below and above stoves, as well as the distance of these from walls must be regulated.

Other important points might be alluded to; but it is not our intention to do more than sketch the general outline which might be followed in drawing up an enactment which should tend to diminish greatly the chances of public danger and loss from defective building.

#### DOMESTIC SLAVERY IN HONGKONG.

THE fact of the existence, in some form or other, of a system of actual bondage within the limits of a British ruled dependency, has been brought before the notice of the House of Commons, where the Colonial Secretary, in reply to interrogations on the subject, has expressed his conviction that the evil will be suppressed by the Governor of the colony. Such is the purport of a telegram recently transmitted from Europe to the East. That the result ought to be as predicted must be admitted. No kind of service that is not freely rendered can be allowed to be perpetuated in any part of the British dominions; and a Chinese island, though "a mere dot on the ocean," while controlled by a British Administrator, must be no exception to the rule. But, at the same time as all this has to be taken for granted, it is useless to attempt to disguise the fact that the task of the reformer is one of no mean magnitude. In this as in other respects it appears that Governor Hennessy has inherited a very troublesome legacy from his predecessors in office. Almost simultaneously with his arrival at the seat of his Government various

abuses, introduced under a system at once lax and arbitrary, had attained such dimensions that they could no longer be ignored. One by one they have obtruded themselves on the notice of the Chief Magistrate of the island, who, in the face of much opposition which was not always fair or scrupulous, has had to toil for their removal. He has the gratification of knowing that his efforts have not been unavailing. Nor, beyond the immediate limits of the interests and prejudices with which they came into friction, have they been unappreciated. Probably a labour, more arduous than any which he has heretofore undertaken is now before him; for the institution which he has to attempt to eradicate, is not only an integral part of Chinese family life, thus commanding the veneration of the Asiatic residents on the island: it is often actively sympathised with, and to a certain extent participated in, by the European settlers: its existence is apologized for, and its continuance all but asserted to be a necessity, by Christian scholars of vast experience in the lore, manners and customs of the Middle Kingdom; and finally, though admittedly and indubitably a species of slavery, is yet one of the most patriarchal and mildest forms of that system, and in no respect similar to the thralldom which prevailed from old times among warlike and vigorous western nations. Still less does it resemble the relationship long existing between negro chattels and their owners in the West Indies and America. In fact, it is generally "domestic" in the full sense of the term. The bondsman and bondswoman are almost invariably of the same race with their master. They live with him and form part of his family, and both by law and the still more vigorous prescription of custom are entitled to rights and privileges at his hands which he is powerless to deny or to withhold. None the less the ties which bind the two parties imply full proprietorship on the one side, and complete submission and loss of individual liberty on the other, constituting of course as thorough a system of slavery as that under which the African black and his descendants lived and toiled in the islands and states of the New World. This brief explanation will serve to show, both that a custom prevailing on English territory, it is an offence against English law, and that it must either cease to be or the law must be altered to suit local circumstances. On the other hand the difficulty involved in its extirpation must also be apparent. If, on the first cession of the island to the British, and its colonization by them, there had existed on the side of the dominant race more intimate knowledge of the life and habits of the people who were to be thenceforth their fellow-subjects, it is more than probable that the Chinese would have been made to understand that slavery, in whatever guise, would not be permitted under the shelter of the British flag. Celestial colonists would soon have grown accustomed to the rule; and the lapse of forty years, instead of confirming them in a custom which is itself a vice, which our law constitutes a crime, and which is one of the worst foes to civilization, would have taught them a higher, better and happier mode of life, and made the Asiatic community of the new dependency an example which could not have failed to have an effect upon people of the same origin living on the mainland. Here is one opportunity lost of sowing the germs of western thought and freedom in the Chinese mind. As it was, the black-haired visitors were told that they should enjoy the right to practise their "social customs" under the rule of their new masters. It would be absurd to suppose that "slavery" was included in the category. In fact the contrary has been more than once proclaimed; but still the custom in question was allowed to be imported: it has since been ignored



or connived it: it has become as much a part of Chinese existence on the isle as is the daily food of the inhabitants. Suddenly the official mind is awakened as to its prevalence and illegality; and the local and imperial Governments find themselves face to face with a constant and deeply-rooted practice which is a violation of the law, and must be abolished; but the work of abolition will involve no common care and circumspection. It cannot be dispersed by an order, or mere gesture of the hand of authority. Some equitable method of doing away with it must be thoughtfully devised, and righteously executed, all the more that Government itself has, as we have seen, no small share in the opprobrium which its existence implies.

It would not be uninteresting to glance briefly at the chief features of Chinese domestic slavery. The matter has of late been indirectly considered by Messrs. Moellendorff and Parker in their investigations into the family law which governs the race. It has, however, been directly and succinctly elucidated in an able report addressed by Dr. Eitel, Chinese Secretary in Hongkong, to the Colonial Government, on the occasion of the discussion which has arisen consequent upon the exposure of the prevalence of the institution in English territory. There is other and perhaps equally interesting literature in connection with the same subject before us; but the consideration of Dr. Eitel's communication will suffice for the present.

In no other country in the world, probably, has the idea of patriarchalism, as the organization of the state and the families which comprise it, ever attained such practical extension as in China. We subjoin the principal points of its constitution as described by Dr. Eitel:—

The male parent, as the patriarch of a definite family household, is the representative of the "family" which is the principal organized expression of the state. The supremacy of the male parent is enhanced by the necessity of continued sacrifices to the spirits of deceased ancestors. There lies therefore at the bottom of this system of patriarchalism the political necessity of a unitary household, as the substratum of the state, and the religious necessity of a positive central authority for sacred rites. The patriarch is thus invested with a power over every member of his family, consisting of one or more wives, children, grand-children, and so forth, also of hired servants and possibly slaves, every one of whom has a fixed relation to the "family," guaranteed by the whole social state, and all are subject to the same *patria potestas*. In a state thus based on patriarchalism the idea of personal liberty, of absolute rights possessed by every individual, as conceived by the civilization of the west, has no apparent room, although it is contained in it as the leaf is contained in the plant at every stage of its growth. Nor is there any room for that absolute slavery which for so many centuries disfigured western civilization. Every member of the family or household, the wife, the concubine, the child, the servant, the slave, merges his or her individual existence in the "family," which is legally the only "person" existing in China. The Chinese mind cannot comprehend any basis for individual relations apart from the relations of the family. Yet each individual has a definite place as a person, not as a property, reserved to him in this *imperium in imperio*, the empire of the *pater familias*, which place is guaranteed to him and guarded by the state. None is indeed *sui juris*, for all are under the *patria potestas* but the latter has its fixed limits. The mother, although but a purchased agnate, becomes the depositary of the *patria potestas* with the death of the father. The father of the family himself, although endowed with the *jus vitæ necisque*, is, for every exercise of his power affecting the life of any one, subject to his *patria potestas*, answerable to the state. Moreover, he has as many duties as he has rights. He is solidarily responsible for any crime committed by any member, servant, or slave of his family, whereby crime becomes a corporate act; and the extent of moral responsibility, thus laid upon the house-father, is a

serious burden. In a family thus constituted none can be free, but at the same time the bondage under which all are, in their several ways, is not a mark of tyranny, but of religious unity, a bond of equality and mutual regard.

It will be easily comprehended how vastly a condition of slavery prevailing under such a régime as is here outlined must differ from any form obtaining through right of conquest, or the demand of western commerce and industry for workers of a physically robust but intellectually inferior race. A kind of hereditary bondage exists to a small extent in China; but the Doctor affirms positively that no instance of it can be found in Hongkong; and he remarks even in regard to its provisions that it is a curious mixture of contract service, family dependence, and bondage, having no identity with that institution which the history of European society evolved, and to which our law books, acts of Parliament, and orders in Council refer. But he admits that domestic servitude does exist, and to a large extent, in the British colony. And no matter for what ulterior purpose children are bought and sold: no matter how well they may be treated in the families of which they, though enthralled, are still members: no matter what privileges of marriage, provision and ultimate freedom they may have to look forward to, they are still, and only, slaves.

There is, no doubt, some consideration required before offering an answer to the query:—"Who would glibly decide that this modern intellectual individualism of the West, with all the development it has wrought in science and mechanics, is an undoubted advance upon the filial piety and intuitive faith of Chinese patriarchalism?" Deliberation is also required as to the best means to be followed in carrying into effect a determination to expunge a blot on the British escutcheon, which laxity on the part of the rulers of an annexed dominion, aided by the inert imperiousness of ancient Chinese custom, has rendered both broad and deep. It has to be erased, however; and while every present and foregoing circumstance should be duly taken into account, the inevitable fact that slavery cannot, must not, dare not, be tolerated under British rule, has to be, as no doubt it will be, borne steadfastly in mind as the one point at which every effort shall meet.

#### THE ROWING CLUB AND THE HATOBA.

THE importance, at least to our minds, of the continuance of the Amateur Rowing Club in the prosperity it had attained last year, must be our excuse for again referring to the want of a site for the boat-house. In our issue of the 17th January we advocated the grant of a part of the French Hatoba to the Club, and we then expressed a hope that the decision, said to have been come to by the local authorities, would be reviewed. We have still the same hope,—accompanied perhaps by a measure of that heart-sickening which arises from fruition delayed,—but still a hope.

For if it be true, as we are informed is the case, that the local authorities are in favour of the scheme that has been laid before them: that, in fact, the property owners who would be most interested in the maintenance of the French Hatoba in a proper state, are in favour of the scheme; and if we consider the improvement that would be effected by almost any change in the present condition of the landing place, we are more than ever surprised that all other opposition should not have been withdrawn. From inquiries that have been made of us, it seems that some misapprehension exists as to the scheme which the Rowing Club has put forward, and which is sketched out in a plan that has been submitted to the Consular Board.

Many people, and some who might easily have been better informed, remembering the structure which was on the former site, think that the same building is to be placed on the Hatoba. Now, the style of the old building was necessitated by the form of the site—a narrow frontage;—but on the proposed site can be placed a low, flat-roofed house, far from unsightly, and at the same time convenient for the wants of the Club. Such is the building that is proposed to be erected. At the right hand or eastern end of the Hatoba is ample space for all the requirements of the members while the opposite end will be retained as an accommodation landing place, as in its present state. No inconvenience can, in our opinion, be inflicted upon the public if this scheme is carried out; and no interference with the rights of free sight and fresh-air to the residents in immediate proximity to the Hatoba. Were it otherwise, were there a probability that the rights of property would be injuriously affected, we should abstain from advocating the scheme; but, considering that buildings are already erected on this land, and these buildings more than are reasonably required for the purposes of the passenger traffic and the checking of smuggling, for which alone the Hatoba is now used; no rights or amenities would be interfered with; a large improvement would be made in the appearance of the Bund; and last, not least, a great benefit would be conferred upon a popular Club, among whose adherents are to be found members of every nationality represented in these islands. By the improvements and repairs now being made to the facing of the Hatoba, the local authorities have shown that they are not supine to the wishes of the community; let them now finish what they have well begun, and allow the Rowing Club to do its best to render this Hatoba a less unsightly, and at same time a more useful, strand than it is at present, or has been for a long time past.

ONE of the pictures in the last number of the *Maru Maru Shimben* depicts a large inflated frog with a saddle on its back, and the word *tori* inscribed upon its breast, evidently referring to the *tori-hiki*, or exchange business. A Japanese dressed in European style is falling from the saddle. In one of his hands he holds a turnip—*kabu*—meaning also a share. Another man, wearing foreign clothes, and holding a field-glass, is watching the misadventure. The interpretation of this cartoon is that some official, having been unfortunate in exchange speculations, is about to be reported by a comrade to his superiors. It is known that government servants are prohibited from indulging in such operations as have brought the rider of the frog to grief. Another sketch has reference to the Tokio municipal loan of Yen 170,000 to be expended in such improvements as will lessen the chance of fire. It represents a marriage ceremony in which the Governor of the capital and the loan are groom and bride respectively. A middleman is supposed to be one of the negotiators of the loan, and to him the husband addresses his thanks for his instrumentality in bringing about the arrangement, remarking that the affairs of the household are in good order, and that special precautions have been taken against the dangers of conflagration. Another issue of the same paper has a sketch of a *kuro-dako*, or black cuttle fish, arriving at Hakodate. This is a play upon the name of General Kuroda, who as chief of the Colonization Department has lately visited the northern island for the purpose of relieving the poor who were rendered homeless by the late fire. Of the two pictures contained in the last *Kibi Dango*, one depicts a vast pine tree, *Matsu*, at which several people are gazing with admiration. Here the Governor of Tokio again figures; the allegory meaning the order in which he keeps the members of the local assembly at their

meetings. The drawing in these prints is of no high order, but the conception is frequently ingenious and subtle.

MR. John Milne, of the Imperial College of Engineering, has propounded a series of questions relative to the recent earthquake, which he desires answered in order to aid him in compiling certain statistics which may prove useful. As Mr. Milne is anxious to obtain the fullest publicity for these queries, we gladly comply with his request to publish them in our columns. The questions are:—

- 1.—Do you know with accuracy at what time the shaking commenced? This can perhaps be answered by persons who were on board ships and had chronometers at their service.
- 2.—From the first swing of a lamp, the roll of a billiard ball, the direction of fall or projection of a body, the oscillation of a liquid in a vessel, or by any other means, can you tell pretty accurately the direction of the shock?
- 3.—What was the nature of the damage done to your house?
- 4.—In what direction did the chimneys fall. If they were rectangular in shape, did they fall broadside or endways?
- 5.—Did you observe that any objects had a clear fall, say, for instance, like a tile from the edge of a roof, or like a vase from a mantelpiece? If so what was the vertical height through which the body fell; and the horizontal distance measured on the ground to which the body was projected: also, what was the direction of throw?
- 6.—Were any objects like columns overturned? If this is the case, in what direction?
- 7.—Were any objects like chimneys twisted? If so, what was the direction of turn? For instance, was it from E. towards S. and on to W.?
- 8.—Were any serious cracks found in the walls of your house? If there were such cracks found, what was their direction and in what walls were they formed? In the case of stone or brick buildings, what is the width of the crack? If any of the above questions are answered relating to houses, please give the situation of your house with regard to the points of the compass, and also say whether it stands on the edge of a bluff or cliff, and on which side of the house this bluff or cliff may be?
- 9.—At the time of the shock was there any one who did not feel it? If so where were they? It is believed that many severe shocks may be passed by unnoticed by persons when out walking.
- 10.—Did the motion produce any effects of sickness, headache, &c.?
- 11.—Was any rumbling sound heard before or after the shock?
- 12.—Were any peculiar phenomena observed which have not been referred to above?

A paragraph in a Hongkong paper announces that the machinations which have been directed against the fame and life of the ex-Chinese Imperial Envoy to Russia, Chung How, have so far attained their object that the luckless nobleman has taken refuge from his anxieties and troubles in the last resource of suicide. It had previously been stated by the Shanghai journals that His Excellency was definitely degraded, and was ordered to be put to the question as a preliminary to further punishment. Chung How was one of the ablest and most enlightened men of modern China, and the persecution to which he has been subjected since his return to the capital is a disgrace to the rulers of the country. The crime actually alleged against him was that he left his post without permission from his superiors; but it is more than likely that the latter were dissatisfied with the arrangement which he concluded with the Russian Government on the Ili question. This and the jealousy of his peers, supported by disgraceful intrigues in the palace, have cost him his life. It would not be matter to excite grave surprise if the whole bargain agreed upon at Livadia were repudiated by the Court of Peking acting through the Tsung Li Yamen.

A LARGE rice-growing area will probably soon be developed in Queensland, Australia, where successful experiments in the culture have already been made. In October, corresponding with April in Japan, a crop was sown, which was reaped in the following January. Immediately thereafter the fresh seed was sown, and a second crop was reaped in April. Thus the land produced two crops in six months, the quantity of grain aggregating sixty-eight bushels per acre. As the bushel contained lb. 50, this represented a total production of lb. 3,400 per acre. Extensive tracts of land exist in the Colony suitable in all respects for this cereal, and from the known energy of the colonists we may conclude that a large trade will speedily spring up. The soil is good and thoroughly suitable, and the moisture is obtained from occasional showers and heavy dews. Hence the cost of cultivation is materially decreased.

THE fate of Li Yang Choi, the Kwangsi insurgent, who for many months last year set the imperial forces of China at defiance, and invaded the tributary kingdom of Annam, has been finally decided upon. In reply to a memorial addressed by the Governor of Kwangsi to the emperor, the Grand Council has ordered that the prisoner should be executed, immediately, in the provincial capital, and his head be sent to Annam for exposure there. Although the petition of the Viceroy suggests that death alone "would be an insufficient penalty" for the crimes with which the insurgent leader was charged, yet it does not appear from the imperial rescript that the extreme penalty of the law was to be accompanied by torture and ignominy.

IN view of probable complications arising out of their conflicting interests in Central Asia, both England and Russia appear to be cultivating the friendship of Persia. We learn that Great Britain contemplates releasing the Shah from the treaty obligations entered into in 1857, which probably accounts for the announcement in the *Broad Arrow* that it has "the authority of a high Persian official for stating that a most perfect understanding exists between the Governments of Her Majesty and the Shah with regard to the movements of Russia in Central Asia. Should that Power seize upon Merv the Persian monarch will oppose any further acquisition of Persian territory by the great Northern Power."

SPEAKING of a rendezvous held last autumn at Chefoo by the flag ships of the various naval squadrons in the waters of China and Japan, the Shanghai correspondent of the *Times* remarks that the alphabetical gunboats of the Chinese Marine were also anchored there. He says of them that, harmless looking craft as they seemed alongside such marine monsters as the *Iron Duke* and the *Armide*, they would be capable of infinite mischief, if at any future time we should be involved in hostilities with China, and also, he is happy to add, if the Chinese system of drill and discipline were to succeed in training officers and men capable of working the great guns of these small boats effectively. The writer adds:—"I visited two of them recently, and for dirt and disorder they were all that I could have expected. So long as their system remains what it is, it is idle to measure China's power of offence or defence by the size of the armaments which she has purchased in England. Under certain conditions of discipline these boats become dangerous toys, and these conditions are fulfilled in every ship that flies the Dragon flag."

FREQUENT disclosures are made of the existence of extensive slave-trade in the archipelagoes of the South Pacific. A correspondent of the *Straits Times*, writing from

Borneo, reveals the following state of affairs:—

"The quantity of Sooloos sold in Booloong as slaves, was estimated by my informants, about two months ago, at four thousand. Some of these people were the *bona fide* slaves of various headmen in Sooloo, but the greater part of them were simply kidnapped for sale. The hardships undergone by these wretched people on board the slave-boats are very great. Their flesh all falls away from want of food, till they are simply bones, and sores break out all over them. If they get beyond a certain stage of starvation, the strain on their constitution is too great, and they generally die, even though it be months after. On the voyage they rarely have rice above once in two or three days, and have to live on shell-fish, if they can find any when the boat stops. It was three boats of this kind that were captured by the Netherlands gunboat *Salak*. A man illustrating the state of affairs in Sugh said that, if two men saw one man, they would kidnap him, and if four men saw two they would kidnap them. Happening to mention the name of a man who had gone to Sooloo, I was informed that he was coasting round Sugh, and going ashore for the purpose of cooking or other reason, he and his companions were murdered and the boat taken. Questioning a man of the name of Inchi Seedick to-day as to the present state of affairs in Sooloo, he says that kidnapping continues as usual; the people cannot venture out of the town of Meimboing on foot, but are obliged to go, if on a journey of a few miles, on horseback, and armed with guns and spears. He adds that this used not to be, till within this year."

WE observe, in a report upon the health of Shanghai for the past year, that the death rate was only twenty-seven per thousand, considerably less than the average for the preceding ten years, which was nearly thirty-one and a half per cent. During the twelve months only three deaths, and all of those among residents, occurred from cholera. Among the river population, where the terrible disease generally makes its head quarters, not one choleraic seizure was heard of. The *Courier* observes that no new light has been thrown upon the origin of the malady. "Its former prevalence amongst seafaring men had been ascribed to their drinking impure water; but in many cases it was shown that the water used on the ships attacked was not obtained at Shanghai, having been brought from other places; and had been used during long voyages without perceptible injury. Amongst the large number of sailors, it would be almost impossible that impure water,—or at least water in its usual condition,—was not drunk last summer; yet no serious results followed. The absence of cholera amongst the sailors is of interest, as seeming to indicate that in cases of this nature it is not the water that is at fault. It would, however, with the present knowledge, or rather ignorance, on the matter, be the height of foolishness not to pay attention to the purity of the water consumed."

THE Shanghai medical practitioners, in their reference to the cases of heat apoplexy which came under their notice last year, remark that alcohol appeared to be a predisposing cause. "There is no question that excessive drinking, followed by subsequent exposure to the sun, is attended with serious danger. The lesson taught is plain enough; and it can only be hoped that as the risk is more clearly recognised it will be avoided." People who suffer from, or are threatened with disease of the liver, will no doubt be interested to learn that the treatment of the complaint has made great progress, and that there is now, in certain forms of it at least, much prospect of recovery than there was previously.

#### REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.\*

##### PART VII.—REVENUE FROM GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.

(From the *Tokio Times*.)

The revenues which we are about to consider are derived from the sale of lands, trees, bamboos, dwellings, warehouses, etc., belonging to the government, and sundry articles not required; and also from rents of lands and buildings, etc.

\* Continued from *Japan Weekly Mail*, of February 21st.



The total receipts from these sources amounted to Yen 6,886,220.253, and the amounts collected in each year are as follows:

	Yen.
First term.....	50,193.712
Second term.....	49,831.704
Third term.....	72,303.633
Fourth term.....	210,116.114
Fifth term.....	297,879.425
Sixth term.....	2,223,017.203
Seventh term.....	1,107,500.774
Eighth term.....	2,375,377.688

Total..... 6,886,220.253

The above table shows a gradual increase since the 4th term; and a large and sudden increase in the 6th term. This increase was due to the fact that after the abolition of the board for advancement of agriculture, the fund which had been derived from sales of government land, and kept by the board to be used for encouragement of industries, was paid into the national treasury to the amount of Yen 1,510,000 in round numbers. And the increase of receipts for the eighth term was mainly owing to the facts that the war department had been for several years selling what became useless to it, and in this term it sent into the national treasury the accumulation of its sales during those years to the amount of Yen 468,000 in round numbers, and more than Yen 247,000 was realized by the sale of material which belonged to the Banchi Jimu Kioku (bureau of the Formosan expedition), but had become unnecessary. Furthermore, sales of government land had increased in this over previous terms; and a large number of persons commuted their hereditary pensions for government bonds and cash.

#### PART VIII.—ORDINARY MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.

The receipts which we are going to consider consisted of what is called Keishitsu Mai (rice received above legal measure and weight), profit on bullion, fines, war tax levied by a provisional measure, and the like. These receipts cannot be incorporated with any of the above. The total receipts of the revenue in question for seven and half years, namely, from the 1st year of Meiji to the 7th month of the 8th year of Meiji, amounted to Yen 8,781,945.247, the amount of receipts for each term being as follows:—

	Yen.
First term.....	332,755.192
Second term.....	127,687.198
Third term.....	489,280.512
Fourth term.....	1,792,925.941
Fifth term.....	1,538,698.075
Sixth term.....	641,627.848
Seventh term.....	2,431,838.703
Eighth term.....	1,382,181.723

Total..... 8,781,945.247

As shown in the figures above given, the amount of the receipts for the 1st term is more than that for the 2d term. This increase was due to the collection of money which the late Siogun's government had levied for building a palace for the empress dowager, and the confiscation of money and rice found in the residences of rebellious daimios in Tokio, Saikio and Osaka. These sums amounted to more than Yen 170,000. A small increase is observable in the 8d term, and is thus accounted for. A contribution to the war-fund had been levied in each Han in proportion to its production of rice since the first term, but the lands which were held in sub-infundation had been exempted, until by notification issued in the 4th month of the 2d year of Meiji they were made to pay to the fund in the same way as the lands actually possessed by the daimios. The large increase in the 4th term was due to the fact that, while the war fund hitherto levied was abolished by notification issued in the 9th month of the 3d year of Meiji, a navy fund was created instead, the new levy being heavier than the old. Further, arrears of payments to the war fund due in the preceding term were received in this term. In the 5th term the income was also large. This increase was obtained by reforms in the financial system, whereby the profits on the recoinage which belonged to terms previous to the 4th were received in this one, and to payment of arrears of the war fund. The receipts are, in proportion to the total amount, as follows:—

Profits on the coinage.....	41 per cent.
Arrears of the war fund.....	45 " "
Other receipts.....	14 " "

In the 6th term a large decrease occurred. This was ascribable to the circumstance that the arrears of the war fund paid were small, and the profit on the coinage, though large, could not all be collected in this term. So the profit actually entered in the accounts of this term was insignificant. The 7th term shows a large increase. This was due to the fact that profit on the coinage belonging to previous terms was actually now received, together with the sum due for the current term. Again, a fixed proportion between the new and old coins was established by notification issued in the 9th month of the 7th year of Meiji, whereby a large nominal profit on the old coin and bullion sent in previously in accordance with the provisions of the old standard, was realized, amounting to more than Yen 1,589,000. This nominal profit amounted to 65.4 per cent of the receipts which we are now considering, and other items under the same head reached 34.6 per cent. In the eighth term which, we must bear in mind, consisted of only six months, the receipts in question, though smaller than those of the preceding period, yet were nearly equal to those of the fourth or fifth term. This was caused by the fact that all the miscellaneous receipts which had been delayed in earlier years were received during this term.

The revenues treated in the foregoing parts, and detailed in the first seven sections of Table No. 1, constitute the ordinary receipts for the eight fiscal terms. They amount to Yen 282,870,871.985.

#### IX.—ISSUE OF PAPER MONEY.

This paper money was issued in order to meet the expenditures for the suppression of the rebellion or other extraordinary expenditures.

The total of the issue from the 1st to the 5th year of Meiji inclusive, amounted to Yen 73,825,444.100, and the amounts issued in each fiscal year are as follows:

	Yen.
First term.....	24,037,889.818
Second term.....	23,062,610.187
Third term.....	5,854,512.500
Fourth term.....	2,145,487.500
Fifth term.....	17,825,444.100

Total..... 73,825,444.100

With respect to this issue, detailed explanation and exact accounts will be rendered after each section of the revenues and expenditures has been dealt with, but it is necessary here to give a short epitome of the same. The issue of so-called Daijo Kuwan satsu in the 1st and 2d fiscal years was to meet the expenses of the war of the rebellion which was waged during that period; for the development of internal industries in general; and, moreover, for extraordinary disbursements which could not be met in the same manner as ordinary expenditures.

The Minbusho paper money was issued in the 3d and 4th terms in order to withdraw a part of the Daijo Kuwan satsu of large denominations, which were found inconvenient for daily transactions. This issue was, therefore, of small denominations. About Yen 4,000,000 of the Daijo Kuwan satsu thus withdrawn were again put into circulation during the 4th term to meet certain extraordinary disbursements incurred through the abolition of the former division of the Han and the constitution of Ken in their stead. In the fifth term convertible paper money, amounting to Yen 9,300,000, Yen 2,500,000 of which was issued by the Kai Taku Shi, was put into circulation. This was done with the purpose of reducing the inconveniences caused by false tokens or by the insufficiency of the new coins in circulation. In the same year there was another issue of more than Yen 8,525,000 of new paper money. This was uttered to meet the large expenditures which were continually demanded until the local administrations had been fairly settled, in this term, by abolitions, creations, separations and amalgamations of Ken. The local expenditures for this period increased by 786 per cent compared with those of the preceding term. The governmental departments (Sho) greatly developed their operations, and the military and naval forces were augmented. These changes enlarged the expenditures for both these items by more than 233 per cent compared with the previous term; and furthermore, every



item of outlay, with the exception of the Seito Hi (expenses for the war of the rebellion) had more or less developed. On the other hand none of the items of revenues for the same period had increased to any extent, except the land tax, which advanced by 70 $\frac{2}{3}$  per cent: receipts from government properties by 41 $\frac{2}{3}$  per cent; and repayments of ordinary and extraordinary loans by 27 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. (Income derived from the former Han increased greatly, but disbursements were of corresponding increment.) Under such circumstances the issue of a new paper currency was necessary to assist in surmounting the financial difficulties of that epoch. The total amount of paper currency in circulation on the 30th day of the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji was more than Yen 94,808,819 (see estimates for the 9th fiscal year), showing an increase of upward of Yen 21,478,875 over the amount of the notes issued during the preceding five terms. The causes of this addition will be enumerated in Part II. of Chapter III. of this Book.

## PART X.—LOANS.

These are loans contracted by the government with individuals and companies, national or foreign, and the foreign loan raised in London. The total of them amounted to Yen 21,250,982.568; and the separate amounts for each term are as follows:

	Yen.
First term .....	4,782,462.878
Second term .....	911,500.190
	Yen.
Third term .....	4,782,400.000
Sixth term .....	10,888,600.000
Total .....	21,250,982.568

The loans contracted in the 1st and 2d terms were raised partly to meet extraordinary expenses at the time of the restoration, and partly to refund foreign debts contracted by the Siogunate. Of the loans raised in these two terms 82 $\frac{2}{3}$  per cent were received from national and 17 $\frac{1}{3}$  per cent from foreign capitalists. The loan contracted in the 3d term was raised in London at an interest of 9 per cent, as a railway fund. This is called the old foreign loan. The loan contracted in the 6th term was also raised in England at an interest of 7 per cent, to help those who had given up their Chitsu Roku (hereditary pensions). This is called the new foreign loan. Details in regard to the above-mentioned loans, raised for temporary requirements and refunded before the 5th term, and the old and new foreign loans raised for railway purposes and grants for the surrender of pensions will be given in the parts treating of national loans, government industries and hereditary pensions in Chapter III.

## PART XI.—REPAYMENT OF EXTRAORDINARY LOANS DUE TO THE GOVERNMENT.

This deals with the repayment of loans made in proportion to Kokudaka (amount of rice production in different localities), and also of those made for the development of industries, which may be called "extraordinary." The total of these loans in the seven and a half years from the 1st year of Meiji to the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji, amounted to Yen 16,583,689.968. The receipts for each of those periods are as follows:—

	Yen.
First term .....	10,686.788
Second term .....	4,498,872.556
Third term .....	174,140.894
Fourth term .....	4,817,219.908
Fifth term .....	5,859,268.876
Sixth term .....	818,585.021
Seventh term .....	819,594.031
Eighth term .....	505,872.854
Total .....	16,583,689.968

The amount for the 1st term was very small, and consisted only of the interest on the loans made for the development of industries. No repayment of principal occurred. That for the 2d term was large. This was due to the fact that a sum of more than Yen 4,267,000 out of Yen 4,591,000 in round numbers, advanced in the preceding term to the Sho Ho Shi as a fund for the development of industries, was repaid. This refund took place on account of the abolition of the said Sho Ho Shi and the establishment of

the Tsu Sho Shi. By this change the Kuwangio (encouragement of industries) business was put in better order, for the remaining liabilities of the Sho Ho Shi were assumed by the Tsu Sho Shi. The receipts for the 3d term were composed of repayments on account of capital and interest of loans made (1) to the Kokudaka, and (2) to others for the development of industries. The proportions contributed to this total of receipts were (1) 22.8 per cent; (2) 29.6 per cent; and, for interest on both items, 47.6 per cent. The large receipts of the 4th term were due to the fact that the abolition of Tsu Sho Shi took place in the 7th month of the 4th year of Meiji, and the repayment of the sums previously advanced to it was effected in this term. This refund amounted to 84.8 per cent. of the whole receipts: other repayments and interest being 15.7 per cent. In the 5th term receipts were larger than in the preceding term. This result was attained by the repayment of loans advanced by the government to the Han in proportion to the production of rice therein. The reimbursement had been delayed for several years. It was made in this term and amounted to more than Yen 8,592,000. This was more than 67 per cent of the whole amount of the receipts. The repayment of other loans amounted to 29.6 per cent, and interest on them to 3.4 per cent. From the 6th term the receipts in question did not fluctuate so greatly as in former terms. This was due to the circumstance that the political affairs of the country had begun to be stable; and after the sixth year there was no great political change having influence on the condition of the loans.

## PART XII.—FUNDS BELONGING TO THE BAKUFU AND HAN, AND OTHER RECEIPTS.

The receipts which will be mentioned in this part are, as we have seen in the first table, the fund left by the Bakufu and Han, the reserves of Han, the fund for redemption of the paper money issued by the several Han, repayments of loans due to Han, and other sums which had belonged to the Han. These sums for the seven and a half years, namely from the 1st year of Meiji (1868) to the 7th month of the 8th year of Meiji (June, 1875), amounted to Yen 9,071,565.514. Following are the amounts of such receipts for each of these fiscal terms:—

	Yen
First term .....	362,542.088
Second term .....	14,710.093
Third term .....	161,918.252
Fourth term .....	60,235.994
Fifth term .....	2,529,718.169
Sixth term .....	8,060,450.424
Seventh term .....	1,410,165.274
Eighth term .....	1,471,835.270
Total .....	9,071,565.514

In the first and second terms, money and rice kept in the Bakufu's treasury and storerooms were received into the national guardianship. In the third and fourth terms, the fund kept by the iron foundry at Nagasaki, the reserve retained by the Kuwaisho (town hall) at the same place, and repayments of loans due to the Bakufu were received into the central exchequer. In the fifth term we see a great increase, arising thus: After the abolition of the Han the reserves retained for the redemption of the paper money issued by them, and other reserves in their hands, were received into the national treasury in this period. Such funds amounted to 89.1 per cent of the sum derived from all the sources of the revenues in question. The remaining 10.9 per cent was received from what is called the Ku Han Guwai Koku Sai Tsui Cho,\* and the repayment of loans made by the government.

The receipts for the sixth term were larger than those of the fifth. This is due to the fact that residues of Han moneys and the remainder of the fund for redemption of paper money issued by the Han were collected in this term. The former sums amounted to 39.7 per cent, and the latter to 37.1 per cent, of all the receipts under consideration, and the remaining 23.2 per cent came from some other resources

\* A great many Han had contracted debts to foreigners, which, when the old divisions were abolished, were assumed by the imperial government. Those portions of these debts which had been incurred by the Han authorities for general improvements were left undisturbed; but the public domains and other property which had been granted or improved with the funds thus obtained, were taken over by the government and denominated Ku Han Guwai Koku Sai Tsui Cho.

falling under this heading. In the seventh and eighth terms, the receipts in question show a diminution. This would necessarily be so; but the decrease was not so great as it might have been. This is attributable to the circumstance that, although the receipts from the moneys left by the Han, and the fund for redemption of paper money issued by them were diminished, yet the repayment of their loans increased. In the seventh term receipts from the fund for the redemption of Han paper money was 41 per cent; from funds left by Han, and other reserves, 26 per cent; and repayment of loans, 83 per cent. In the eighth term the first item was only 2 per cent; the second was 47 per cent; and the third 51 per cent.

#### PART XIII.—IRREGULAR REVENUES.

Under this head we collect such sums as voluntary presents from individuals, fines imposed on Han and the indemnity received from the Chinese government. These sums amounted in the seven and a half fiscal terms, namely, from the 1st year of Meiji to the 7th month of the eighth year of Meiji, to Yen 8,289,299.884. The following are the receipts from the sources in question for each term:—

	Yen
First term .....	281,482.111
Second term .....	884,655.658
Third term .....	442,904.084
Fourth term .....	280,782.094
Fifth term .....	808,004.916
Sixth term .....	202,921.645
Seventh term .....	125,808.589
Eighth term .....	1,268,294.487

Total ..... 8,289,299.884

From the first to the sixth terms, daimios and other patriotic persons presented considerable sums to help to provide for the extraordinary expenses which the national treasury incurred; and several daimios who were rebellious to the imperial cause were fined; and what was called Hikioi Kin Tsui Cho<sup>1</sup> also contributed some funds. The total from these sources amounted in the five terms to Yen 1,697,000 in round numbers; 55 per cent being composed of presents; 29.7 per cent of fines; and 15.3 per cent of Hikioi Kin Tsui Cho.

In the sixth and seventh terms receipts of this class consisted mainly of sums forwarded by the daimios in repayment of debts due from them to the government. The total for the two terms was about Yen 828,000, whereof 98.5 per cent was contributed from the source just mentioned. The increase in the class of receipts under consideration, in the eighth term, was created by the indemnity obtained from the Chinese government, and receipts by the steam-ship department for the Formosan expedition.

The last five parts deal with extraordinary revenues; and the total of the sums which they embrace during the eight fiscal terms which we have to consider is Yen 128,479,981,584.

#### CHAPTER II.

##### STATISTICS OF THE ACTUAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE EIGHT FISCAL TERMS.

#### PART I.

The grand total of the actual expenditures for the seven years and a half, extending from the 1st year of Meiji to the 8th of the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji, amounted to Yen 359,446,682.548. Of this sum, Yen 242,801,605.418 are ordinary expenditures, and the remainder, being Yen 116,645,077.125, is extraordinary expenditures. The following table shows the amount of every item in each section of the expenditures for the eight fiscal periods.

TABLE No. II.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE ACTUAL ACCOUNTS OF THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE EIGHT FISCAL TERMS, BEGINNING WITH THE FIRST YEAR OF MEIJI AND ENDING WITH THE SIXTH MONTH OF THE EIGHTH YEAR OF MEIJI.

#### Section I.

Daijo Kuwan: Tai	Yen.
Sho In, Shin Gi In,	
Sa In & Gen Ro In	2,077,281.241

<sup>1</sup> When government agents proved dishonest, and applied public money which they had received for government purchases or other purposes to their own use, the sums thus misappropriated had to be refunded by the guilty parties, and were received into the national treasury under the name of Hikioi Kin Tsui Cho.

Dept. of foreign affairs: Guwai Koku, Jimu Kioku and Guwai Koku Kuwan .....	925,791.936
Home dept.: Nai Koku, Jimu Kioku, Minbu Sho and Minbu Kuwan....	1,050,116.078
Finance dept.: Kuwai Koi Jimu Kioku, Kuwai Kei Kuwan, and land tax reform office .....	8,640,055.035
Educational dept.: Schools and hospitals .....	4,505,031.388
Dept. of religion: Shingi Jimu Kioku, Shingi Kuwan and Shingi Sho..	845,800.856
Dept. of public works	1,834,062.826
Judicial dept.: Keiho Jimu Kioku, Keiho Kuwan, Kioku Sho and Dan Jio Dai..	2,580,719.625
Imperial household Dept. ....	4,512,412.519
Kuwan Roku, official salaries* and allowances .....	5,308,166.149
Traveling expenses, official houses and public banquets..	873,800.948
Postal expenses....	1,087,631.304
	Yen.
	28,639,872.800

#### Section II.

Army and navy expenses: Gunbo Jimu Kioku, Gunmu Kuwan, Hiobu Sho and Riku Gun Sho .....	34,697,334.410
Arms purchased for the army .....	8,443,965.854
Construction of barracks .....	630,699.559
Drafting expenses ..	827,646.308
Kanagawa barracks..	301,606.748
Navy expenses (Kai Gun Sho) .....	5,675,183.864
Purchase of ships of war .....	1,770,106.641
Purchase of arms for the navy .....	1,074,379.833
	47,690,674.717

#### Section III.

Kai Taku Shi (colonial dept.) .....	5,639,655.912
Department of Police	1,685,344.481
Three Fu .....	5,971,674.890
Ken with open ports	8,843,009.416
Ken in general ....	31,481,385.463
Police expenses in general .....	1,759,567.787
Expenses for assembly of local governors .....	37,549.264
Construction of imperial tombs and expenses for shrines and temples .....	894,687.804
Festival expenses..	452,314.578
	38,755,089.545

#### Section IV.

Expenses for legations and consulates in foreign countries .....	1,183,401.830
Entertainment of foreign princes and other guests .....	109,560.362
	1,292,962.192

#### Section V.

Reduction of domestic debts .....	692,227.000
Interest on domestic debts .....	2,215,817.430
Reduction of foreign debts .....	1,690,317.978
Interest and commission on foreign debts .....	4,123,574.423
	8,721,936.831

#### Section VI.

Hereditary pensions .....	Yen.
	87,292,471.990

\* Kuwan Roku and official salaries are synonymous. Till the 5th year of Meiji the item was called Kuwan Roku: afterward it was known as official salaries.

Pensions for meritorious services ....	6,460,720.123	
Shrines and temples .....	939,824.425	
Miscellaneous relief .....	558,788.370	
		95,250,804.808
<b>Section VII.</b>		
Construction and repairs of Kuwau and Shō .....	3,975,506.942	
Constructions and repairs in Fu and Ken .....	513,963.971	
Constructions and repairs of dykes, roads and bridges ..	7,623,154.674	
		13,113,624.587
<b>Section VIII.</b>		
Onshio (rewards for meritorious services), Yōron (relief for the aged) and Shinjitsu (relief for the poor) .....	1,151,439.314	
Loan to the people for relief .....	8,979,471.753	
		5,030,901.046
<b>Section IX.</b>		
Construction of a palace for the Empress-dowager and other expenses (Imperial progress to the south, construction of Kio-melkin* and coronation expenses ..	201,816.125	
Expenses for the transport of rice ..	8,041,593.753	
Expenses for transport of different kinds of goods .....	201,015.323	
Rice lost by shipwreck and loss in short measurement of rice received .....	287,697.908	
Refining gold and silver .....	263,230.293	
Ruled paper for legal documents and licenses .....	76,168.443	
Interest on temporary loans ....	496,855.767	
Losses from Kokuwan Sa <sup>10</sup> .....	289,820.496	
Miscellaneous payments .....	239,242.789	
		5,095,738.892
		Yen.
Total of ordinary expenditures .....		242,801,605.418
<b>Section X.</b>		
Expenses for war of the rebellion ....	4,431,316.066	
Hakodate expedition .....	703,346.673	
Expenses for temporary imperial residence in Osaka, and for imperial progress to the east .....	828,322.906	
Expenses for the maintenance of war prisoners ....	298,063.047	
Tinabo Fu and Min Sei Kioku (Tindai Fu and An Sateu Fu) .....	671,446.899	
Expenses of suppressing riots ....	155,671.097	
Saga insurrection ..	1,016,696.668	
Formosan expedition ..	3,618,059.781	
Special reward for meritorious service and grant for festivals .....	1,218,025.203	
		12,940,947.340
<b>Section XI.</b>		
Reduction of foreign debts contracted by the late Siogunato and Han .....	Yen.	
	4,043,856.837	
Reduction of other debts contracted by late Han .....	2,015,599.308	
Foreign indemnities due from the late Siogunato and Han ..	1,728,788.537	
Subsidies toward the expense of the late Han governments ..	2,353,886.324	

\* See Book II, Part III, Chapter I.

<sup>10</sup> See Book II, Chapter I, Part VIII, paragraph

Special grants to Han .....	829,812.515	
Allowance for changing feudal domains .....	1,150,971.257	
Compensations to Daimios, who received less productive territories than their old ones ....	1,137,630.339	
Subsidy to those samurai who became peasants .....	1,223,687.746	
Expense of coal mine .....	465,663.526	
		Yen.
		14,949,986.299
<b>Section XII.</b>		
Construction of railway .....	8,811,315.949	
Expenses for railway and its working ..	1,230,903.273	
Mining expenses ....	3,846,592.379	
Telegraph expenses ..	1,850,566.738	
Lighthouse expenses ..	2,347,584.512	
Iron factory, dockyard and other manufactories ....	4,788,068.905	
Mint expenses .....	3,075,350.043	
Expense of manufacturing paper money and bonds ..	2,440,263.032	
		28,280,664.131
<b>Section XIII.</b>		
Imperial progress to the east (at the time of changing the site of the capital) .....	834,636.517	
Expenses of Ambassadors and others sent to foreign lands .....	1,076,068.696	
Expenses of students sent to foreign lands .....	697,637.985	
Salaries, etc., to foreigners in government service ....	627,967.836	
Expenses for exhibitions .....	831,230.962	
Grants for encouragement of industries .....	682,588.287	
Expenses for Kuwangio (encouragement of industries) .....	950,041.872	
Purchase and repairs of ships (expenses for steam navigation) .....	348,269.615	
Actual running expenses of steamers .....	744,056.997	
Improvements of two rivers (Tonegawa and Shinanogawa) ..	460,363.196	
Expenses of Hokkaido Tonden (a kind of military colony) ..	400,000.000	
Expenses of redeeming old coins and paper money ....	199,855.672	
		7,852,597.607
<b>Section XIV.</b>		
Loans in proportion to the Kokudaka ..	12,733,261.500	
Loans for the development of national industries .....	15,388,510.700	
Loans to the Kai Taku Shii (colonial dept.) .....	2,500,000.000	
Loans for the construction of brick houses in the Tokio Fu .....	Yen.	
	747,089.215	Yen.
		31,369,861.415
<b>Section XV.</b>		
Repayment of temporary, domestic and foreign loans ..	5,643,982.568	
Interest on temporary, domestic and foreign loans ..	680,414.736	
Grants for surrender of hereditary pensions .....	11,699,511.604	
		18,023,908.908
<b>Section XVI.</b>		
Expenses of coast defense .....	225,495.009	
Expenses of the settlement of Kawase Guwaisha affairs ..	764,875.684	

Loss incurred by the failure of Onogumi	752,881.385	
Loss incurred by the failure of Shimadagumi.....	213,758.975	
Indemnity given because of dissolving contracts <sup>11</sup> .....	98,890.000	
Expenses of raising the foreign loan..	772,027.217	
Steamer furnished to the Liu Kiu Han, etc.....	95,255.278	
Miscellaneous expenditures .....	205,597.887	
	<u>3,127,311.435</u>	Yen.
Total of extraordinary expenditures.....	116,645,077.125	
Grand total of expenditures.....	<u>359,446,582.543</u>	
Excess of revenues over expenditures.....	46,904,170.973	

Before proceeding to examine the different sections of the expenditures above mentioned, it is desirable to give some explanations in regard to certain items of some sections.

Kuwan Roku, official salaries and other allowances, mentioned in the 10th item of Section I., are for payments which belong to terms before the fifth. Kuwan Roku and official incomes, etc., for the officers of each Kuwan and Shō. (Pay to civil and military officials of the army and navy departments is also included in this item.) But after the fifth term, official salaries, etc., came to be paid out of the appropriations to each Kuwan and Shō, therefore after that term we have not specially provided an item for such salaries, etc. Expenses for traveling, official houses, and public banquets, mentioned in the 11th item of the same section, are treated in the same manner as official salaries, etc.

Army and navy expenses mentioned in the 1st item of Section II. are disbursements belonging to Hiobu Shō before the army and navy departments had been separated; and also include those of the army after the separation. The navy expenses mentioned in the 6th item of the same section were those incurred after the establishment of the navy department in the 2d month of the 5th year of Meiji (January, 1872).

Reduction of foreign debts mentioned in the 8d item of Section V. was made by payment of £848,000 sterling, at the current rate and not at the rate of Yen 4.88 per pound, which was the rate of exchange at the time when the loan was raised.

Interest on temporary loans mentioned in the 7th item of Section IX. was that charged on loans from banks and other sources to meet temporary requirements. The amounts of the principal of the said loans received or repaid, are made to cancel each other as far as this can be done, and only the difference is taken into account, just as was done in the case of the interest on temporary loans mentioned in the 5th item of Section VII. of the statement of revenues. Salaries to foreigners in government service mentioned in the 4th item of Section XIII. were for sums belonging to periods before the 5th term. After the 5th term these salaries were paid out of the appropriation of every department, and so are no longer included in this item. Subsidies for encouragement of industries, mentioned in the 6th item of the same section, were grants to local governments for developing the national resources. Kuwanro expenses, mentioned in the 7th item of the same section, were for industries which the central government had directly created and worked.

#### PART II.—EXPENSES OF KUWAN AND SHO.

These were the aggregated sums of all expenses pertaining to the Daijo Kuwan and all other departments (that of the army and navy excepted) amounting to Yen 28,639,872.800 for the seven years and a half, namely from the 1st year of Meiji to the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji. They are subdivided as follows:—

	Yen.
First term .....	1,675,877.408
Second term .....	2,424,808.802
Third term .....	2,847,445.807
Fourth term .....	2,789,685.455
Fifth term .....	4,518,599.770
Sixth term .....	5,417,728.055

<sup>11</sup> See the last paragraph but one in Book II, Part III, Chapter I.

Seventh term .....	5,915,628.900
Eighth term .....	3,050,543.937

Total ..... 28,639,872.800

According to the above figures there was an increase of the expenses in question by Yen 749,000 in round numbers, or 44 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent in the second over those of the 1st term. This was due to the facts that the site of the Daijo Kuwan was transferred to Tokio in the second month of the 2d year of Meiji. Many boards and bureaux were established in various Shō; the business of different Shō developed considerably; and, consequently, the Kuwan Roku, traveling expenses and other allowances, etc., also increased upon those of the preceding term. Under such circumstances, enormous outlay was required in the second term, although it was only a short one, consisting of nine months (from the 1st to the 9th month of the 2d year of Meiji).

In the third term there was an increase of the expenses by nearly Yen 422,000 or 17 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent over those of the preceding period. This was due to the comparatively large amount of the Kuwan Roku and official salaries paid out, which was not caused by an increase of officials, but by the inequality in the number of months between this and the previous term. The financial year in question consisted of twelve months, extending from the 10th month of the 2d year of Meiji to the 9th month inclusive of the 8d year of Meiji; while the last term consisted of only nine months. There was a decrease of a little over Yen 57,000 in the 4th term in comparison with that preceding it. This was brought about by a decrease of the Kuwan Roku and official salary payments, on account of some of the offices having been abolished and others united in the 7th month of the 4th term, though the Kobu Shō was newly established in the 10th month (the second 10th month—intercalary) of the 8d term. Consequently a new item of expense was added to the budget. In the 5th term there was an increase of a little more than Yen 728,000 or 62 per cent above the preceding term. This was due to the following fact. Since the abolition of the Han in the 4th year of Meiji (1871) the scope of the administration of the central government was largely extended; and, in consequence, every department was invested with additional duties, which caused an increase of expenditure. Moreover, in this term the division of the fiscal year, which had hitherto ended with the 9th month, was changed, and the calendar and fiscal years were made to correspond. The change caused this term to be a long one, consisting of fourteen months. In the 6th term there was an increase of a little more than Yen 899,000, or a little less than 20 per cent from the preceding year. There were various reasons for this increment; but the principal were that in the fiscal period in question, educational affairs and local judicial administrations attained considerable development. Accordingly, the expenses of both these departments were augmented. In the 7th term there was an increase of a little over Yen 497,000 or 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent from the previous term. Several causes contributed to this effect; but the principal one was the establishment of the Home Department. In the 8th term there was a decrease of something more than Yen 2,865,000, or over 484 per cent compared with the previous term. That the expenses of this fiscal period were nearly half the amount of those of the previous term, was due to the fact that the term extended over half a year only, namely from the 1st to the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji.

#### PART III.—ARMY AND NAVY EXPENSES.

These were the collective amounts of expenses for both the army and navy departments, and for the purchase of arms and men-of-war, construction of ports, barracks and ships, etc. They amounted in all to Yen 47,820,074.717 for the seven years and a half, namely from the 1st month of the 1st year of Meiji to the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji.

The following are the expenses for each fiscal term:—

	Yen.
First term .....	1,059,797.848
Second term .....	1,547,905.947
Third term .....	1,500,174.273
Fourth term .....	3,252,966.072
Fifth term .....	9,568,891.005
Sixth term .....	9,088,007.180



Seventh term .....	10,418,413.883
Eighth term .....	10,784,898.459
Total .....	47,820,674.717

According to the above figures the outlay for the interval between the 1st and 8d terms was very meager, fluctuating from about Yen 1,000,000 to about Yen 1,500,000. The reason why the expenses of the 8d were less than those of the previous term was because purchases of men-of-war were comparatively few, though there was a certain increase of expense in the Hiobu Sho in the period in question.

In the 4th term there was an increase in expenses by Yen 1,752,000 compared with those of the preceding term. This is explained thus:—Several regiments were called from the Kagosima, Yamaguchi and Kochi Han in the 2d month of the 4th year of Meiji to form an imperial guard; and four military stations were established, in Tokio, Osaka, Kamamoto and Sendai respectively. In the 5th term there was a considerable increase. The expenses were in excess a little more than Yen 6,815,000, or above 294 per cent of those of the previous term. In the 2d month of the 5th year of Meiji, Hiobu Sho was abolished, and in its place two distinct departments, for army and navy, were constituted. The affairs of both departments were considerably increased. Arms and men-of-war were purchased, barracks were established, and the numbers of the army were added to. Again, the new regulations that the Kuwan Roku, official salaries and traveling expenses etc., should be paid from the appropriations of the respective departments, were put into operation in this term. In the 6th period there was an increase of expenses by about Yen 119,000 compared with those of the previous term. This was because there was further increase in the expenditures for the army. Those of the navy diminished to a small extent. The 7th term witnessed an increase in expenses by about Yen 780,000 from those of the previous term. This was because there was an addition to extraordinary expenses in connection with the Saga insurrection in the early part of the 7th year of Meiji. Following on that event, the Formosa expedition took place, involving extra outlay on the part of both army and navy departments. The ordinary appropriations of the fiscal year in question for the two departments were not sufficient to meet the extraordinary demands. Though the 8th term consisted of six months only, yet the expenses incurred were greater than those of any previous terms. This was caused by the fact that, at that time negotiations with the Chinese government on the subject of the Formosan expedition being still pending, extensive preparations for land and sea forces were made, and purchases of arms and men-of-war were rendered necessary. The sums thus required amounted to Yen 5,932,552. (Though the greater part of this total had been paid in the previous term, yet the accounts were actually included in those of this period.) If the above extraordinary expenses be deducted from the total expenditures of the fiscal term in question, and the remainder be compared with half the amount of the expenses of the previous period, those of this term will show a decrease of more than Yen 351,000.

#### PART IV.—EXPENSES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

These were the collective amounts of expenses for the Kai Taku Shi, Fu, Ken, police, shrines and temples, and festivals, etc., amounting to Yen 88,755,089.545 in the seven and a half years extending from the 1st year of Meiji to the 6th month of the 8th year, being subdivided as follows:—

	Yen.
First term.....	938,223.728
Second term.....	1,570,886.020
Third term .....	1,269,854.429
Fourth term .....	979,431.075
Fifth term.....	7,697,588.118
Sixth term.....	8,966,839.496
Seventh term .....	10,527,884.030
Eighth term .....	6,805,832.054
Total .....	88,755,089.545

The expenses in question for the 1st term were composed of those of Fu, Ken, shrines and temples, festivals, etc. They amounted to only a little over Yen 938,000, as we have seen above. In the 2d term there was an increase of more

than Yen 682,000. This was due to the fact that the Kai Taku Shi (colonial department) was established and a large amount of money granted for its maintenance. In the 3d term there was a decrease of a little more than Yen 801,000 compared with the previous term, owing to the fact that the expenses of the Kai Taku Shi and festivals were comparatively small, though there was a certain increase of the expenditures in Fu and Ken. In the 4th term there was also a decrease of a little over Yen 289,000 from the previous period. This is accounted for in the following manner. Previously the expenses of Fu and Ken were deducted from the taxes collected in the respective territories, and only the remainder was sent into the national treasury; but in this term it was enacted that the total of taxation should be paid into the central exchequer, and special appropriations should be made for Fu and Ken according to their respective needs. Still for some time the working of the newly introduced system was not thoroughly perfected; and there were some local governments which continued to use the taxes gathered in their jurisdictions as before. Therefore the amounts paid by the national treasury to meet the current expenses of Fu and Ken were but small in this term. Under these circumstances it was inevitable that, after the 6th term—(until the 5th term the old custom was adhered to to a considerable extent)—there should be a great number of entries of what is called Yenko, and many cases of what is known as Tsuiiku.<sup>11</sup> The expenses in question increased by more than Yen 6,718,000 in this, as compared with those of the preceding term, the addition being due to the following causes. After the abolition of the Han, Ken were created, and the amalgamation of several jurisdictions took place. Thus, at first, the payments of the local administrations necessarily increased. Beside, in the beginning of this term (the 10th month of the 4th year of Meiji) police bureaux began to be established in the principal districts of the empire, to wit, Tokio, Osaka, Niigata, Aichi, etc. Furthermore, it was decided that a grant of Yen 10,000,000 should be made to the Kai Taku Shi for a period of ten years, beginning with the 5th year of Meiji. Accordingly the outlay for this latter term was also large. In the 6th there was an increase of a little over Yen 1,268,000 in comparison with the previous term. This was due to the fact that in the fiscal year in question further creations, abolitions, separations and amalgamations of Ken took place; while the police forces were increased, and the local business of Fu and Ken attained greater development from year to year. In the 7th term there was an increase of a little over Yen 1,561,000 compared with the previous term. It arose in the foundation of the Keishicho in the 1st month of the 7th year of Meiji, and in the adjustment of some Ken accounts pertaining to the 4th and 5th term, the actual receipts and payments occurring in this period.

In the 8th term there was a decrease of about Yen 8,722,000, in comparison with the preceding term, owing to the fiscal period being a short one, consisting of six months only. However, the expenses were great, considering the duration of the term. This was due to the fact that some of the accounts which had belonged to foregoing terms were adjusted in this one, as happened in the previous term; but the principal cause of the large outlay was that a sum of more than Yen 2,000,000 was given to the Kai Taku Shi, including former taxes on marine produce and other revenues, as well as the arrears due to the department.

#### PART V.—EXPENDITURES OF LEGATIONS AND CONSULATES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES; AND FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT OF FOREIGN GUESTS.

The expenditures incurred under the above heading amounted in all to Yen 1,378,962.192 for six years and a half, namely from the 2d year of Meiji to the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji, being divided as follows:

	Yen.
Second term.....	40,897.558
Third term .....	8,821.787
Fourth term .....	55,959.076
Fifth term.....	148,939.100
Sixth term .....	508,294.848
Seventh term .....	545,149.414
Eighth term.....	76,899.859

Total..... 1,378,962.192

<sup>11</sup> See the eleventh paragraph of the introductory remarks.

Of the above figures, the expenses for the 2d term were those for the entertainment of a British prince who visited Japan, and for the 3d term the final settlement of the liabilities of the preceding year. The expenses in the 4th term were for the establishment of legations in France and America. Those for the 5th term were for a similar embassy in England, consulates at Shanghai and in Corea, and furthermore for the entertainment of a Russian imperial prince. The increase of the expenses for the 6th term was due to the foundation of legations in Russia, Austria and Italy, and a consulate in New York, and the final settlement of the accounts for the entertainment of the Russian prince, and further for hospitality extended to an Italian prince. Again, there was an increase in the 7th term, due to the establishment of consulates at Marseille and Amoy. The expenses of the 8th term (which included six months only) were much smaller than the half of those of the preceding period. This was due to the fact that it was then, as it is now, customary to give the legations and consulates the funds necessary to their maintenance six months in advance. Such payments for the fiscal year in question were, therefore, not included in this item. Those which are accounted for in this place belong, of right, to the outlay of the ninth fiscal year.

#### PART VI.—REDUCTION OF DEBTS, DOMESTIC & FOREIGN; AND PAYMENT OF INTEREST THEREON.

In this part is considered the reduction of the domestic and foreign debts, and the interest paid thereon, amounting together to Yen 8,721,936.831 for four years and a half, namely from the 4th year of Meiji to the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji. The amounts of each term are as follows:—

	Yen.
Fourth term .....	430,336.957
Fifth term .....	430,336.957
Sixth term .....	2,996,088.904
Seventh term .....	3,254,140.331
Eighth term .....	1,593,083.592
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>8,721,936.831</b>

Of the above statistics, those for the 4th and 5th terms were only for interest and commission on the old foreign debts. The large increase in the 6th term was due to the reduction of the domestic debt, payment of interest thereon, repayment of the old foreign debt and payment of the interest on the new foreign debt. There was also an increase in the 7th term, owing to the issue of the Chitsu Roku bonds,<sup>12</sup> and the payment of interest thereon. In the 8th term there was a decrease. This was due to the fact that the repayments in the fiscal period in question were only those of the new and old foreign debts. Domestic debts were not repaid, but only interest on Kinsaten Hikikaye (bonds in redemption of the paper money issued by the Daijio Kuwan), and Chitsu Roku bonds,—the latter having been issued in the later part of the previous term.

#### PART VII.—PENSIONS AND RELIEF.

Here we find the amounts of pensions paid for hereditary claims and meritorious services, pensions to shrines and temples, temporary grants for the imperial princes, the former Kuwan-nin (court officers) and vassals of the late Siogun, the amount and mode of payment of whose annuities were not yet adjusted. The disbursements amounted in all to Yen 95,250,804.808 for the seven years and a half, namely from the 1st year of Meiji to the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji. The amounts for every term are as follows:

	Yen
First term .....	839,076.018
Second term .....	1,710,512.215
Third term .....	2,340,501.537
Fourth term .....	3,148,607.887
Fifth term .....	16,072,616.811
Sixth term .....	18,045,598.697
Seventh term .....	26,497,642.506
Eighth term .....	27,095,648.542
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>95,250,804.808</b>

<sup>12</sup> These bonds were issued to those who surrendered pensions of small amount, under 100 koku, and must not be confounded with Kin Roku bonds, which are general in their character.

The above total being more than Yen 95,250,000, exceeds that of any other section of the expenditures. Comparing it with the aggregate of the land tax, the principal source of the revenues for seven and a half years, it will be found that it absorbs as much as about 41 per cent of that resource. The sum of the hereditary pensions which were surrendered in the course of the 7th year of Meiji, amounted to somewhat over Yen 2,979,000. If it were not for this, the expenses in question would have been somewhat larger. The Chitsu Roku pensions used not to be paid all at once; but some in the beginning, and others at the end of the year, and occasionally some in the following year, the practice differing in different localities. Furthermore, the periods of the payment were changed, and the division of the fiscal year was altered. Consequently, the actual total of these seven years and a half was not free from the confusion arising from the different length of the fiscal years. According to the figures above given, the amount of the expense in question for the 1st term was small, yet more than half the amounts of the 2nd, with part of the amounts of the 1st, term constitute a sum corresponding to the Chitsu Roku pensions of the first term. In the 8d term there was an increase of Yen 629,000 as compared with the previous term. This was because pensions for meritorious services due in the 2d year were first paid in the fiscal year in question. Miscellaneous relief was also augmented. In the 4th term there was an increase of a little over Yen 808,000 compared with the previous term. This was due to the fact that, in the later fiscal period, many pensions for meritorious services, due in the previous term, were paid off. The reason why, in the 5th term, there was a great increase over the previous term, amounting in fact to a little over 510 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, is this:— Since the abolition of the Han, in the 4th year of Meiji, the hereditary pensions of former daimios and of their vassals were disbursed to them direct from the national treasury. In the 6th term there was also an increase of a little more than Yen 1,972,000 compared with the previous term. In the fiscal term in question the average price of rice was high, and the payments of pensions to shrines and temples increased. Again, in the 7th term, there was an increase of above Yen 8,452,000 in comparison with the previous period. This was due to the fact that in this the average price of rice was still higher than in the previous term. In the 8th term there was an addition of about Yen 598,000 to the expenditures of the term immediately preceding. In the later period the average price of rice was lower than before; and during the seventh year of Meiji there were many surrenders of pensions. Accordingly, one might naturally expect some diminution; but, on the contrary, we find an increase. This apparent anomaly is explained by the following circumstances. A large arrear of Chitsu Roku pensions, which belonged to the 7th term, was paid in this period. Indeed, under these conditions, the increase of payments under this section in the 7th over those of the 6th term, would have been, but for the reduction noted, much more than the eight million yen, or thereabout, above accounted for. The increase of this term was also augmented by the advance in the average price of rice, which in the 6th term was Yen 3.861, while in the 7th it was Yen 5.917, per koku.

#### PART VIII.—EXPENDITURES FOR CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIRS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND DYKES.

The expenditures for the construction and repair of all the offices of government, Fu and Ken, and the repair and construction of dykes, roads and bridges in all the provinces are included in this part. The total sum of the expenses incurred during the seven and a half years extending from the 1st year of Meiji to the 6th month of the 8th year of Meiji amounted to Yen 12,112,624.587, those for each term being as follows:—

	Yen.
First term .....	786,949.627
Second term .....	1,447,819.056
Third term .....	881,948.837
Fourth term .....	904,480.627
Fifth term .....	2,242,022.574
Sixth term .....	2,095,222.102
Seventh term .....	2,091,114.861
Eighth term .....	1,668,117.008
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>12,112,624.587</b>

In the 1st term the expenditure was only Yen 787,000 in round numbers, but in the 2d year it advanced to Yen 1,447,819. The cause of this increase was that an extra outlay was required for the deepening of the river Yodo, and the maintenance of its banks; and that the expenditure for construction and repairs of Kuwan and Sho was augmented on account of the change of the imperial capital from Suikio to Tokio. In the 3d and 4th terms there was no such extra expense: consequently the disbursements were less considerable. In the 5th term there was a large increase, one cause of which was that, after the old division of the Han was abolished, all the business of government was extended, and so a great increment in the outlay for the construction and repair of its offices was required. Beside, as all the provinces were brought under the direct control of the central government, more funds for repairing and building the provincial offices and dykes were needed.

In the 6th the expenses decreased in comparison with the previous term. This was due to the fact that although the expenditure for construction and repair of dykes was large, yet similar work in the government offices was not carried out on so large scale as in the former period.

In the 7th term the expenses were nearly the same as before. The only difference was that, in this term, the expenses for the constructions and repairs of the governmental offices diminished and the expense for those of dykes increased compared with the preceding term.

In the 8th term the expenses were only for a period of six months, yet they amounted to such a sum as that shown in the above table. A large expenditure was necessary in erecting and mending dykes; and similar outlay on government offices, which had been previously diminishing, was extensively called for.

The total of this kind of expenditures amounted to upward of Yen 12,112,000. This sum is divided into two heads: one for the constructions and repairs of the Kuwan, Sho, Fu and Ken offices, and the other for the repairs and constructions of dykes. The proportion of the latter was 68 per cent, and those for the former 37 per cent of the whole.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2346, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 2ND MONTH, 28TH DAY, DO-YO-NI.

### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The M. M. steamer *Folya*, with the English and Continental mails, arrived on the evening of the 26th instant. Home despatches have gone forward by the M. M. steamer *Tibre* on Monday morning last, and by the P. & O. steamer *Malacca*, at noon, to-day.

Singapore has set an example which may be followed with advantage in other eastern settlements. We learn that a laundry establishment, with machinery, which will be worked by steam, is being erected in the Tanglin district, and laundresses have been engaged in England to superintend the making up of the clothes. The sufferers by the present system adopted by Asiatic washermen, will be able to realize the advantages enjoyed by the residents of Singapore when the new enterprise commences operations.

A recent Italian paper thus tabulates the attempted regicides of 1878 and 1879:—There have been two attacks on the Emperor William, one against King Humbert, one against King Alfonso, and two against the Czar. Sovereigns, it remarks, will soon reckon their years of rule by these outrages, the Czar having experienced four, and the Emperor William five. Napoleon

III. had seven. Since this compilation was made there have been at least two further attempts on the life of the Russian potentate: namely, the endeavor to blow up the train in which he was travelling; and that to kill him in the explosion at the Winter Palace. The much hunted sovereign has thus been subjected to six recognized assaults upon his existence.

A correspondent in Rome of a London paper draws attention to Italian postal curiosities which are, apparently not few in number. He says, for instance, that in the year 1878, 334,702,496 objects passed through the post, of which less than half were delivered at their address, and of these 122,874 were returned as wrongly delivered. The distribution of letters is one of the weakest points in the Italian postal system. Except in large towns, the Post Office does not profess to make any house-to-house distribution at all, except on payment of a small fee, generally a sou for each packet delivered to the postman; and in the large towns the delivery is done in a very careless manner. The postman rarely takes the trouble to climb the stairs to the different apartments, except just before Christmas, but contents himself with leaving all the letters for a house with the porter, who delivers them whenever he happens to be going upstairs: if the porter is not in the way the letters go back into the bag till the next round is made, or are even sometimes left at a shop near. No wonder then that letters frequently miscarry without such wilful intention as the postman showed who was discovered one Christmas stuffing all his letters into a sewer grating that he might get the sooner to his dinner. The excuse for non-delivery is that with houses of five or six stories the work is too hard for the postman. Again, for the year in question, the money-order department showed a net loss of 56,459f., resulting from thefts, frauds, and errors in payment. It is remarkable that money-orders should be so much made use of, considering the expense of them, and the great difficulty the Post Office makes about paying them, and also that two large banks—the Banco di Napoli and the Banco di Sicilia—issue orders on their branches without any charge whatever. On the other hand, the collection from the boxes placed about the town has one feature which might well be adopted not only in England, as is suggested, but elsewhere. "The boxes attached to the wall cannot be opened by the postman, who slides in a bag underneath, which by pressing a spring, lets the letters fall into it; at the same time two little brass plates with the hour of the next clearance slide forward. In this way there is a check on the postman, and you can tell without fear of a difference in clocks whether you have caught the clearance that you require."

It is announced that M. Henri Say, nephew of M. Léon Say, has left New York with his wife and child, on a yachting trip, which is to last two years, and to comprise New Orleans, the West Indies, South America, San Francisco, Japan, China, India, the Suez Canal, and Cherbourg. The yacht, now called the *Heriela*, but originally the *Skaunghraun*, was constructed last year for Mr. Bonicault, and is regarded as the finest steam yacht ever built in the United States. It is accompanied by a tender, with coal, manned by ten men, the yacht itself having thirty-five souls on board. The crew are all Frenchmen.

Shanghai proposes to subscribe to the proposed international memorial to the late Sir Rowland Hill, who conferred upon the world the benefits of cheap postage. The matter is in the hands of the Chairmen of the two local Municipal Councils, Mr. R. W. Little, and Mr. E. G. Vouillemont, Manager of the Comptoir d'Escompte, a post which a few years ago he also occupied in Yokohama.

Connecting Mr. Mori's appointment, to the post of Minister from Japan to the Court of St. James, with negotiations for the revision of the treaties, the *London and China Express* holds that the fact is "evidence that his Government have carefully considered the importance of the negotiations now pending, and are desirous of using every means afforded by diplomatic ability to maintain the friendly relations which exist, and at the same time to gain their own ends. It is therefore clear that some difficulty still remains to be overcome. But we cannot doubt that with his experience and tact Mori will see a way out of any complications. We cordially welcome him to England, feeling assured that he will maintain the Legation with the same dignity as his predecessor, and that he will continue to



exercise that same cordial social intercourse with English society which characterised the Japanese Legation under Wooyeno."

An indication of returning commercial prosperity, not only to one individual corporation, which we are happy to congratulate upon the evident success of its late operations, but to all those engaged in trade in the Far East, is referred to in the address of the Chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to an assembly of shareholders in Hongkong. The speaker said:—"We have passed, gentlemen, through some years of almost unequalled commercial depression and yet the Bank has steadily earned fair profits, and now that business is improving and showing signs of general revival, I think we may all look forward with a fair amount of confidence to a period of prosperity."

The many friends of Mr. Edward Gilbert, who left Japan after organizing the imperial telegraph service, will be pleased to learn that he has been appointed to a responsible and lucrative position at home. The *Dundee Advertiser* alluding to the subject says:—"In view of the transference of the Dundee and Arbroath Railway to the joint-ownership of the Caledonian and North British Railway Companies, Mr. Gilbert has been appointed to the important position of Manager on behalf of the two Companies. Mr. Gilbert is well known in this district. He held the office of Superintendent of Telegraphs on the Scottish North Eastern line for a number of years, and after that line was merged in the Caledonian he obtained the appointment of Superintendent of Telegraphs on the North British system."

Last Sunday morning witnessed an earthquake unparalleled both as regards intensity and destructiveness since this portion of Japan has been open to foreign residence. At eight minutes to one o'clock the inhabitants of Yokohama were aroused by the violent agitation of their dwellings, accompanied, in many instances, with the crash of falling chimneys, tiles, mirrors and articles of furniture. The shock was of great force during the eighteen or twenty seconds of its duration, and vividly recalled similar experiences in South America, the great country of earthquakes. The Bluff has evidently suffered most from the dire visitation. Scarcely a single house was unaffected; chimneys thrown down or twisted out of shape, roofs stripped of the tiles, heaps of plaster, walls cracked and tottering, were to be met with in all directions. It would be impossible to specify within reasonable limit every building which has been damaged, as the list would include nearly every edifice on the Bluff and very many in the Settlement. Prominent among those which show signs of great injury is the Convent, the roof being apparently irremediably shaken. In the Settlement, the Grand Hotel was the greatest sufferer, five of the chimneys having either fallen or been so damaged as to require rebuilding. Notwithstanding the many narrow escapes which must necessarily have occurred, we are glad to be able to state that no person has, we believe, sustained injury, although some ladies have not yet quite recovered the shock to their nerves. We have heard that the earth tremour reached Tokio one minute and a half before it was felt in Yokohama. On the ships in harbour, the shock was in many cases distinctly felt, and it is noticeable that although during and immediately before the earthquake the wind was almost imperceptible, yet, as soon as the tremour ceased, a strong breeze sprang up; no other atmospheric change was observed. The damage sustained cannot be even approximately estimated, but if we include the destruction of valuable curios, ornaments, glass, china, &c., &c., which occurred, it will reach a total of many thousands of dollars.

A correspondent in Tokio writes to us:—

"I have just seen Dr. Martin, who, as you are aware, immediately travelled to Asama-yama as soon as the papers announced an eruption in that mountain, and he has been kind enough to grant me permission to publish the following facts:—

"He mentions that, although he inquired frequently along the road, he found no one who had heard of any such occurrence. On the 20th,—the night of the great earthquake—he stopped at Iwabana, a short distance from the Usui Toge and less than half a day's journey from the summit of the mountain, but he perceived no shock; nor did he hear any mention of it. The mountain itself he found

in its ordinary state; but the well-known Usui pass was covered with snow. It seems quite clear, therefore, that the recent severe earthquake did not come from the direction of Asama-yama."

A friend in the capital writes to us as follows:—"I have very little information to give you about the great shake, more than that it completely satisfied those of us who are supposed to be seismologically inane. We want no more of the same kind—not even in the interest of science. As far as I can learn, however, very little damage was done in Tokio, apart from the general scare. A couple of chimneys were thrown down at the Dai Gaku; and I have heard of one house, near the Nihon Bashi, which was badly cracked. Some injury was sustained by apparatus in the meteorological department. I think the shock could not have been so violent in Tokio as in Yokohama. Of course you stand more in need of a good shake up than we do; and we are well satisfied that you got the best of it. We don't envy you in the least."

According to the *Ceylon Times*, it is probable that the Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank intend very shortly to open a branch of their institution in Colombo, not only for exchange operations, but for general banking business.

The *Shanghai Courier* says, "for some days past rumours have been current in the Settlement of the discovery of defalcations on the part of Mr. E. Caussade, Acting Secretary of the French Municipal Council. These rumours have unfortunately proved well founded, for we learn that Mr. Caussade has been placed under arrest on a charge of misappropriating money over which he had official control. His defalcations are supposed to amount to about £8,000, and among the sums misappropriated is believed to be the subscriptions to the late ball given by the residents of the French Concession. Principally his defalcations appear to have been made in the funds of the Council and money belonging to the estate of the late Mr. A. Logras. As the French Consul-General has not power to try an official in the position of Mr. Caussade, we understand he will be sent to Saigon for trial. Notice has been given by the President of the French Municipal Council that all matters relating to the French Municipal Offices should be directed to Mr. N. Bettembourg, who has kindly consented, at the request of his colleagues, to take charge of the offices."

The American papers state that "Judge Eldridge, of Memphis, recently fined himself 10 dols. for being late at court. Two lawyers made able arguments for the remission of the penalty, but his honour remained firm." If the example of Mr. Eldridge was followed to any great extent here in Japan, we are apt to think that some of our local judicial functionaries would experience a very considerable diminution in the amount of their incomes: but then perhaps they would not be able to resist the "able arguments" which might be adduced, begging for a reconsideration of the decision of the court.

The following is the recipe for the whitewash used on the White House at Washington, and the best known: Take a half bushel of unslaked lime and slake it with boiling hot water covering it during the process. Strain it, and add a peck of salt, dissolved in warm water, and three pounds of ground rice boiled to a thin paste; put in, boiling hot, half a pound of Spanish whiting and a pound of clear glue, dissolved in warm water. Mix, and let it stand for several days; then keep it in a kettle on a portable furnace, and put on as hot as possible with a paint or whitewash brush.

The date of departure of the O. & O. steamer *Belgie* from this port for San Francisco, has been changed from the 6th to 9th March next.

A remarkable meteor passed over the north-western part of Kioto this morning (Wednesday, 18th) at about 6.45. The sky was overcast and cloudy at the time. From an intelligent eyewitness, and assisted by a celestial globe, I make out that it made its appearance near the pole, and therefore at an altitude of about 35 degrees above the horizon; pursuing a course slightly inclined downward, it disappeared in the south-west at an altitude of about 10 degrees; its time of flight was probably between five and ten seconds. The meteor was projected from a small dark cloud with luminous edges; there was a



sudden flash of light and a heavy rumbling noise, as of thunder, followed by two or three slighter rumblings. My informant says the appearance was that of a thunderstorm approaching. The meteor in its course appeared merely as a luminous streak; possibly at an earlier hour, with less light, it would have presented the appearance of a fire-ball. It left behind it a long, narrow, smoky-looking cloud, which remained visible for nearly half an hour. I was lying in my bed, about half awake, when I was thoroughly aroused by the violent shaking of the glass *shoji* of my room, two or three slighter shakings followed. I thought for some time it was an earthquake, but was at a loss to account for the absence of the usual tremors. I learn from a friend that the noise awoke him from his sleep, and from Japanese sources that articles were thrown down in houses.

It would appear from the violent concussion of the air that an explosion took place at no great distance, and probably an aerolite has fallen in this vicinity. The Kiyoto Fu, I learn, will seek to get further information on the subject.

The local papers say that a large haul of thieves—a gang of eleven—was made at Fu-shimi-Inari lately. They are said to be the party who committed the murders at Awaji shima some time ago. On their persons were found 60 hairpins (*kanzashi*), 4 watches, and 17 pocket books.

The Exhibition will open on the first of next month and continue for the usual one hundred days. I learn that there will be nothing to distinguish it from its immediate predecessors. A gas apparatus of about thirty lights has been erected on the grounds, and exhibitions of the light will be made occasionally. The application for a loan to erect a museum building has not yet been answered by the Fu.

The report of the discovery of an ore of quicksilver in Inariyama, Fushimi, which appeared lately in a Tokio native paper, is not true. A valuable ore of the above was discovered in Sakai Ken, about three years ago, and a sample was analysed in the Semikiyoku of this city, yielding, if I mistake not, about 85 or 40 per cent of pure metal.—*Corr. Hiogo News.*

The following figures, taken from the address read by Mr. Kawase Hidetsugu, a secretary of the 1st class of Finance, and Superintendent of Commercial Affairs, at the opening ceremonies of the *Kiyoshin-Kien*, at Osaka, may prove interesting to some of our readers:

For the four years from 1874 to 1877 the whole exports from Japan amounted to 92,000,000 yen, 62 per cent, of this being tea and silk. The imports during the same period amounted to 106,000,000 yen, of which cotton and sugar contributed 48 per cent. The average quantity of these products used during the same period was: sugar, 90,000,000 lbs., and cotton, 70,000,000 lbs. The average quantity of cotton produced in Japan was under 26,500,000 lbs., and of sugar just over 27,000,000 lbs.

The Exhibition just opened at Osaka is for the purpose of promoting the cultivation of sugar and cotton, and the figures given above show that a healthy stimulus in this direction will not be out of place.—*Hiogo News.*

The men-of-war in harbour were dressed in honour of the anniversary of the birth of George Washington, first President of the United States of America, "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his fellow-countrymen."

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 27th February, 1880.

The *Standard* hints that the Government will dissolve Parliament, if the opposition persist in pursuing a course of obstruction.

SUPPLIED TO THE "DAILY PRESS."

LONDON, February 21st, 1880.

Baroness Burdett Coutts has subscribed £5,000 to the Irish Relief Fund.

GERMANY.—Parliament has been opened by the Emperor, who, in his speech, said that prospects were pacific.

RUSSIA.—Nihilists have exploded a mine under the Winter Palace. The imperial family, not having assembled, escaped. Thirty-five guards were killed and wounded.

LONDON, 13th February, 1880.

In the House of Commons, in reply to a question, the Secretary of State for the Colonies said that he was satisfied Governor Hennessy would repress domestic servitude, and declined to interfere.

#### PARIS LETTER. (On Scientific Subjects.)

DECEMBER 20TH, 1879.

The test of a severe winter is not so much the intense low temperature marked at a special moment, as the persistence of cold. Now the present season appears to combine both, and may safely be classed among the most rigorous winters of the century. The thermometer at the Observatory of Mt. Souris has descended to 24 degrees C. below zero. In the open plain, 25 degrees were registered on the night of the 9th instant, and it is a singular coincidence at least, that the lowest temperatures on record, in 1842 and 1871, occurred on the same date. The cold is not at all simultaneous; while the temperature is abnormal at Paris and in the centre and east of France, Belgium, Switzerland and Austria, it is above zero on the northern coast of France and the British Islands. Nearly all rivers in the centre of Europe are frozen; this is not to be accepted as a proof of exceptional inclemency, as a current of water flowing slowly will sooner be congealed than where a river flows rapidly. Dams, impeding the current, will induce congelation. Thus the Seine is frozen, from the obstructions of the Pont des Invalides, upwards, while it is free downwards to Havre. The thickness of the ice is an excellent measure for the intensity of frost. In calm water, ice two inches thick will bear a man; four inches, a horse; six inches, vehicles; and eight, field artillery. An army or a crowd is perfectly safe on ice twelve inches thick. In 1794, the French cavalry was able to cross the Texel and capture the frozen-in Dutch fleet, after a few charges. Ordinarily, when a winter sets in rigorously, its departure is element. This is not always certain. Thus in 1788 the cold commenced on the 25th of December, and excepting one day's thaw, as we have just experienced, lasted till the 13th of January. The snow accumulated in blocks as massive as granite; the basins at Versailles had ice twenty-two inches thick; the deepest wells were frozen, and in wine cellars bottles burst; the docks at Marseilles were frozen; the sea-coast for some leagues was coated with ice; travellers and sentries were frozen to death, and trees were split from top to bottom. It is thus, that winters with the longest number of days of frost are the most disastrous in their consequences, and notably on some winter crops.

Though our knowledge of meteorology is far from being exact, in the sense of other sciences, we know this fact to be certain, that there is no revolution taking place, as is popularly supposed, in the seasons. From 396 B.C. there have been winters periodically hot as well as cold, and succeeding with a certain regularity also. Do the return of these antithetical winters obey any fixed law? Can their coming be predicted? Here science is mute. M. Renon has calculated, from a multitude of observations extending as far back as to the year 1,400, that intense winters arrive every 41 years. In general, cold winters form groups of 4 and 6, around a specially central one. He was right in respect to 1870-71; he predicted 1878-79 to be rigorous, which it was not; he passes over the present severity, and bids us prepare for intense cold in 1882, and great heat in 1883. The same gentleman traces extreme cold to cosmical causes; to the tendency of our planet to cool down to the temperature of space—some 50 degrees C. below zero. But this will not explain why at Paris, the cold is 24 degrees, and at Havre but 5, below zero, while at the same moment it is 9 degrees above zero, in England. Cold appears to be the production of atmospheric currents as these come from northern regions, and warm if of southern origin, similarly as rain—or drought, follow winds charged with humidity or dryness. Now these currents are displaced from a variety of causes, more or less a subject of speculation, and where the moon is presumed to play an important rôle. One fact appears to be admitted, that severe winters are associated with rainy years.

Those born deaf are naturally dumb, because never having heard the sounds of language they can neither repeat nor comprehend them. Persons "hard of hearing" can be materially assisted according to Messrs. Paul Bert and Arsonveel, who have prepared an instrument in the form of a cone, which the afflicted apply to their ear. However, this apparatus augmented all the noise from the action of the lungs, the beatings of the heart, and the contractions of the muscles of the jaw; and these sounds became so intense, that the deaf individual was as if situated in a railway train, he himself making all the noise. The gentlemen in question made an improved microphone, and by means of a receptacle, three or four feet in diameter, placed before an orator in the tribune, a distant and deaf deputy could hear with advantage even if the speech was only in conversation pitch. It is intended to fit up special boxes in all of the theatres by means of which the deaf can enjoy the play.

By the united efforts of Spain and France the meridian of Paris has been accurately measured, and prolonged as far as the Sahara. The difficulty lay in the perception of signals above the Mediterranean, and the end was, to observe these from two elevated points in Spain and Algeria, so as to form the four angles of an immense quadrilateral, of which the sides would be equal to 70 leagues. Glimpses of the tops of the mountains of Murcia could be dimly perceived on a fine day, but insufficient for measuring purposes; the solar telegraph proved too weak, and ultimately it was decided to employ the electric light. But to produce this, roads had to be made to the summit of the mountain, in order to erect a steam engine to work the Gramme machine, and place the electro-magnetic apparatus in position; also to lodge men and horses. By the 9th of September all was ready, and the measurements were satisfactorily completed on the 18th of October. Biot and Arago divined the possibility effecting these measurements of immense triangles.

M. Topinard desires to precisely define the word *race*, as it is understood differently by naturalists, agriculturists, and historians. Since the time of Buffon, the idea of race has been either opposed to, or combined with, species. When God created the male and female of each kind of animal; species, according to one school of naturalists, means the descent of each kind from the parent stock, without any relationship with other species born from a distinct origin. This is termed absolute species; man is one, as descending from Adam and Eve, as the horse, dog, etc., are in their case; only with time difference in descent has arisen, by which some men are black, or tawny, and others white, and dogs have become spaniels, bull, etc. These differences are *racas*, and so understood by Buffon, Cuvier and their followers. Then came Lamarck, who took up the idea that animal forms have no fixity, and are modified *ad infinitum* under the influence of time and circumstances. G. St. Hilaire was Lamarck's pupil, but was ridiculed by Cuvier, who in turn has had to give way to Darwin. Race, not species, is the word retained by French anthropologists, implying a special, not a common original, stock.

Dr. Ernest Martin has published a very extraordinary work, the "History of Monsters from antiquity down to the present time." Legislation was very cruel on the subject of monsters, and was based on conceptions scientifically erroneous. Riolan, a celebrated doctor, had to examine several monsters and to say, ought they to be sacrificed; he concluded, that when the deformity was not too gross, the being might be preserved; in the contrary case, it ought to be sacrificed, following the precept of Greece, which was adopted by the Romans. It is only when several organs are profoundly altered, so as to place the being at a considerable distance from its species, that the term monster is applied, and it generally does not live long after its birth. Monstrosity is but the arrest, during the embryonic stage, an accident in the development of a definite and specific state. The eggs of birds are admirably adapted for the production and study of artificial monsters, as by incubation the means can be varied indefinitely, on the position of the egg; its calcareous covering, or the temperature. But the same disturbing influence will not produce identical results, because each egg has its germ, its individual character; varying in constitution, volume, color, chemical constitution, and relative proportion between yellow and white. Further, each condition has a different hereditary disposition. There is no analysis sufficiently fine to discern what constitutes the individuality of the germ, but which nevertheless exists in the embryo from its very first hour. M. Dareste has been able to observe the earliest stage of the constitution of the bird's heart—two sacs which approach each other, and then rest together; he has also seen in the phenomena of evolution, that if any cause interferes with, or retards the development of an organ, the others continue to be formed, but the result is not the less a monster, without head, or without eyes, or with only one eye. In Molière's *Médecin malgré lui*, the author makes Sganarelle place the heart at the right side, and in the latter's reply to Geronte who remarked it was at the left. Sganarelle admits it was so formerly, *mais nous avons changé tout cela*. Molière derived his idea from the *post mortem* examination of an old soldier, all of whose viscera had been transposed. Monstrosities with birds perish before being hatched, because unlike mammalia, a monstrosity has to depend upon itself during development. In the case of double-members, Milly Christina for example, scientists are of opinion that the phenomenon is produced by the union of two embryos at first distinct, and not from an organism primitively simple, duplicating itself. Dr. Martin in his curious treatise on the mutilation of the feet of Chinese women shows, that such sufferings have had no influence on the vigor of the race or fecundity, as the annals of ten centuries indicate no deterioration; but he inclines to believe, when mutilation affects the cranium that moral monstrosities can ensue. M. Lebon has shown from the cubical capacity of the skulls of Boileau, Gall, Volta, Descartes, &c., in the Museum of Natural History, that it is only by exception that marked intelligence can exist in a skull of small capacity.

M. Varenne draws attention to a singular property of iron: when the metal is placed in ordinary nitric acid, an intense reaction ensues; but if the iron be placed in contact with the

same acid in concentrated form, no action ensues: the metal remains in a passive state, owing to a gaseous sheath being formed around the iron. This gaseous sheath is composed of bi-oxide of nitrogen, which disappears the moment it comes in contact with the air. How does this sheath maintain itself in contact with the metal? That's the question.

Boerhaave, a Dutch physician, observed, keep the feet warm and the head cool, and you can mock the doctors. Now cold feet form an index of a special state of the organism, capable of engendering maladies, but not in itself an ailment. It is a test of animal heat, as the pulse is of circulation. It is at points farthest from the heart, that cold is first sensible; the calf of the leg is warmer than the sole of the foot, and the top of the knee than the calf of the leg. Moderate cold is not bad for people well fed and warmly clad, it stimulates circulation and provokes appetite, the blood becomes richer and the mind more lucid. A sudden and vigorous cold hastens the *dénouement* of chronic maladies arrived at their last period; hence, 24 hours of such weather suffices to terminate several days struggling of an invalid against death. The best of feet-warmers are good stockings and strong shoes, and the best means to provoke warmth, is exercise—work, and not idleness. Martignac remarked, that "coquettes never catch cold," but the latter would do well to remember, that bare shoulders rather than cold feet are most calculated to produce congestion of the lungs.

#### DARING ATTACK ON A LADY IN THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

About two o'clock yesterday morning a most daring and brutal attack was made upon a lady visitor in the Hongkong Hotel. It appears that Mrs. Schraub and child arrived here on Monday afternoon from Yokohama and took apartments in the hotel, occupying room No. 9, which is on the first floor. Mrs. Schraub retired to rest on Monday night with her child and kept a light burning during the night. About two o'clock yesterday morning she was awakened by hearing a Chinaman (the boy who had waited upon her since her arrival) entering her room. She asked him what he required and at the same time ordered him to leave the room, which he refused to do. Mrs. Schraub then told him if he did not go she would ring the bell. The scoundrel then approached the bed and drawing from under his jacket an instrument (probably a dagger) struck her upon the left side of the head, thereby stunning her for a short time. Mrs. Schraub's child being frightened began to cry, whereupon the ruffian struck it on the head and rendered it senseless. Having silenced opposition, the boy collected the booty he had come for, and carried off Mrs. Schraub's gold watch, a jet chain, a pair of valuable gold earrings, several trinkets, a morocco travelling-bag, and \$15 in cash, with which he decamped. Just at this moment Mrs. Schraub came to herself again and gave an alarm. Assistance was immediately forthcoming, and the police authorities were at once communicated with. The Captain Superintendent of Police, Chief-Inspector Horspool, Detective Inspector Lindsay and Inspector Mackie soon arrived at the hotel, and no one was allowed to leave the premises. After making a few inquiries, the police had all the servants of the establishment mustered in the passage on the ground floor, when several of the boys were found missing, but their absence was accounted for in various ways. The watchmen at the hotel stated that after the alarm was given no person was allowed to leave the premises. Mrs. Schraub was then interviewed by the police and she described the Chinaman who attacked and robbed her, at the same time mentioning that he was the boy who had attended to her since her arrival. The hotel boys, who in the meantime had been detained in the hall, were again examined personally and those answering the description given were placed on one side and afterwards taken before Mrs. Schraub, when she at once identified one boy (named Li Aman) as the culprit. Upon that the police made a more minute examination of his body, and upon his left little finger was found a spot of blood, and also another spot on his left shoe. He was accordingly taken into custody and marched off to the Central Police Station. Yesterday the prisoner was taken before the sitting magistrate, the Hon. C.B. Plunket, and charged by Detective-Inspector Lindsay on two counts; first with robbing Mrs. Schraub of the articles before mentioned; and second with wounding Mrs. Schraub and her child. The case was remanded until the 17th instant. Dr. Ayres, Colonial Surgeon, was sent for immediately after the attack, at the same time the report was made to the police, and

he was very promptly upon the spot and attended the wounded lady and child. From late enquiries made last night both Mrs. Schraub and the child were progressing very favourably. Prisoner has since confessed his guilt and been committed for trial.—*Hongkong Daily Press*.

## JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

## COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

A meeting, which commenced on the 15th instant, is being held in the town of Sendai, and consists of six delegates from each of the surrounding districts, Shonai, Yamagata, Akita; Morioka, Mihar, Nihon-matsu, and Fukushima, &c. They propose to make arrangements for forwarding a petition to the Government demanding the establishment of a National Assembly. The object of the meeting has been communicated to Mr. Akiyama, a member of the local Assembly of the prefecture of Miyagi, who is now in Tokio.

The politicians of the province of Shin-shu, have formed a society called *Sho-ki-sha*, for the purpose of applying for the establishment of a representative body.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the foreign consuls in Yokohama, are shortly going to visit the Tokio *Fucho*, in order to congratulate the new Governor on his appointment.

It is said that the present prefecture of Kochi is to be divided into two, and that a new prefecture will be established in the province of Awa, under the name of Tokushima *Ken*.

Consul Yegawa has been ordered to New York, to replace Consul Takagi, and will proceed to his post at the beginning of next month. Mr. Konda has been appointed Consul for Fusan, Corea, and Consul Maida, formerly at that port (Fusan), has been promoted to be Consul-General, and will be transferred to the new port to be opened at Gensan, where the Consulate-General is to be established.

Mr. Kawano, the superintendent of the Hakodate Custom House, returned to his post on Saturday last, by the *Kumamoto Maru*.

His Majesty the Emperor left the Palace at about nine o'clock on Monday the 23rd instant, accompanied by their Excellencies, Prime Minister Sanjo, Vice-Prime Minister Iwakura, Privy Councillors Okuma, Yamagata, and Ito, and arrived at the House of Assembly about 9.45 a.m. His Majesty was received by the President and the assembled members, and the meeting was opened at half-past ten o'clock in His Majesty's presence. The subject under debate was the precautionary measures to be taken against famine. His Majesty left the Assembly at 3.10 p.m.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* says:—"It is currently rumoured that two or three of the Privy Councillors have sent in their resignation in consequence of their opinions being opposed to the rest of the cabinet, on the question of the establishment of a National Assembly, but we cannot vouch for the truth of the report." The *Hochi Shimbun* states:—"We are informed that three Privy Councillors viz.;—General Yamagata, Terashima and Oki, have sent in their resignations."

A special meeting of the Central Board of Health has been held.

From the first of last July until the end of last December, 32,629,040 postage stamps, 15,255,900 post cards, and 150,000 envelopes, were printed by the Printing Office in the Finance Department, for the Post Office.

The members of the local Assemblies in different prefectures, who came up to Tokio for the purpose of listening to the deliberations of the Local Governors' Assembly, numbered altogether a hundred and thirteen. They met at the Nakamura-no Restaurant, situated on the banks of the Sumida, on the 22nd instant, for the purpose of making arrangements for applying to the Government for the establishment of a National Assembly, and the majority ultimately resolved to return to their respective prefectures, where they will ascertain the opinions of the residents, and then meet again in Tokio. Mr. Wooyoda, a member of the local assembly of the prefecture of Miyo, declared at the meeting that he would forward a memorial to the Senate on the following day, (23rd instant), asking for the establishment of a National Assembly.

Mr. Matsukata, Assistant Minister of Finance, has been appointed Chief Commissioner, and Mr. Kawase, the Chief Secretary of Finance, Mr. Tanaka, Secretary of the Interior, and Mr. Takayama, an attaché of the Home and Finance Departments, managing officers for the Japanese section at the forthcoming Melbourne Exhibition. Mr. Kawase has been ordered to proceed to Australia within a short time.

Her Majesty the Empress Dowager has called Prince Kujo at Nabecho, Kanda, where she was present at a theatrical performance.

Mr. Tanaka, the Assistant Minister of Education, who is now in Kiushiu on a tour of inspection, is expected back in Tokio about the 14th or 15th of next month.

The debates in the Local Governor's Assembly have ended and the closing ceremony was presided over to-day by the Emperor in person.

The members of the Assembly were honoured with an audience with His Majesty the Emperor yesterday, and were entertained by His Excellency Ito, Minister for the Interior, to-day.

Mr. Yegi Takato, Secretary of the first class to the Japanese Legation in Washington, and Mr. Yegawa Kumpai, Consul for New York, will leave for America by the mail steamer on the 9th proximo.

Mr. Kawase, Chief Secretary of the Finance Department, who has been in Osaka to attend the opening of the Competitive Exhibition of Cotton and Sugar, returned to Tokio the day before yesterday.

Governor Nagayama, of the prefecture of Niigata, has received an increase of fifty yen a month to his salary, as an acknowledgment of his long and diligent services.

Mr. Matsukata, the Assistant Minister of Finance, is going to Osaka about the 10th of next month on official business connected with the Competitive Exhibition of Cotton and Sugar. He will return to Tokio after five or six days' stay in Osaka.

The following notice from the *Aikokusha* or the Patriotic Society in Osaka, has appeared in various Japanese papers:—

NOTICE: As it was decided at our general meeting held in November last that a memorial should be addressed to His Majesty the Emperor in March next, demanding the establishment of a National Assembly, we have despatched agents in all directions to ascertain the state of public opinion throughout the whole country. Wherever our emissaries went, the residents generally complied with their request to join our association, and informed them that they would apply for the establishment of a national assembly in conjunction with us; and therefore a meeting will be held of our society on the 10th of next month, and we wish delegates from all associations composed of more than ten persons to attend our meeting, if they hold the same opinions as we do on this subject.

## NAVAL AND MILITARY.

Vice-Admiral Ito, the chief of the Eastern admiralty office, inspected the *Nisshin Kan* on Monday last.

As a meeting of commanding officers is about to be held, Lieutenant-Generals Soga, Miyoshi and Ida arrived in Tokio on the 26th instant, and all the other commanding officers are expected shortly.

Five of the midshipmen who lately passed the examination at the Naval College have been appointed to ships.

A squadron of cavalry belonging to the Imperial Guard have started on a four weeks march to Nikko, Takasaki, Hachi-o-ji, and Odawara for the purpose of practicing manoeuvres.

"We," (*Mainichi Shimbun*) "have already several times heard of the resignation of General Toriwo, the Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Guard, and it is now again reported that he has sent in his resignation."

Five hundred and seventy-six men of the Imperial Guard were dismissed to their homes the day before yesterday, on the expiration of their term of service. Of the men disbanded, four hundred and seventy-eight belonged to the infantry, thirty-two to the cavalry, thirty-seven to the artillery, and twenty-nine to the engineers.

## INDUSTRIES, TRADE, AND FINANCE.

Permission was granted on Thursday last to the native merchants, to establish a Chamber of Commerce in Yokohama.



A competitive exhibition for cereals, tobacco, rape-seed, &c., will be opened in Tokio, in 1882.

A Chamber of Commerce was established in the town of Kanagawa, in the province of Kaga, on the 15th instant.

The total expense incurred in the suppression of the south-western rebellion amounted to 41,567,726 *yen*, 68 *sen*.

The revenue of the Government printing office for the half-year ending on the 31st of December, 1879, amounted to 480,854.21 *yen* and the expenditure to 398,802.15 *yen*. The net profit, according to the published statement, was 82,052.06 *yen* and the accumulated savings of the officers and workmen of the bureau 27,758.76 *yen*, which has now been committed to the care of the First National Bank.

The usual meeting of the Tokio Chamber of Commerce was held in the rooms of the Chamber, on the evening of the 24th instant. Mr. Shibusawa was elected Chairman, and Messrs. Fukuchi and Masuda, Vice-Chairmen. Several committees were appointed.

The monthly salaries of Government Officials below the class of secretaries are to be increased from next month after the following rate:—1st class *Sakan* 75 *yen*; 2nd class 60 *yen*; 3rd class 55 *yen*; 4th class 50 *yen*; 5th, 45 *yen*; 6th, 40 *yen*; 7th, 35 *yen*; 8th, 30 *yen*; 9th, 25 *yen*; and 10th, 20 *yen*. Of the supernumeraries, the 1st class will receive a monthly increase of 15 *yen*; the 2nd of 15 *yen*; the 3rd of 12 *yen*; and the 4th of 10 *yen*.

The *Hiogo Maru* brought coin to the value of 10,000 *yen* in gold five *yen* pieces, and 17,750 *yen* in one *yen* silver and 1,200 *ryo* in old one *bu* silver, consigned to Mr. Nishimura Kinaburo of Yokohama by Gan-san-sha of Kobe. The same vessel also brought 5,005 *yen* in gold five *yen*, and 750 in one *yen* silver to Mr. Matsunoya Kinzaku of Yokosuka from Mr. Ota Heibei of Osaka.

The number of visitors to the Competitive Exhibition at Osaka during the week ending the 21st instant, amounted to 1,013. The number of tickets sold during the same period was 331 ordinary, and 675 season tickets; the latter representing 13 *yen* 50 *sen*.

A native paper states that "a certain foreign merchant in Kobe is going to export 800,000 pounds of rice to Australia."

The Yokohama Specie Bank, established at 4th Street, Honcho-dori, commences business to-day.

A native contemporary states that trade in Yokohama is much worse this year than last year, only twenty-three merchant ships and twelve mail steamers having arrived since the 1st of last month.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The Shintomiza Theatre will be opened for the season on the 29th instant.

The editors of the *Ukiyo Shimbum*, the *Asomori Shimbum*, and the *Osaka Asahi Shimbum*, have been fined five *yen* each, for libels contained in their respective journals.

The police made a successful raid upon the pickpockets in the capital on Sunday last. About one hundred offenders were captured.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa arrived in Osaka on the 19th instant, and visited the Mint. In the afternoon he attended the Competitive Exhibition of Cotton and Sugar accompanied by the Governor, and on the following day he inspected the castle, also under the escort of the Governor, by whom he was entertained in the evening. On the 21st instant, His Royal Highness went to Kyoto, where he proposed to remain for two or three days. The Duke intended to subsequently visit Uji, and Nara, and then return to Kobe.

On the 23rd instant a fatal accident occurred at the Imperial Mint at Osaka. One man was killed.

A school for imparting a knowledge of the Chinese language has been opened in the Yei-ju ji Temple, at Onaye-cho, Nishino-kubo, Tokio.

Permission has been accorded to Prince Nabeshima (the ex-Daimio of Hizen) to purchase an extensive tract of land in Yesso, in order to find employment for his former retainers.

Mr. Arakawa, a member of *Hokushin-sha*, who delivered a lecture at Ibumuro-ro, Asakusa, Tokio, on the 21st instant, was prohibited by the Police Authorities, the day before yesterday, from delivering lectures at public meetings in future.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 22nd February, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$13,324.46
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,545.15

Total .....	\$16,869.61
Miles open, 55.	

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 9,431.97
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,168.80

Total .....	\$10,600.17
Miles open, 47.	

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 22nd February, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 7,733.48
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 833.24

Total .....	\$ 8,566.72
Miles open 18.	

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 7,020.82
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 752.09

Total .....	\$ 7,772.41
Miles open 18.	

#### ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

The *Volga* came into port on Thursday and we reproduce such of the items of news by the files to hand, as have not already appeared. The reported forced loan at Cabul, and particulars respecting General Roberts' proclamation, etc., we published after the arrival of the last P. & O. steamer.

Calcutta, 17th January.—Mr. Gribble, Officiating Post Master-General, Bengal, died this morning of cholera after a few hours' illness.

Kandahar, 17th January.—A Ghazi was killed this morning while trying to stab a sergeant of the Engineers. A sapper split the Ghazi's skull with a pickaxe.

Mahomed Jan, the notorious highway robber, who has been the terror of Southern Afghanistan for ten years was captured on Thursday by the city Kotwal after a desperate resistance, in which he was severely wounded.

A gigantic swindling by the principal purchasing agent of the Commissariat, a Parsee named Cowasjee, has been discovered. It is said that Cowasjee remitted R35,500 to India in two months. His pay was R200 a month.

Kurrachee, 18th January.—There is great excitement among the Parsee community here owing to the arrest at Kandahar of one Cowasjee Rustonjee, a Commissariat subordinate. He accompanied Major Staveley's Battery to the front, and it is said that in a short time he managed to remit thousands of rupees to his friends in Kurrachee. In November last he remitted R14,000, and lately R20,000 to Shapurjee Hormusjee Soopareewalla, who stood surety for him on his employment. The latter sum was remitted by four hundies of R5,000 each. Payment of these has been stopped by order of the collector. One Dadabhoj Merwanjee, who had not a farthing to his name, has also remitted R15,000. He went to Kandahar from here on Cowasjee's special invitation.

Jallalabad, 18th January.—A party under Mugal Khan is dispersing, and returning to their homes, in consequence of the failure of their supplies. Asmatulla Khan is sending reports all round the country, especially amongst the Mohunds, that Mahomed Jan means advancing to Argandeh; that Gholam Hyder is coming from Turkistan to Charikar; and that Ayab Khan is about moving from Herat towards Kabul. The truth of these reports is not established, but the object is to keep up hopes with the hostile tribes, who are disheartened by constant reverses.

Allahabad, 18th January.—During the engagement of the 13th, Mogul Khan's nephew was killed by a shell. The enemy were taken completely by surprise at the rapidity with which the guns opened fire from the positions selected by Colonel Fryer. One hour elapsed between the receipt of the order and the guns coming into action, the distance travelled being about seven miles from Jallalabad.

Calcutta, 19th January.—On the 17th, 500 men under Colonel Brienagon successfully crossed the Calul river by rafts at Kam Dacca and occupied Beina; a reconnaissance four miles down the river showed the road to Palori level, and the country quite deserted. No enemy could be seen. On moving on the 18th



Reina was burnt, and the force recrossed to Kam Dakka. Another small party rode straight to Lalpura. Not a shot was fired on the 17th or 18th. The enemy's loss on the 15th cannot be less than about sixty killed and as many wounded.

Allahabad, 19th January.—Moghul Khan has gone to Khanjar Khell, his fort in Kamah. The Musa Khels, who joined his party from independent territory, are all dispersing. The Shinwaris have refused up to the present all overtures of the Mohmunds and Moollahs to rise. The advance of General Duran's force from Lundi Kotal was delayed by the great difficulties on the road. However, some of the enemy were caught on the narrow path, retreating along the river's bank and suffered severely. Their losses are supposed to have been about 100.

Bombay, 19th January.—The Government of India has ordered the Madras troops to be withdrawn from South-west Afghanistan and relieved by Bombay regiments. Besides the troops I telegraphed about on Saturday, three regiments of cavalry stationed at Dacca, two regiments of Scinde Horse stationed at Jacobabad, and the Poona Horse stationed at Serovi, have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness for service in Southern Afghanistan. Sir Richard Temple accompanied by Sir Robert Sandeman, goes to the front on the 27th January.

Calcutta, 21st January.—There have been occasional meetings of the border tribes, but the frontier generally is tranquil. Active intrigues continue around Ghuzni, and in the Logar Valley, where excitement and disorder still prevail. Among the tribes generally in that direction the feeling is said to be one of suspense and anxiety. The Shinwaris still hold aloof from the solicitations of the Mullahs, and a gathering in Lughman, has been dissolved by the Governor, who is supported by our Jallalabad troops. The sons of the Mustaufi have come in to Kabul and have visited General Roberts. General Gough's brigade is getting comfortably housed in the Bala Hissar. The defences on the hills above are being rapidly strengthened. An excellent bridge has been thrown across the Kabul river by the 23rd Pioneers on the direct road from Sherpur to Siah Sung, and the construction of roads in different directions is progressing satisfactorily. The convoy of ammunition and warm clothing reached General Roberts on the 18th instant. A Jallalabad letter of yesterday's date states that fighting took place five miles from Jallalabad on the 12th instant. The late Governor having collected large bodies of men, constant attacks were expected. The troops were ordered to remain under arms both day and night and to be ready to turn out at a moment's notice. No mails from the front have been received to-day in consequence of large bodies of Mohmunds being about.

Allahabad, 23rd January.—People in Logar and the surrounding districts are said to have refused to join in the new jihad as they think Mohamed Jan has no chance of permanent success against the British. The astrologers at Ghuzni will consult in five days to decide whether the stars are propitious for another attack upon Sherpur. The Hazaras are collecting in force to attack Mahomed Jan with the determination to avenge the destruction of their villages and the murder of their families by Hassan Khan of Jellalabad. Dr. Owen is now treating in a charitable dispensary in Kabul the men wounded in action against us.

Bombay, 23rd January.—The following troops have been warned for immediate service on the Kandahar line. A Battery R.H.A., a Field Battery, Kurrachee, Seventh Fusiliers, 66th Regiment. It is expected that other troops will shortly be sent. The *Tenasserim* sails to-day for Kurrachee towing the *Charewitch* with the 28th N. I. Two Batteries of Artillery which lately arrived from Burnah with the intention going home by the next troopship have been unexpectedly stopped, and told to await further orders. It is supposed they will be sent to the front or required to take the place of some other Batteries selected for field service.

London, 24th January.—It is reported that the inhabitants of the Province of Kars exhibit hostile feelings towards the Russians.

The *Times*, does not regard the proposed increase in the German army as menacing to peace, nor yet confirmatory of recent disturbing rumours, but as a vivid revelation of the terrible condition of armed truce of Europe. Consols closed at 98½.

Madras, 27th January.—The Palni Taluq in the Madura district is suffering severely for want of the usual rainfall. Less than five inches fell in October and November, and none in December. The dry crops are a failure and the people are beginning to suffer extremely.

Allahabad, 28th January.—Mohamed Jan has issued a general order to the tribes, saying that February 24th is the day fixed to renew the attack on the British. Seditious placards are posted on the city walls. Several Spoyes of the Ardal regiments have been seen at Kabul. Gholam Hyder, the Governor of Turkistan, has sent six horses as a present to Mohamed Jan as showing his sympathy with their movements. Armed men are gathering at Kalungar in Logar. We are making a small magazine at the Bala Hissar. Some officers absent from the Kabul division on recruiting remount duty have been ordered

to rejoin by the 15th March. This looks like renewed military activity in the spring.

Allahabad, 30th January.—Tahir Khan is now at Ghuzni with Mus Khan, and has sent letters to General Roberts saying that the Ghuzni faction have resolved to fight to the death unless Yakooob Khan is reinstated as Amcer. Great uneasiness prevails.

Madras 26th January.—A public meeting was held to-night at the Club to consider the question of the Irish distress. General O'Connell presided, but only 11 attended. R. 2,500 was subscribed in the room, and it was decided to telegraph to the Mayor of Dublin for detailed information.

Calcutta, 20th January.—Information from Afghan Turkestan states that Gholam Hyder's power there is much weakened by rebellion. No news has been received of Abdul Rahman. The report of his arrival in Balk, which came out some time ago to India from England has not yet been confirmed from any other source. From Kabul it is stated that the reports of fresh gatherings still continue. There is nothing very definite at present. The opposition appears to be concentrating at Ghuzni.

Calcutta, 23rd January.—Advices from Kabul dated 22nd instant, state that the Bala Hissar has been brought into telegraphic communication with Sherpur. Supplies are being brought in fairly well. Gularam and other malcontents are doing their best to keep up the excitement in Logar, but no serious disturbance is reported either from there or Kohistan. Mullah Mieshi Alam has gone to his own village about six miles from Ghazni. Mahomed Jan's whereabouts are still uncertain. Some reports say he is in Kottiwari, others that he has gone to Ghuzni. From the Ghuzni direction news comes of further fighting between the Huzaras and the Ghuzni insurgents. Advices from Kandahar state that a Ghuzni was killed inside the gate of the fort on the 17th while attacking a sergeant of engineers, who was unhurt. He is supposed to be a Talibaliim from the country north of Lelat.

St. Petersburg, 28th January.—The semi-official *Agence Russa* declares that there is no foundation for the statement that Russian troops are being concentrated on the Polish frontier, and also states that the Russian Government has not offered to withdraw troops from that quarter at the desire of the German and Austrian Governments, as was reported. The only foundation for the reported Russian defeat at Telikialar lies in the capture of a transport train by the Tekke Turkomans.

London, 29th January.—It is stated that the Home Rulers in Mayo will start Messrs. Davitt and Brennan as members of Parliament on condition that they abstain from attending Parliament.

The Duchess of Marlborough yesterday addressed a meeting of the relief fund committee, and repudiated aspersions made by Mr. Parnell.

A Moscow paper states that General Turgakosow has arrived at Tiflis with the object of discussing the possibility of Russia continuing offensive operations against the Tekke Turkomans, considering the great scarcity of camels.

London, 28th January.—Major-General Clifford temporarily succeeds Sir Garnet Wolseley at the Cape.

The Mayor of Dublin attended a levee held by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland yesterday, which will probably effect a reconciliation.

Obituary.—Major-General Woods, of the Madras Army; and Major-General Boyd, of the Bengal Army.

Vienna, 28th January.—In a speech by the Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, he said the Austrian policy towards France was pacific and that France was not threatened by the Austro-German alliance. He added that the relations between Austria and Russia were very friendly.

London, 28th January.—The Ceylon Government Loan has been subscribed seven times.

St. Petersburg, 30th January.—The *Golos* advocates a reconciliation with the Poles, and reasserts that negotiations are believed to have failed for the establishment of an independent Polish kingdom.

## THE JAPANESE PRESS.

### THE WAR MINISTER'S NOTIFICATION.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

THE Minister for War issued a notification on the 12th instant to the following effect:—"Cadets, non-commissioned officers, and the rank and file of the army have been forbidden to attend political lectures and meetings, yet it is reported that some are in the habit of acting in contravention to this regulation. They are therefore ordered to strictly observe the rule in question." On reading this notification we commiserated the military forces throughout the Empire upon their unhappy condition, and, as the matter has caused us great concern, we will now offer a few ob-

servations, with a view to procuring the cancellation of the notification.

Before this regulation came into operation, our editor, who is in the habit of delivering lectures at different places in Tokio, frequently noticed among the audience men attired in military garb, sitting quietly listening to the discourse. The lecturer was invariably gratified when soldiers were present, as he knew that with them, as with Government officials and newspaper editors, Sunday is the one day of relaxation from the toil of the week. Most soldiers devote their leisure to guzzling and gluttony, but these particular men preferred to avoid the contaminations inseparable from such a debased line of conduct and desired instead to improve their minds by attending lectures, thus showing an excellent example both to their fellow-soldiers and fellow-countrymen generally.

Who in walking through the streets of the capital has not been attracted by sounds of quarrelling and fighting, and on making inquiry has not found that the rioters were drunken soldiers? Is it not the case that the vast majority of the disturbances so common in Tokio on Sundays are caused by the intoxicated soldiery enjoying their hours of relaxation in the only way open to them? Compare the brutal conduct of these Sunday revellers with that of the orderly attendants at the lectures, and then say which is more desirable? Whenever we witnessed these scenes of drunken debauchery we became more and more impressed with the admirable behaviour of those soldiers who preferred listening to a quiet discourse; in fact, we came at length to regard them as "beautiful flowers growing out of a muddy pond." Now the Minister for War has issued a stringent order forbidding the soldiery from attending lectures. We confess we are wholly unable to arrive at a satisfactory reason for the promulgation of this regulation.

What is meant by the "rank and file"? According to the revised military code, the army of Japan is divided into the soldiers serving with the colours, the reserve, and the second reserve. The term of service is three years in the first division, three in the second and four in the third—in all ten years. Now, if the "rank and file" comprises the soldiers in the first, second, and third divisions, as certainly appears reasonable, then under the terms of the notification all the young men in the country will be prevented from attending lectures for the long period of ten years!

The revised code also states that "the reserve forces may reside at their own dwellings except when called out for active service." Thus it appears that although they are allowed the privilege of living in their own homes, they still are denied liberty to attend lectures. If this is the case we are certainly astonished at the stringency of the regulation. Surely "rank and file" must mean simply the men on actual service?

We believe the Minister for War permits the soldiers to read books and newspapers. How is it then that they are prohibited from attending lectures? In what respect does a lecture differ from a newspaper? They both express the opinions of learned men; the one delivered orally, the other in writing. Reading a newspaper is permitted, listening to a lecture forbidden: freedom is granted to the eyes and denied to the ears!

Some people say that the Minister is only following the example of European nations where the soldiers are neither allowed to attend lectures or read the papers, and the course adopted is defended by referring to the case of Germany and France. They allege that in Germany, before the war, the soldiers were debarred from reading papers, while in France the contrary was the case, and that in consequence the discipline of the French army deteriorated, and was overcome by that of the Germans, and the streets of Paris resounded with the tramp of the victorious hosts. This is the argument of those who defend the notification! We certainly did hear some such rumour a long time ago, but we attributed it to the ignorant Europeans. We never thought to find our countrymen adopting such an erroneous idea. However, the notification shews that our military authorities share the opinions of the ignorant Europeans and we cannot avoid expressing our regret that such should be the case.

Now it is very well known that Napoleon III. had a very powerful army, and that, before his defeat by the Germans, the French armies were uniformly successful; they achieved great victories and conquered many

countries. If the reading of newspapers and attending lectures caused the French soldiers to become cowardly, how are their victories before the war with Germany to be accounted for? We all know perfectly well that at no time were Napoleon's soldiers prohibited from reading papers and attending lectures, and therefore their victories and defeats are in no way connected with their doing so, but depended entirely upon the relative skill of their adversaries. Take the case of the war between the northern and southern states of America. The north always published full accounts of proceedings, and ultimately defeated the powerful and desperate southern army, and restored the constitution of the United States to its former position. It appears to us that forbidding soldiers to acquire knowledge will not increase their powers as an engine of warfare, and we therefore desire to see the late notification rescinded, in order, if possible, to check the discreditable drunken squabbles so prevalent among the soldiers in Tokio.

#### A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

THE following memorial praying for the establishment of a representative assembly has been presented to His Excellency Sanjo Sanetomi, the Prime Minister, by Messrs. Masuda, Yendo, Akiyama, Minegishi, Chiba, Atami, &c., acting on behalf of the local assembly of the prefecture of Miyagi:—

To His Excellency SANJO SANETOMI,  
Prime Minister.

We have the honour to present to your Excellency the following memorial:—

We consider that in a great many respects the management of a country is like the regulation of water. It is impossible altogether to restrain the force of a running stream, and therefore those who are acquainted with hydraulics learn how to humour and direct the force of the current so as to avoid damage. When a flood occurs the surface of the adjoining land is submerged. The same happens to the administration of a country. When the pent-up excitement of a nation breaks forth, no force can restrain the people from accomplishing their desires; they must be allowed to attain their ends in order to avoid disastrous consequences. This submission to the will of the people is, we consider, the proper way to control their actions.

We have ascertained, as the result of careful investigation, that the people of Japan have developed a spirit of independence, and now thoroughly appreciate the respective rights of the monarch and the general mass of the community. The result of the knowledge is an ever-increasing demand for the establishment of a constituent assembly, vesting legislative power in the people, and it is now very apparent that the movement will never cease until the required object is achieved.

We respectfully submit that, until legislative powers are lodged in the hands of the people through their representatives, the judicature cannot be placed on a thoroughly satisfactory footing; and if this be the case with the judicature with how much more force does it apply to the executive? When the people are properly represented in the Government, and the judicature and executive are in a satisfactory condition, then the wealth and prosperity of a nation increases. Every nation in Europe enjoys the advantages which are termed "constitutional government."

His Imperial Majesty, the great and gracious Emperor who now rules over us with the assistance of your Excellency's wisdom and experience, leaves nothing to be desired in conducting the administration of the country, and yet dissatisfaction is prevalent at home, while abroad we suffer by reason of the exaction of foreigners. How is this to be explained? Is it not because no proper feeling of harmony has been established between the governors and the governed?

The prosperity of a country is inseparable from the prosperity of its inhabitants; the Government and people should therefore act in unison. Can it be right that the Government should alone be charged with all affairs pertaining to the welfare of the state?

It is indisputable that the most urgently pressing measure is the establishment of a constituent assembly, so that the people shall take a part in legislative functions. Thus the

three great bodies which go to build up prosperous communities would be working in harmony, and the welfare of the Empire advanced as that of a single individual.

It is within our memory that His Majesty the Emperor, when he first ascended the imperial throne, made solemn oath before Heaven that "the will of the people shall be ascertained and the administration of the Empire carried on conformably with their wishes." Seven years afterwards His Imperial Majesty issued an edict that "constitutional government shall be gradually introduced." His Majesty's virtues are indeed great and his wisdom profound. Is there any other means of ascertaining the will of the people and introducing constitutional government, except by the establishment of a national assembly?

At the time we refer to, His Majesty evidently desired to grant political rights to the people, but they treated the matter with an indifference born of ignorance, and although the ex-privy councillor Goto Shojiro and others presented a memorial on the subject, there were many among the public who expressed a conviction that the country was not ripe for so radical an innovation. Thus the matter has been put off until the present day.

The circumstances of the Empire are, however, very different now to those of the 7th year of Meiji (1874.) Not only do the people no longer think that the establishment of a constituent assembly would be premature, but societies and leagues have been formed throughout the length and breadth of the land, in order to secure the boon. Who therefore can now affirm that the people are indifferent, or that they cannot be entrusted with participation in legislative functions?

Troubles and disturbances often take place in a country from unexpected causes, and if those members of the political societies who are desirous for a national assembly should find their hopes frustrated, it is to be feared that they will rise in insurrection and refuse to be pacified.

Again, if your Excellency, taking advantage of your exalted position and acknowledged popularity, despises the current of public opinion, and does not seek a suitable outlet for its violence, future history in speaking of your Excellency will say that you "occupied the position of Prime Minister, but did not enforce the imperial edict, allow the people to succeed in their reasonable desires, or carry on the administration of the Empire so as to meet with the approbation of the public. On the contrary the people were dissatisfied, and foreigners still maintained their haughty disregard for the independence of the nation." How could your Excellency's admirers rid you of this blame? The subject has caused us much perplexity and embarrassment.

Your Excellency is well aware of all these circumstances, and will doubtless take the necessary steps to carry out the desired reforms with due care and prudence. We feel assured of this from the establishment of local and other subordinate assemblies in the cities and prefectures with the view of educating the people to the proper use of their political rights when entrusted into their hands.

But what course is to be adopted if the people are not content with the existing assemblies? We are anxious to avoid any statements which might prove unpalatable, but it is undeniable that the clamour of the public, and more especially the inhabitants of our prefecture, for a constituent assembly, is now like that of a hungry man for food. This is why we have addressed a memorial to your Excellency on the subject, as we have no intention of forcing the question upon you by a conspiracy or the assemblage of multitudes of people. We do so simply because we consider it our duty, having regard to the present state of the Empire. We have not considered ourselves in this matter, but only our beloved country, and if, in the fulness of our feelings, we have exceeded the bounds of politeness, we pray your Excellency to excuse our offence and regard only the meaning and spirit of our memorial.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

"SELFISHNESS," says the proverb, "is ingrained in the heart of man." This remark has a great bearing upon political organization, to which it behoves everyone at this particular juncture to devote careful attention.

If it was not for this selfishness the administration of a country might be left with safety in the hands of two or three people, and it would be of no benefit to take any trouble respecting a constitution to prevent arbitrary actions. If such was the case an absolute monarchy would be the most convenient form of government.

However, man is, unfortunately, a selfish and greedy being, and all the nations of Europe act upon the principle of self-interest, openly and without shame. Thus all the world is saturated with the same feelings of greed; and if there is no limit to the tyrannical acts of government and the submissive conduct of the people, so that a proper harmony may exist between the governors and the governed, it is plain that powerful ministers will ignore the rights of the people in order to advance their own partizans, while the nobles will employ the privileges rightly belonging to the country for their own individual benefit. Although there may not be anything of the kind in Japan at present, still it would be impossible to affirm that indirectly the same evil results may not be attained. It is, however, evident that, if all power and authority is surrendered to a single individual, he will undoubtedly sacrifice the good of the community for the advancement of his own personal aggrandizement. Should the whole government of a country be relegated to a few functionaries who will seek only their own interests regardless of the rights of the general body of the people?

It appears to us very clear that, if the welfare of a community is studied, authority will be distributed among all classes composing it. A man may embark upon a war without cause, thus embroiling whole multitudes of people in disturbances. If the rascal prove successful and assume sovereign powers, he will undoubtedly wring every possible farthing out of the pockets of the community and apply it to support himself in extravagant luxury. He will strip his followers of their wealth to increase his own influence, and by bribery or intimidation will interfere with the course of justice. The currency will be debased to make good deficiencies in the revenue, and tyrannical laws passed curtailing the freedom of the people. This is an example of a despotic monarch exercising authority solely for the promotion of his own selfish interests. Again, take the case of a territorial noble. He treats his people as slaves, deprives them of their rights, and, if they question his proceedings, throws them into prison. Anyone who stoops to pauper to his vanity and flatter him, will be raised to a position of wealth and importance, while he levies heavy taxes upon his people, all for the purpose of satisfying his own greed. Is not this a true picture of a selfish territorial noble? In Senegal the nobles and monks had the special privilege of being exempt from the land-tax. In Hungary the aristocracy paid no tolls. In France the lower orders alone contributed to the expenses of the state. In England there existed a law known as the "Black Act" under which whoever was found trespassing on a fish-pond, or in a rabbit-warren with fire-arms, was put to death. In Scotland the nobles sold their fellow-men to other countries for slaves. In India the Brahmin caste monopolized all the advantages; and here in Japan until a recent period the gentry possessed the privilege of paying no taxes at all, and there was a law that anyone killing a crane should be executed. Those in or above the rank of gentry alone could keep falcons or ride on horseback. Examples of this class legislation are so abundant both in ancient and modern times that it would be utterly impossible to specify every single instance.

Now, the foundation of all these laws was selfishness, and it is amply proved that the governing bodies consisted of persons who were mainly actuated by a regard for their own interests. No doubt there were many wise and able Ministers in those days, and excellent laws were promulgated fit to be classed with the "Golden Rules," but of what use were they when the governors could use influence to promote their own selfish ends? How much more unsatisfactory must it be when the laws are not equitable, nor the Ministers just and impartial.

This being the case, it is necessary to curb the authorities with an iron bit, in order to prevent them from following a course of action which results in such a disaster as the sacrifice of a whole people for the advancement of a few powerful individuals. Therefore it is of the utmost importance for every country to possess a constitution.

There are three things which constitute the backbone of a constitutional government and the very



pulse of freedom. These are, 1st, that no monarch can levy taxes without the consent of the national assembly; 2ndly, all laws must be consented to by the assembly before they can be enforced; and, 3rdly, no person can be arrested or imprisoned unless a warrant be first issued specifying his name and alleged offence. Every constitution contains many important laws, but the three we have mentioned are the most important of all, and if these three be once firmly secured, the freedom of the people is an assured fact, although the subordinate legislation may not be perfect. On the other hand, even if a constitution is established and these laws are not in force, two or three influential persons can rule the country as they please and promote their own private interest. Therefore, if the people wish to retain control over the authorities and thus ensure their working for the public welfare alone, these fundamental laws must be depended upon to accomplish the desired object.

Now it can be shown conclusively from the actions of some monarchs and governments that the three laws above-named are of primary importance. It is noticeable that, whenever any monarch has attempted to trample upon the rights of the people, his first step has been to violate these fundamental principles, because so long as they remain in force his design could not be accomplished. We are justified in saying that modern English history is the only history which affords us examples of how the monarchs attempted to transgress these three laws, and yet the people maintained their rights inviolate.

A demand for a national assembly has now grown up in Japan as strong as a force conflagration. The reason of this is that the people of the country are now alive to the fact that they cannot secure their freedom and welfare unless by the establishment of constitutional government. How this should be effected is a matter upon which we have many ideas, but as regards a constitution we would place no dependence in any measure of the kind, which did not contain the three great fundamental laws we have mentioned, as a protection to the people against the actions of unworthy rulers.

#### THE INFLUENCE OF COMMERCE.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

**A**N extensive commerce is necessary to make a nation wealthy and powerful. Look at China with a teeming population and vast area, but depleted treasury, and then turn to Great Britain, a small group of islands but the most wealthy and powerful state in the whole world. It is therefore plain that the strength of a nation does not consist in its extent or population, but rather in the development of its commerce.

The record of commercial affairs teaches us the decay or progress of a country's influence. Every state which has attained a foremost position has done so by developing its natural resources, but no single nation has ever become wealthy by means of a single great industry. It is a fact too that the natural resources of all countries are more or less different. One state excels in agriculture, another in mineral products, a third in facilities for communication, a fourth in climate, a fifth in the activity and energy of the inhabitants, and a sixth in the bodily strength of the people. Thus every state possesses a different source of power, but they are all only means to one great end—commerce.

For example, England is rich in iron and coal, France has great fertility, Italy unrivalled means of communication, and Germany is noted for the exceeding strength of her people who belong to the Saxon race. But these potentialities of wealth lie dormant until vivified by skilled intellect. The mines of England have been worked for more years than we can number, but it was not until Watt discovered the steam-engine that the mineral wealth of the country became serviceable. Therefore the possession of natural resources is not alone sufficient; development by human intellect is also necessary.

There are several countries distinguished for the triumphs achieved over nature by the inhabitants. Holland wrested a considerable territory from the ocean, and defends it by sea-walls and dykes against the attacks of the waves; Italy has cut a tunnel through the huge Alpine mountains; to France the world owes the Suez canal. How is it then that none of these nations can rival England?

A hundred years ago commerce received but little attention. About that time, however, Australia and New Zealand were discovered: the forces of nature were diverted in aid of the efforts of man, and great strides made in the arts and sciences. Then all nations experienced an era of commercial development, which had been prevented previously by disastrous wars and ignorance. Up to that period England alone had directed attention to the fostering of her trade and commerce. Although beset with many difficulties she achieved a great triumph, and thus it is that at the present day we find England surpassing all other nations, both in commercial enterprise and the magnitude of her shipping interests.

France, again, continually engaged either in domestic or foreign wars, enjoyed only the blessings of peace at short intervals, so that the inhabitants of the country had no leisure to devote themselves to the pleasant and peaceful paths of commercial enterprise. When a pause in the warlike operations of the nation occurred in 1763, the people of France found it impossible to be content with their political condition, and shortly afterwards formed an alliance with the North Americans, and materially assisted in bringing the war of independence to a satisfactory conclusion. The position of the domestic affairs of France then became slightly improved, but in 1789 the great revolution took place, and from that time until the treaty of Vienna, France was constantly engaged in either foreign or domestic warfare for a period of nearly twenty years. The house of Bourbon was swept from the throne in 1830, and in the succeeding reign, under Louis Philippe, the country being at rest enjoyed great prosperity. Another revolution took place in 1848, which again checked the material advance of the nation, and was followed by a republic and eventually an empire in 1852, which has since succumbed in turn to another republic. During all this time France excelled greatly in the martial sciences, and was the terror of neighboring nations. At last France made war upon Germany, notwithstanding the remonstrances of other countries, and suffered a defeat so crushing, complete and disastrous, that the nation has since left war alone and turned its attention in other directions. Of course, while France was constantly embroiled with other states, no care was paid to commerce, and accordingly it fell into a very decayed state and, in fact, made no progress whatever. However, in 1855, Napoleon III. revised the commercial code, and mercantile interests commenced to flourish, and for ten years, from 1858 to 1868, the exports increased annually at an average rate of seven and a half per cent. This is a brief sketch of French commerce, and discloses the effect which war exercises upon trade. France has a fertile country, an ingenious and intellectual people foremost in the arts and sciences, and teems with natural wealth. The Atlantic ocean is on one side and the Mediterranean sea on the other—thus affording unrivalled facilities for communication taken in connection with the large navigable rivers, canals, and 14,000 miles of railway—and if the nation would only devote itself to commerce it would soon be in a very prosperous condition. But, unfortunately, the people of France thirst for military glory, and care nothing for the peaceful triumphs of commercial enterprise. Thus it is that England has outstripped France in the race for wealth and influence.

The people of Holland, on the other hand, are diligent in business, and, while other nations of Europe were involved in war, they devoted themselves to the improvement of their country and the profitable administration of their colonial dependencies. Thus Holland has been brought into a flourishing condition, which is evidenced by the exports from 1857 to 1867 increasing at an average annual rate of five per cent. Now nothing but the energy and perseverance of the people of Holland has placed the country in its present prosperous position. Samuel Brown\* in his statistical report says, "Holland was very energetic in bygone times in the cause of religious freedom, and thus became relieved of an oppression under which all the other nations of Europe groaned. In order to defend her coasts from the influx of the ocean, Holland has constructed great sea-walls and dykes, and the people are determined, in order to repel an enemy, to flood the country if necessary. No such patriotic feeling can be found in any other country; and thus it is that Holland has many ships and merchants, and has raised herself above all

\* The native paper is responsible for the quotation.—Translator.



other nations in wealth and prosperity." Judging from this, the flourishing condition of Holland is not due to an advantageous position or abundant natural resources, but simply to the energy and indomitable will and perseverance of the people, which has resulted in the smallest country in Europe having now dependencies six times greater both in area and population than the parent country, and rivaling in wealth any other other civilized nation of the world.

(To be continued.)

### A STORY OF THE LATIN QUARTER.

"He is one of the Americans," his fellow *locataires* said among themselves. "Poor and alone and in bad health. A queer fellow." Having made this reply to those who questioned them, they were in the habit of dismissing the subject lightly. After all it was nothing to them, since he had never joined their circle.

They were a gay, good-natured lot and made a point of regarding life as airy as possible and taking each day as it came with fantastic good cheer. The house—which stood in one of the shabbiest corners of the Latin Quarter—was full of them from floor to garret—artists, students, models, French, English, Americans, living all of them merrily, by no means the most regular of lives. But there were good friends among them: their world was their own and they found plenty of sympathy in their loves and quarrels, their luck and ill-luck. Upon the whole there was more ill-luck than luck. Lucky men did not choose for their headquarters such places as this rather dilapidated building,—they could afford to go elsewhere, to places where the Quarter was better, where the stairs were less rickety, the passages less dark and the *concierge* not given to chronic intoxication. Here came the unlucky ones, whose ill-luck was of various orders and degrees: the young ones who were some day to paint pictures which would be seen in the Palais de l'Industrie and would be greeted with acclamations by an appreciative public; the older ones who had painted pictures which had been seen at the Palais de l'Industrie and had not been appreciated at all; the poets whose sonnets were of too subtle an order to reach the common herd; the students who had lived beyond the means allowed them by their highly respectable families and who were consequently somewhat off color in the eyes of the respectable families in question—these and others of the same class, all more or less poor, more or less out at elbows and more or less in debt. And yet, as I have said, they lived gayly. They painted, and admired or criticised each others pictures, they lent and borrowed with equal freedom; they bemoaned their wrongs loudly, and sang and laughed more loudly still as the mood seized them; and any special ill-fortune befalling one of their number generally aroused a display of sympathy which, though it might not last long, was always a source of consolation to the luckless one.

But the American, notwithstanding he had been in the house for months, had never become one of them. He had been seen in the early spring going up the stair-way to his room, which was a mere garret on the sixth story, and it had been expected among them that in a day or so, he would present himself for inspection. But this he did not do, and when he encountered any of their number in his outgoings or incomings he returned their greetings gently in imperfect French. He spoke slowly and with difficulty, but there was no coldness in his voice and manners, and yet none got much further than the greeting.

He was a young fellow, scarcely of middle height, frail in figure, hollow-chested, and with a gentle face and soft, deeply set dark eyes. That he worked hard and lived barely it was easy enough to discover. Part of each day he spent in the various art galleries and after his return from these visits he was seen no more until the following morning.

"Until the last ray of light disappears he is at his easel," said a young student whom a gay escapade had temporarily banished to the fifth floor. "I hear him move now and then and cough. He has a villainous cough."

"He is one of the enthusiasts," said another. "One can read it in his face. What fools they are—these enthusiasts! They throw away life that a crown of laurel may be laid upon their coffins."

In the summer some of them managed to leave Paris, and the rest had enough to do to organize their little excursions and make the best of the sunshine, shade and warmth. But when those who had been away returned and all settled down for the winter, they found the "American," as they called him, in his old place. He had not been away at all; he had worked as hard as ever through midsummer heat and autumn rain; he was frailer in figure, his clothes were more worn, his face was thinner and his eyes far too hollow and bright, but he did not look either discouraged or unhappy.

"How does he live?" exclaimed the *concierge* dramatically. "The good God knows! He eats nothing, he has no fire, he wears the clothing of midsummer—he paints—he paints—he paints! Perhaps that is enough for him. It would not be for me."

At this time—just as the winter entered with bleak winds and rains and falls of powdery snow—there presented herself among them an arrival whose appearance created a sensation.

One night, on his way upstairs, the American found himself confronted on the fourth floor by a flood of light streaming through the open door of a before unoccupied room. It was a small room, meagrely furnished, but there was a fire in it and half a dozen people who laughed and talked at the top of their voices. Five of them were men he had seen before,—artists who lived in the house,—but the sixth was a woman whom he had never seen and whose marvellous beauty held him spell-bound where he stood.

She was a woman of twenty-two or three, with an oval face

whose fairness was the fairness of ivory. She was dark-eyed and low-browed, and as she leaned forward upon the table and looked up at the man who spoke to her, even the bright glow of the lamp, which burned directly before her face, showed no flaw in either tint or outline.

"Why should we ask the reason of your return?" said the man. "Let us rejoice that you are here."

"I will tell you the reason," she answered, without lowering her eyes. "I was tired."

"A good reason," was the reply.

She pushed her chair back and stood upright; her hands hung at her sides; the men were all looking at her; she smiled down at them with fine irony.

"Who among you wishes to paint me?" she said. "I am again at your service and I am not less handsome than I was."

Then arose among them a little rapturous murmur and somehow it broke the spell which had rested upon the men outside. He started, shivered slightly and turned away. He went up to the bare coldness of his own room and sat down, forgetting that it was either cold or bare. Suddenly, as he had looked at the woman's upturned face, a great longing had seized upon him.

"I should like to paint you—I," he found himself saying to the silence about him. "If I might paint you!"

He heard the next day who she was. The *concierge* was ready enough to give him more information than he had asked.

"Mademoiselle Natalie, Monsieur means," he said; "a handsome girl that; a celebrated model. They all know her. Her face has been the foundation of more than one great picture. There are not many like her. One model has this beauty—another that; but she, *mon Dieu*, she has all. A great creature, Mademoiselle."

Afterward, as the days went by, he found that she sat often to the other artists. Sometimes he saw her as she went to their rooms or came away; sometimes he caught a glimpse of her as he passed her open door, and each time there stirred afresh within him the longing he had felt at first. So it came about that one afternoon, as she came out of a studio in which she had been giving a sitting, he found waiting outside for her the thinly clad, frail figure of the American. He made an eager yet hesitant step forward, and began to speak awkwardly in French.

She stopped him.

"Speak English," she said, "I know it well."

"Thank you," he answered simply, "that is a great relief. My French is so bad. I am here to ask a great favor from you, and I am sure I could not ask it well in French."

"What is the favor?" she inquired, looking at him with some wonder.

He was a new type to her, with his quiet directness of speech and his gentle manner.

"I have heard that you are a professional model," he replied, "and I have wished very much to paint what—what I see in your face. I have wished it from the first hour I saw you. The desire haunts me. But I am a very poor man; I have almost nothing; I cannot pay you what the rest do. To-day I came to the desperate resolve that I would throw myself upon your mercy—that I would ask you to sit to me, and wait until better fortune comes."

She stood still a moment and gazed at him.

"Monsieur," she said at length, "are you so poor as that?"

He colored a little, but it was not as if with shame.

"Yes," he answered, "I am very poor. I have asked a great deal of you, have I not?"

She gave him still another long look.

"No," she said, "I will come to you to-morrow if you will direct me to your room."

"It is on the sixth floor," he replied: "the highest of all. It is a bare little place."

"I will come," she said, and was turning away when he stopped her.

"I—I should like to tell you how grateful I am—" he began.

"There is no need," she responded with bitter lightness. "You will pay me someday—when you are a great artist." But when she reached the next landing she glanced down and saw that he still stood beneath, watching her.

The next day she kept her word and went to him. She found his room poorer and barer even than she had fancied it might be. The ceiling was low and slanting; in one corner stood a narrow iron bedstead, in another a wooden table; in the best light the small window gave, his easel was placed with a chair before it.

When he had opened the door in answer to her summons, and she saw all this, she glanced quickly at his face to see if there was any shade of confusion upon it, but there was none. He appeared only rejoiced and eager.

"I felt sure it was you," he said.

"Were you then so sure that I would come?" she asked.

"You said you would," he answered. He placed her as he wished to paint her, and then sat down to his work. In a few moments he was completely absorbed in it. For a long time he did not speak at all. The utter silence which reigned—a silence which was not only a suspension of speech but a suspension of any other thought beyond his task—was a new experience to her. His cheek flushed, his eyes burned dark and bright; it seemed as if he scarcely breathed. When he turned to look at her she was conscious each time of a sudden thrill of feeling. More than once he paused for several moments, brush and palette in hand, simply watching her face. At one of these pauses she herself broke the silence.

"Why do you look at me so?" she asked. "You look at me as if—as if——" And she broke off with an uneasy little laugh.

He roused himself with a slight start and colored sensitively, passing his hand across his forehead.

"What I want to paint is not always in your face," he answered. "Sometimes I lose it, and then I must wait a little until—until I find it again. It is not only your face I want, it is yourself—your-

self!" And he made a sudden unconscious gesture with his hands.

She tried to laugh again,—hard and lightly as before,—but failed.

"Myself!" she said. "*Mon Dieu!* Do not grasp at me, Monsieur. It will not pay you. Paint my flesh, my hair, my eyes,—they are good,—but do not paint *me*."

He looked troubled.

"I am afraid my saying that sounded stilted," he returned. "I explained myself poorly. It is not easy for me to explain myself well."

"I understood," she said; "and I have warned you."

They did not speak to each other again during the whole sitting except once, when he asked her if she was warm enough.

"I have a fire to-day," he said.

"Have you not always a fire?" she asked.

"No," he answered with a smile; "but when you come there will always be one."

"Then," she said; "I will come often, that I may save you from death."

"No!" he replied; "it is easier than you think to forget that one is cold."

"Yes," she returned. "And it is easier than you think for one to die."

When she was going away, she made a movement toward the easel, but he stopped her.

"Not yet," he said. "Not just yet."

She drew back.

"I have never cared to look at myself before," she said, "I do not know why I should care now. Perhaps," with the laugh again, "it is that I wish to see what you will make of me!"

Afterward, as she sat over her little porcelain stove in her room below, she scarcely comprehended her own mood.

"He is not like the rest," she said. "He knows nothing of the world. He is one of the good. He cares only for his art. How simple, and kind, and pure! The little room is like a saint's cell." And then, suddenly, she flung her arms out wearily, with a heavy sigh. "*Ah, Dieu!*" she said, "how dull the day is! The skies are lead!"

A few days later she gave a sitting to an old artist whose name was Masson, and she found that he had heard of what had happened.

"And so you sit to the American?" he said.

"Yes."

"Well—and you find him——?"

"I find him," she repeated after him. "Shall I tell you what I find him?"

"I shall listen with delight."

"I find him—a soul! You and I, my friend—and the rest of us,—are bodies; he is a soul!"

The artist began to whistle softly as he painted.

"It is dangerous work," he said at length, "for women to play with souls."

"That is true," she answered, coldly.

The same day she went again to the room on the sixth floor. She sat again through an hour of silence in which the American painted eagerly, now and then stopping to regard her with searching eyes.

"But not as the rest regard me," she said to herself. "He forgets that it is a woman who sits here. He sees only what he would paint."

As time went by, this fact, which she always felt, was in itself a fascination.

In the chill, calm atmosphere of the place there was repose for her. She found nothing to resent, nothing to steel herself against, she need no longer think of herself at all. She had time to think of the man in whose presence she sat. From the first she had seen something in his slight stooping figure, thin young face, and dark womanish eyes, and after she had heard the simple uneventful history of his life, she found them more touching still.

He was a New Englander, the last surviving representative of a frail and short-lived family. His parents had died young, leaving him quite alone, with a mere pittance to depend upon, and throughout his whole life he had cherished but one aim.

"When I was a child I used to dream of coming here," he said, "and as I grew older I worked and struggled for it. I knew I must gain my end some day and the time came when it was gained."

"And this is the end?" she asked, glancing round at the poor place. "This is all of life you desire?"

He did not look up at her.

"It is all I have," he answered.

She wondered if he would not ask her some questions regarding herself, but he did not.

"He does not care to know," she thought sullenly. And then she told herself that he did know, and a mocking devil of a smile settled on her lips and was there when he turned toward her again.

But the time never came when his manner altered, when he was less candid and gentle, or less grateful for the favor she was bestowing upon him.

She scarcely knew how it was that she first began to know the sound of his foot upon the stair-way and to listen for it. Her earliest consciousness of it was when once she awakened suddenly out of a dead sleep at night and found herself sitting upright with her hand upon her heavily throbbing heart.

"What is it?" she cried in a loud whisper. But she spoke only to herself and the darkness. She knew what it was and did not lie down again until the footsteps had reached the top of the last flight and the door above had opened and closed.

The time arrived when there was scarcely a trifling incident in his every-day life which escaped her. She saw each sign of his poverty and physical weakness. He grew paler day by day. There were days when his step flagged as he went up and down the stair-

case: some mornings he did not go out at all. She discovered that each Sunday he went twice to the little American chapel in the Rue de Berri, and she had seen in his room a small Protestant Bible.

"You read that?" she asked him when she first saw it.

"Yes."

She leaned forward, her look curious, bewildered, even awed.

"And you believe in—?"

"Yes."

She resumed her former position but she did not remove her eyes from his face and unconsciously she put her hand up to her swelling throat.

When at length the sitting was over and she left her chair he was standing before the easel. He turned to her and spoke hesitantly.

"Will you come and look at it?" he asked.

She went and stood where he bade her and looked. He watched her anxiously while she did so. For the first moment there was amazement in her face, then some mysterious emotion he could not comprehend—a dull red crept slowly over brow and cheek.

She turned upon him.

"Monsieur!" she cried, passionately. "You mock me! It is a bad picture."

He fell back a pace, staring at her and suddenly trembling with the shock.

"A bad picture!" he echoed. "I mock you—I?"

"It is my face," she said, pointing to it, "but you have made it what I am not! It is the face of a good woman—of a woman who might be a saint! Does not *that* mock me?"

He turned to it with a troubled, dreamy look.

"It is what I have seen in your face," he said in a soft, absent voice. "It is a truth to me. It is what I have seen."

"It is what no other has seen," she said. "I tell you it mocks me."

"It need not mock you," he answered. "I could not have painted it if I had not felt it. It is yourself—yourself."

"Myself!" she said. "Do you think, Monsieur, that the men who have painted me before would know it?"

She gave it another glance and a shrill laugh burst from her, but the next instant it broke off and ended in another sound. She fell upon her knees by the empty chair, her open hands flung outward, her sobe strangling her.

He stood quite near her looking down.

"I have not thought of anything but my work," he said. "Why should I?"

The following Sunday night the artist Masson met in going down stairs a closely veiled figure coming up. He knew it and spoke.

"What, Natalie?" he said. "You! One might fancy you had been to church."

"I have been," she returned in a cold voice.—"to the church of the Americans in the Rue de Berri."

He shrugged his shoulders.

"Has it done you good?" he asked.

"No," she answered, and walked past him leaving him to look after her and think the matter over.

She went to her own apartment and locked herself in. Having done so, she lighted every candle and lamp—flooding the place with a garish mockery of brightness. She sang as she did it—a gay, shrill air from some *opéra bouffe*. She tore off her dark veil and wrappings. Her eyes and cheeks flamed as if touched by some unholy fire. She moved with feverish rapidity here and there—dragging a rich dress from a trunk, and jewels and laces from their places of safe keeping, and began to attire herself in them. The simple black robe she had worn to the chapel lay on the floor. As she moved to and fro she set her feet upon it again and again; as she felt it beneath her tread a harsh smile touched her lips.

"I shall not wear you again," she stopped her song once to say.

In half an hour she had made her toilette. She stood before her glass a blaze of color and jewels. For a moment she sang no more. From one of the rooms below there floated up to her sounds of riotous merriment.

"*This* is myself," she said; "*this* is no other."

She opened her door and ran down the staircase swiftly and lightly. The founder of the feast whose sounds she had heard was a foolish young fellow who adored her madly. He was rich, and wicked, and simple. Because he had heard of her return he had taken an apartment in the house. She heard his voice above the voices of the rest.

In a moment she had flung open the door of the *salon* and stood upon the threshold.

At sight of her there arose a rapturous shout of delight.

"Natalie! Natalie! Welcome!"

But instantaneously it died away. One second she stood there, brilliant, smiling, defiant. The next, they saw that a mysterious change had seized upon her. She had become deathly white, and was waving them from her with a wild gesture.

"I am not coming!" she cried, breathlessly. "No! No! No!"

And the next instant they could only gaze at each others' terror-stricken faces, at the place she had left vacant—for she was gone.

She went up the stairs blindly and uncertainly. When she reached the turn of the fourth floor where the staircase was bare and unlighted, she staggered and sank against the balustrade, her face upturned.

"I cannot go back," she whispered to the darkness and silence above. "Do you hear? I cannot! And it is you—you who restrain me!"

But there were no traces of her passion in her face when she went to the little studio the next day as usual. When the artist opened the door for her, it struck him that she was calm even to coldness.

Instead of sitting down, she went to the easel and stood before it.

"Monsieur," she said, "I have discovered where your mistake

lies. You have tried to paint what you fancied must once have existed although it exists no longer. That is your mistake. It has never existed at all. I remember no youth, no childhood. Life began for me as it will end. It was my fate that it should. I was born in the lowest quarter of Paris. I knew only poverty, brutality, and crime. My beauty simply raised me beyond their power. Where should I gain what you have insisted in bestowing upon me?"

He simply stood still and looked at her.

"God knows!" he answered at length. "I do not."

"God!" she returned, with her bitter little laugh. "Yes—God!"

Then she went to her place, and said no more.

But the next Sunday she was at the American chapel again, and the next and the next. She could scarcely have told why herself. She did not believe the doctrines she heard preached, and she did not expect to be converted to belief in them. Often, as the service proceeded, a faint smile of derision curved her lips: but from her seat in the obscure corner she had chosen she could see a thin, dark face and a stooping figure, and could lean back against the wall with a sense of repose.

"It is quiet here," was her thought. "One can be quiet, and that is much."

"What is the matter with her?" the men who knew her began to ask one another. It was not easy for them to discover how the subtle change they saw had been wrought. They were used to her caprices and to occasional fits of sullenness, but they had never seen her in just such a mood as she was now. She would bear no jests from them, she would not join in their gayeries. Sometimes for days together she shut herself up in her room and they did not see her at all.

The picture progressed but slowly. Sometimes the artist's hand so trembled with weakness that he could not proceed with his work. More than once Natalie saw the brush suddenly fall from his nerveless fingers. He was very weak in those days, and the spot of hectic red glowed brightly on his cheek.

"I am a poor fellow at best," he would say to her, "and now I am at my worst. I am afraid I shall be obliged to rest sooner than I fancied. I wish first I could have finished my work. I must not leave it unfinished."

One morning, when he had been obliged to give up painting, through a sudden fit of prostration, on following her to the door, he took her hand and held it a moment.

"I was awake all last night," he said. "Yesterday I saw a poor fellow who had fallen ill on the street, carried into the Hôtel Dieu, and the memory clung to me. I began to imagine how it would be if such a thing happened to me—what I should say when they asked for my friends—how there would be none to send for. And at last, suddenly I thought of you. I said to myself, 'I would send for her, and I think she would come.'"

"Yes, Monsieur," she answered. "You might depend upon my coming."

"I am used to being alone," he went on; "but it seemed to me as I lay in the dark thinking it over, that to die would be a different matter. One would want some familiar face to look at—"

"Monsieur!" she burst forth. "You speak as if Death were always near you!"

"Do I?" he said. And he was silent for a few seconds and looked down at her hand as he held it. Then he dropped it gently with a little sigh. "Good-bye," he said, and so they parted.

In the afternoon she sat to Masson.

"How much longer," he said to her in the course of the sitting,—"how much longer does he mean to live—this American? He has lasted astonishingly. They are wonderful fellows, these weaklings who burn themselves out. One might fancy that the flame which finally destroys them, also kept them alive."

"Do you then think that he is so very ill?" she asked in a low voice.

"He will go out," he answered, "like a candle. Shall I tell you a secret?"

She made a gesture of assent.

"He starves! The *concierge* who has watched him says he does not buy food enough to keep body and soul together. But how is one to offer him anything? It is easy to see that he would not take it."

There was a moment of silence, in which he went on painting, "The trouble is," he said at last, "that a man would not know how to approach him. It is only a woman who can do these things."

Until the sitting was over neither the one nor the other spoke again. When it was over and Natalie was on the point of leaving the room, Masson looked at her critically.

"You are pale," he remarked. "You are like a ghost."

"It is not becoming?" she asked.

"Yes."

"Then why complain?"

She went to her own room and spent half an hour in collecting every valuable she owned. They were not many; she had always been recklessly improvident. She put together in a package her few jewels, and even the laces she considered worth the most. Then she went out, and, taking a *fiacre* at the nearest corner, drove away.

She was absent two hours, and when she returned she stopped at the entrance, intending to ask the *concierge* a question. But the man himself spoke first. He was evidently greatly disturbed and not a little alarmed.

"Mademoiselle," he began, "the young man on the sixth floor—"

"What of him?" she demanded.

"He desires to see you. He went out in spite of my warnings. Figure to yourself on such a day, in such a state of health. He returned almost immediately, wearing the look of Death itself. He sank upon the first step of the staircase. When I rushed to his

assistance he held to his lips a handkerchief stained with blood! We were compelled to carry him upstairs."

She stood a moment, feeling her throat and lips suddenly become dry and parched.

"And he asked—for me?" she said at last.

"When he could speak, Mademoiselle—yes. We do not know why. He said, in a very faint voice, 'She said she would come.'"

She went up the staircase slowly and mechanically, as one who moves in a dream. And yet when she reached the door of the studio she was obliged to wait for a few seconds before opening it. When she did open it she saw the attic seemed even more cold and bare than usual; that there was no fire; that the American lay upon the bed, his eyes closed, the hectic spots faded from his cheeks. But when she approached and stood near him, he opened his eyes and looked at her with a faint smile.

"If—I play you—the poor trick of—dying," he said, "you will remember—that the picture—if you care for it—is yours."

After a while, the doctor, who had been sent for, arrived. Perhaps he had been in no great hurry when he had heard that his services were required by an artist who lay in a garret in the Latin Quarter. His visit was a short one. He asked a few questions, wrote a prescription, and went away. He looked at Natalie oftener than at the sick man. She followed him out on to the landing, and then he regarded her with greater interest than before.

"He is very ill," she said.

"Yes," he answered. "He will die, of course, sooner or later."

"You speak calmly, Monsieur," she said.

"Such cases are an old story," he replied. "And—you are not his wife?"

"No."

"I thought not. Nevertheless, perhaps you will remain with him until—"

"As Monsieur says," she returned, "I will remain with him until—"

When the sick man awoke from the sleep into which he had fallen, a fire burned in the stove and a woman's figure was seated before it.

"You are here yet?" he said faintly. She rose and moved toward him.

"I am not going away," she answered, "if you will permit me to remain."

His eyes shone with pathetic brightness, and he put out his hand. "You are very kind—to a poor—weak fellow," he whispered.

"After all—it is a desolate thing—to lie awake through the night—in a place like this."

When the doctor returned the next morning, he appeared even a shade disconcerted. He had thought it quite likely that, upon his second visit, he might find a scant white sheet drawn over the narrow bed, and that it would not be necessary for him to remain or call again; but it appeared that his patient might require his attention yet a few days longer.

"You have not left him at all," he said to Natalie. "It is easy to see you did not sleep last night."

It was true that she had not slept. Through the night she had sat in the dim glow of the fire, scarcely stirring unless some slight sound of movement from the bed attracted her attention. During the first part of the night her charge had seemed to sleep; but as the hours wore on there had been no more rest for him, and then she had known that he lay with his eyes fixed upon her; she had felt their gaze even before she had turned to meet it. Just before the dawn he became restless, and called her to his side.

"I owe you a heavy debt," he said drearily. "And I shall leave it unpaid. I wish—I wish it was finished."

"It?" she said.

"The picture," he answered. "the—picture."

Usually he was too weak for speech; but occasionally a fit of restlessness seized upon him, and then it seemed as if he was hunted continually by the memory of his unfinished work.

"It only needed a few touches," he said once. "One day of strength would complete it—if such a day would but come to me. I know the look so well now—I see it on your face so often." And then he lay watching her, his eyes following her yearningly, as she moved to and fro.

In the studios below, the artists waited in vain for their model.

They neither saw nor heard anything of her, and they knew her moods too well to be officiously inquisitive. So she was left alone to the task she had chosen, and was faithful to it to the end.

It was not so very long it lasted, though to her it seemed a lifetime. A few weeks the doctor made his visits, and at last one afternoon, in going away, he beckoned her out of the room.

He spoke in an undertone.

"To-night you may watch closely," he said; "perhaps toward morning—but it will be very quiet."

It was very quiet. The day had been bitter cold and as it drew to a close it became colder still, and a fierce wind rose and whistled about the old house, shaking the ill-fitting windows and doors. But the sick man did not seem to hear it. Toward midnight he fell into a deep and quiet sleep.

Before the fire Natalie sat waiting. Now and then a little shudder passed over her as if she could not resist the cold. And yet the fire in the stove was a bright one. She had smiled to herself as she had heaped the coal upon it, seeing that there was so little left.

"It will last until morning," she said, "and that will be long enough." Through all the nights during which she had watched she had never felt the room so still as it seemed now between the gusts and sighing of the wind. "Something is in the air which has not been in it before," she said.

About one o'clock she rose and replenished the fire, putting the last fragment of coal upon it and then sat down to watch it again.

Its slow kindling and glowing into life fascinated her. It was not long before she could scarcely remove her eyes from it. Sh



was trying to calculate—with a weird fancy in her mind—now long it would last, and whether it would die out suddenly or slowly.

As she cowered over it, if one of the men who admired her had entered he might well scarcely have known her. She was hollow-eyed, haggard and pallid—for the time even her great beauty was gone. As he had left her that day, the doctor had said to himself discontentedly that after all these wonderful faces last but a short time.

The fire caught at the coal, lighted fitful blazes among it, and crept over it in a dull red, which brightened into hot scarlet.

And the sick man lay sleeping, breathing faintly but lightly.

"It will last until dawn," she said—"until dawn, and no longer." When the first cinder dropped with a metallic sound, she started violently and laid her hand upon her breast, but after she scarcely stirred.

The fitful blazes died down, the hot scarlet deepened to red again, the red grew dull, a gray film of ashes showed itself upon it, and then came the first faint gray of dawn, and she sat with beating heart saying to herself,

"It will go out soon—suddenly." And the dying man was awake, speaking to her.

"Come here," he said in a low, clear voice. "Come here."

She went to him and stood close by the bedside. The moment of her supreme anguish had come. But he showed no signs of pain or dread, only there was a little moisture upon his forehead and about his mouth.

His eyes shone large and bright in the snowy pallor of his face, and when he fixed them upon her she knew he would not move them away.

"I am glad—that it is—finished," he said. "It did not tire me to work—as I thought it would. I am glad—that it is—finished."

She fell upon her knees.

"That it is finished?" she said.

His smile grew brighter.

"The picture," he whispered—"the picture."

And then what she had waited for came. There was a moment of silence; the wind outside hushed itself, his lips parted, but no sound came from them, not even a fluttering breath; his eyes were still fixed upon her face, open, bright, smiling.

"I may speak now," she cried. "I may speak now—since you cannot hear. I love you! I love you!"

But there came to her ears only one sound—the little grating shudder of the fire as it fell together and was dead.

The next morning when they heard that "the American" had at last fulfilled their prophecies, the *locataires* showed a spasmodic warmth of interest. They offered their services promptly, and said to each other that he must have been a good fellow, after all—that it was a pity they had not known him better. They even protested that he should not be made an object of charity—that among themselves they would do all that was necessary. But it appeared that their help was not needed—that there was in the background a friend who had done all, but whom nobody knew.

Hearing this they expressed their sympathy by going up by two and three to the little garret where there was now only icy coldness and silence.

Not a few among them were so far touched by the pathos they found in this as to shed a tear or so—most of them were volatile young Frenchmen who counted their sensibilities among their luxuries.

Toward evening there came two older than the rest, who had not been long in the house.

When they entered a woman stood at the bed's head—a woman in black drapery, with a pale and haggard face which they saw only for a moment.

As they approached she moved away and going to the window stood there with her back towards them, gazing out at the drifted snow upon the roof. The men stood uncovered, looking down.

"It is the face of an Immortal," said the elder of the two. "It is such men who die young."

And then they saw the easel in the shadow of the corner and went and turned it from the wall. When they saw the picture resting upon it, there was a long silence. It was broken at last by the older man.

"It is some woman he has known and loved," he said. "He has painted her soul—and his own."

The figure near them stirred—the woman's hand crept up to the window's side and clung to the wooden frame.

Moved away did not turn, and was standing so when the strangers moved away, opened the door and passed, with heads still uncovered, down the dark rickety stairs.

A fiercer cold had never frozen Paris than held it ice and snow bound through this day and the next. When the next came to its close all was over and the studios were quiet again—perhaps a little quieter for a few hours than was their wont.

Through this second day Natalie lived—slowly: through the first part of the morning in which people went heavily up and down the stairs; through the later hours when she heard them whispering among themselves upon the landings; through the hour when the footsteps that came down were heavier still, and slower and impeded with some burden borne with care; through the moment when they rested with this burden upon the landing outside her very door, and inside she crouched against the panels—listening.

Then it was all done, upon those upper floors there was no creature but herself.

She had lighted no fire and eaten nothing. She has neither food, fuel, nor money. All was gone.

"It is well," she said, "that I am not hungry, and that I would rather be colder than warmer."

She did not wish warmth, even when night fell and brought more biting iciness. She sat by her window in the dark until the moon rose, and though shudders shook her from head to foot, she made

no effort to gain warmth. She heard but few sounds from below, but she waited until all was still before she left her place.

But at midnight perfect silence had settled upon the house, and she got up and left her room, leaving the key unturned in the lock. "To-morrow, or the day after, perhaps," she said, "they will wish to go in." Then she went up the stairs for the last time.

Since she had heard the heavy feet lumbering with their burden past her door a singular calm had settled upon her. It was not apathy so much as a repose born of the knowledge that there was nothing more to bear—no future to be feared.

But when she opened the door of the little room this calmness was for a moment lost.

It was so cold, so still, so bare in the moonlight which streamed through the window and flooded it. There were left in it only two things—the narrow, vacant bed covered with its white sheet, and the easel on which the picture rested, gazing out at her from the canvas with serene, mysterious eyes.

She staggered forward and sank down before it, uttering a low, terrible cry.

"Do not reproach me!" she cried. "There is no longer need. Do you not see? This is my expiation!"

For a while there was dead silence again. She crouched before the easel with bowed head and her face veiled upon her arms, making no stir or sound. But at length she rose again, humbly and stiffly. She stood up and glanced slowly about her—at the bareness, at the narrow, white-draped bed.

"It will be—very cold," she whispered as she moved toward the door. "It will be—very cold."

And then the little room was empty, and the face upon the easel turned toward the entrance seemed to listen to her stealthily descending feet.

The next morning, the two artists who had visited the dead man's room together, were walking—together again—upon the banks of the Seine, when they found themselves drawing near a crowd of men and women who were gathered at the water's edge.

"What has happened?" they asked as they approached the group. "What has been found?"

A cheerful fellow in a blue blouse, standing with his hands in his pockets, answered.

"A woman. *Ma foi!* what a night to drown oneself in! Imagine the discomfort!"

The older man pushed his way into the centre, and a moment later uttered an exclamation.

"*Mon Dieu!*"

"What is it?" cried his companion.

His friend turned to him, breathlessly pointing to what lay upon the frozen earth.

"We asked each other who the original of the picture was," he said. "We did not know. The face lies there. Look!"

For that which Life had denied her, Death had given.—*Scribner's.*

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

BY CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XXXVIII.

KAJIWARA KAGETOKI.

The Genji army re-entered the capital in triumph after an absence of exactly nine days. Men's tongues were still busy with prophecies of the expedition's failure, for even though the difficulties of the attempt had been less formidable, the citizens would have found it impossible to forecast the collapse of a power under whose inflexible yoke they had so long bowed down. Day after day, however, the curious multitude, flocking out to the plains of Rokuhara, saw gibbeted before the main gate of the well known castle, seven heads of noblemen on whose faces they might not once have ventured to gaze, and so, persuaded at last by this infallible evidence, began to tell each other openly that the justice of the gods had been accomplished, and to hang on the blossom laden branches of the plum trees verses extolling the deeds of the incomparable hero, Yoshitune.

From the tale of bloody trophies exposed over the portals of the Taira palace there was wanting, however, one that many would have rejoiced, but few expected, to see there; for the captain of spies, they told each other, was not likely to be found in the van of a doubtful battle. Nevertheless if retribution were not altogether blind, he must sooner or later receive the guerdon of his evil deeds, and revenge would be none the less sweet for being deferred.

But while those who had most reason to execrate Hiro-mori's memory consoled themselves after this fashion, a strange story began to be bruited abroad in the city.

In the cemetery of the Fane of Kumano there had been lately erected a tombstone of unusual magnificence. Worshippers at the shrine had remarked that for many a month past, vases of newly gathered flowers had been daily set up and fresh incense lighted beside a grave undistinguished by either tablet or headstone, and now learning from the



tardy epitaph that the sepulchre contained the remains of the Lord Abbot's niece, they understood the cause with which it had been tended, but marvelled much at the delay in the completion of its monument.

When, however, Yoshitsune rode into Kiyoto after the victory at Fukuham, two knights already known by fame to half the city, turned aside from the procession and made their way to the shrine at Kumano. Their action did not attract any particular attention, for such visits to the fane were often undertaken by the warriors of those days both before and after the battle, but for all that a considerable fragment of the idle multitude attached itself to the two cavaliers, and following them to the portals of the temple discovered the solution of the mystery which had enveloped the grave with the new tombstone. For the sepulchre was Iné's, and the purpose of the two visitors was to place at its foot the head of her murderer. For seven days and nights this ghastly evidence of a just revenge might be seen in the cemetery, after which it was thrown into the burial pit of the common malefactors on the execution ground. During the whole of that time Saburo and Benkei never once left the grave's side, and their vigil was shared by Yoshitsune, always at night, and by day whenever an occasion could possibly be contrived, so that the story of one not unworthy to have inspired such devotion, presently came to be indissolubly associated with the history of these three heroes' lives.

It was here that Yoshitsune formed his earliest and deepest attachment. The triumph of the Genji cause had furnished a theme of unalloyed delight to the whole city, for prince and subject alike recalled with execrations the reign of terror when Yoshinaka's troops enjoyed unrestrained license, as well as the days when all power and privilege belonged by the right of might to the Taira chiefs alone. These things were now fortunately nothing more than a memory. No spies crept about the streets seeking to pick up grains of profitable scandal, nor was the possibility of obtaining justice or preferment any longer measured by the degree of a man's affinity to the dominant clan. Thus the rejoicing would have been general had it not been marred by the presence of such a pestilence as had seldom visited the fair city at spring-time. For months the sun had shone in cloudless skies, and the dusty ways known no moisture save the dripping of an occasional icicle or the dew of the frost's breath, so that little by little noxious vapours, brooding in crowded alleys and above stagnant moats, had stolen out into the thoroughfares and sowed the seeds of fever and disease.

At last the ex-emperor ordered that prayers should be publicly offered up at all the shrines on a fixed day, and such other ceremonies performed as might avert the Gods' displeasure, for surely to nothing else could the people's sorrows be referred. Now among these rites the one deemed most important was the performance of a dance before the chief fane by a virgin of noble lineage, whose beauty and accomplishments should constitute her a worthy mediator between the deities and their subjects. Under ordinary circumstances the choice of a maiden fitted to fill this part might have been embarrassing, but fame made the matter easy on this occasion by emphatically establishing the preëminence of Shidzuka, the daughter of a prince of the Fujiwara line.

Shidzuka was just sixteen when she was summoned by the Imperial command to perform the chief rôle in the ceremony of supplication. Of her face and form history has preserved only this record, that to describe their excellence were not more possible than to depict the ecstasy of those who had the good fortune to witness her performance. It is sufficient to know that she was second to none in an age when nature was no less bountiful than to-day, nor the art of enhancing the value of her gifts less thoroughly understood.

The seventh and last day of the vigil at Iné's tomb happened to be the one chosen for the festival. Yoshitsune had passed the night at the fane, and was on the point of returning cityward when the clashing of the cymbals and the notes of the hautboys heralded the approach of the procession. Curious to witness a performance so graceful and a performer so peerless that both were deemed worthy to move the obdurate gods, he joined the spectators before the shrine, becoming himself, as was natural, an object of no

less observation than the unwonted pageant which had summoned half the city from their homes.

It was difficult to conceive a more crucial test of moral and physical comeliness than this ordeal to which Shidzuka was about to submit. Any shadow of natural ungainliness must have been deepened and any latent spark of self-sufficiency kindled into flame by the position in which she found herself, for not once in a cycle did it fall to any maiden's lot to be chosen for such a duty, neither might she easily forget that not by the verdict of observant myriads alone would her performance be appraised, but by the sentence of the Gods themselves. But Shidzuka added to a faultless form that rarest of all attributes, complete unconsciousness of her beauty. However astonishing she found her election to a post all others seemed better fitted to fill, it never occurred to her to suppose that her part in the approaching pageant was either referable to her own merits or in anything more important than that of her neighbours, and so being from first to last perfectly natural in all she did, her performance was so peerless that it seemed impossible to doubt the success of its object.

As for Yoshitsune, from the moment he saw Shidzuka his heart was hers completely and irrevocably. He had not hitherto lived altogether beyond the reach of those influences with which the gentler moiety of our race is dowered; but he knew at once that this love he now felt was without precedent in the past, as it should also be without parallel in the future of his life.

We need not dwell upon this incident of our hero's career, more especially as history has only preserved the details of its sequel. If any man in Japan deserved to win affection it was surely he, and for the rest, such a love as he bestowed, is seldom destined to lack requital. Men said there had never been joined a better matched couple, and the Gods themselves seemed to approve the union, for even as Yoshitsune's envoy submitted his master's suit to Shidzuka's father, the first peal of thunder was heard in the distance and that same night the long wished for rain descended upon the parched city.

The summer months were spent by Yoshitsune at Kiyoto. Rumours from the southern provinces reached the capital with more and more frequency as the year grew older, but though they told of vast preparations in progress and unceasing efforts made by the Taira chiefs to rebuild the ruins of their power, the people gave themselves small concern about what was going forward, for it seemed impossible that disaster should overtake the victor of the Valley of Ichi.

It was not so with Yoshitsune himself, however. He knew that the death-struggle was still to come and that every sword he could muster would find work to do before the issue was decided. The Heike had retreated to a part of Japan which had been peopled by their liegemen for years back, and if rumour might be even half credited, their past defeats by no means deterred the knights and barons of the south from flocking to their standard. Moreover whether by coercion or choice the young Emperor was still with them, so that in the eyes of the nation at large they represented the legitimate faction, and this alone would have been an imperative reason for not suffering them to remain unmolested.

In the fall of the year therefore Noriyori was despatched southward with an army of thirty thousand men. The point of attack was the Island of the Four Provinces which lies on the south-east coast of Japan, but Noriyori's orders were to bear away to the opposite shore routes, and hold steadily on until he reached the province of Nagato. Yoshitsune himself with a similar force marched by the shortest roads from the capital to the coast, and encamped at Daninotsu beside the reach of the River Yodo. It will thus be seen that the plan of campaign was to throw the assailing columns into the island from the east and west simultaneously; the ultimate destination of both armies to be the castle of Yoshima, where it was expected that the Taira men would make their final stand.

Of this castle's condition the Genji chiefs had scarcely any reliable information, beyond the fact that it stood on a precipitous little island, separated from the coast of the Four Provinces by a narrow channel, and that the enemy had spared no pains to render it impregnable. The channel was said to be deep and its bed rocky, while for the rest, its waters as well as those that washed the three remaining

sides of the isle were crowded with war junks, of which the Heike men were reported to have assembled some two thousand.

To assault such a position was like grappling with the tiger in his own den, but the attempt was nevertheless justified by two considerations, either of which would have sufficed: the first was that the young Emperor was known to be imprisoned, or at any rate residing in the castle; the second that with such a force of ships at their command, any digression on the part of their foes might enable the Heike captains to make a sudden and irresistible descent upon the capital itself. So far as natural obstacles were concerned the valley of Ichi had enjoyed even a more deterrent reputation, and Yoshitsune was not alone in the reflection that the confidence strength inspires sometimes makes the strong most vulnerable.

Before leaving the capital he waited on the ex-emperor, and having tendered his thanks for the confidence hitherto reposed in him, solemnly declared his determination never to revisit Kiyo until he had exterminated the chiefs of the clan and made the imperial authority supreme from sea to sea. There was no undue assurance in this undertaking. It was simply intended as a public record of his resolve, and was in great part dictated by a dread that among those associated with him in the campaign there might be found some secretly disposed to plead the enemy's cause. The followers of the white pennon were not all Genji. A few were governed by expediency rather than fealty, and it is not impossible that even then Yoshitsune had some prescience of the unhappy future, else why on the eve of the march should he have ordered, nay entreated all to remain behind who had any reluctance to cross swords with old friends or any doubts as to the policy of the campaign.

So soon as the troops reached the sea a council of war was held as to the best method of conducting the attack. Probably Yoshitsune had already formed his own resolution in the matter, but he was politic enough to feign uncertainty with the view of ascertaining his followers' sentiments no less than of seeming to seek their advice.

The question submitted for consideration was whether a disembarkation should be effected at some point eastward of the castle and the assault delivered on the land face, or whether a direct advance by sea was more advisable.

Among the assembled knights was Kajiwara Kageotoki, the same man who had saved Yoritomo's life when he lay concealed behind the fallen pine tree after the battle of the Stone Bridge. Kajiwara found himself now for the first time an associate of the young general whose name was on everybody's lips. He had come southward with his three sons a few months after the affair of the Valley of Ichi, and though he enjoyed the reputation of a brave captain and an astute strategist, that very incident in his career which gave him so large a claim upon the Genji's gratitude was little calculated to secure the confidence of his new allies. It may be that he himself divined something of this, for the advice he tendered at the council was a combination of courage and craft, modelled no doubt upon the public interpretation of Yoshitsune's own strategy.

He suggested a direct advance upon the castle of Yashima from the sea side, but at the same time proposed that the boats should be propelled stern foremost, half the oars to be reversed for that purpose, while the other half should be shipped in the usual fashion but only employed in the event of retreat.

Astonished at this strange scheme and little relishing the alternative it evidently contemplated, Yoshitsune was nevertheless careful not to condemn it too hastily. He asked Kajiwara to explain himself more fully, pleading that his own ignorance of nautical matters made it difficult for him to understand the details of such a proceeding.

"It is a very simple device," explained the knight, "and not by any means without precedent of success. In affairs by sea the trouble is that between advance and retreat there is necessarily an interval during which neither defence nor retaliation is possible. My proposal aims at nothing more than the removal of that interval."

"Then in brief the gist of your plan, so far as I can comprehend it, is to provide a facile means of retreat. Is not that so?" inquired Yoshitsune.

"It is even as you say," Kajiwara replied, not a whit disconcerted by this unflattering interpretation of his pro-

ject. "Men who are wont to be carried to the battle by horses that obey a word as readily as a blow, do not conceive the difficulties of manœuvring an unwieldy boat, and many a disaster has been induced by the evils of that inexperience."

"So then our chief thought on the eve of battle should be to prepare the way for flight," returned Yoshitsune with an irrepressible sneer. "Surely that were a novel fashion of fighting! Not far removed from the plan of going backwards into the mellay that one may be able to run out of it the quicker."

Kajiwara's face flushed crimson at these words. They were apparently not spoken with the design of humiliating him, but the merriment they excited amongst the surrounding knights was bitterer than the most pointed insult.

"I have always been taught," he retorted angrily, "that the preservation of his soldiers' lives is a not less cardinal part of a general's duty than the destruction of his foes. The impetuous warrior that knows only how to advance and thinks nothing of retreat, can scarcely be counted better than a wild-hog or a tiger's cub. To you indeed whose eyes are still dazzled by the fire of youthful ardour all this may be unintelligible, but it is none the less a lesson you must needs learn sooner or later."

It was now Yoshitsune's turn to change colour. "For my part," he said and his hearers were not surprised to observe that his voice trembled slightly, "from the moment I take the field I have no thought save the desire to close with my foe and overcome him or die in the effort. If a soldier must needs set so much store by his own safety, it were better that he should hang up his sword and busy himself with the mattock and the seed-jar. I doubt not you will one day have an opportunity of testing the benefits of your method, Kajiwara, and when you find yourself chief in command, there will be nothing to prevent you from reversing your oars in a hundred, nay a thousand boats, but meanwhile you will permit me to reject a device that would ever afterwards be a memory of shame."

Again the assembled nobles broke into a shout of merriment at Kajiwara's expense, but those that knew Yoshitsune best waited in anxious silence for his next words. It must have been indeed a sharp stroke that had pierced his almost invulnerable mail of self-control, and the wound was not likely to be easily healed. "However these things may be, Kajiwara," he presently resumed "whether you be wise and I foolish, whether this be incapacity and that, experience, I were certainly not fitted to command this army if I suffered my captains openly to compare me to a wild-hog, or a tiger's cub. Of that at least there can be no doubt. Soldiers," he added, turning to his guards, "let Kajiwara be arrested. He shall have an opportunity of justifying himself before more impartial judges."

Benkei and Saburo were standing behind Yoshitsune. Themselves enraged beyond measure at Kajiwara's insolent speech they stepped forward with all promptitude to execute their chief's orders, but Kajiwara was seated at some distance from the dais, so that before they could reach him, he had sprung to his feet and fitted an arrow to his bow. At the same time his three sons grasped their swords and ranged themselves at their father's side in an attitude that left no doubt of their intentions.

Yoshitsune had in all probability anticipated this. He rose very deliberately from his seat, and laying his hand on the hilt of his sword advanced slowly towards Kajiwara. There was not perhaps another man in Japan who would have shown himself so unconcerned in the presence of such a peril, for at a distance of half a dozen paces any bow-man, however much his skill fell short of Kajiwara's, could not have missed his mark. On the other hand neither Benkei nor Saburo made any attempt to interfere. From the moment Yoshitsune rose to his feet they disposed themselves merely to support him, knowing full well that let Kajiwara's aim be never so true and his motions never so quick, his ears would be deaf to all sound before the bowstring he held twanged.

Would that it might have been so! This is the wish that posterity, made wise by the sad sequel, has echoed over and over again and which we in our turn repeat. It might not have been altogether just that Kajiwara should have fallen by the hand of the man whose brother's life he had saved, but if the fitness of things be any degree ruled

by their issues, it would have been better, a thousand times better, that he had died then and there than that living he should have wrought the evil it will presently be our task to record.

Unfortunately, however, there were others present who, partly influenced by solicitude for Yoshitsune's safety, partly prompted by a sense of duty, felt themselves obliged to interfere. A score of strong arms were thrown about the disputants and some of the older noblemen entreated Yoshitsune to think twice before he engaged in a quarrel which at best would be an evil omen for the success of the expedition they were about to undertake. Words might be recalled but deeds never, and if Kajiware had spoken inadvisedly on this occasion, he had established a claim to no common consideration on another. Moreover a story of wrangling and bloodshed almost in the presence of the enemy would sound ill in Yoritomo's ears, while on the other hand an example of forbearance and magnanimity could not fail to increase the army's confidence in a leader they all sought to imitate.

Yoshitsune easily suffered himself to be persuaded. The prospect of a combat had restored all his wonted calm, and he said with a merry laugh as he resumed his seat:—"In truth I had not thought myself so easily moved. Men might have said that there was some truth in Kajiware's simile but for your interference, my lords, and I owe you no light thanks. Let this foolish business end here. To-morrow at dawn of day we shall embark for Shikoku, and though I may not adopt Kajiware's suggestion, I think I can promise him that we shall not be over long before we close with our foes."

(To be continued.)

#### DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

'Tis poetical, doubtless, to sigh  
For "a cradle that's rocked by the deep,"  
But a bed that's moored tightly, say I,  
Is a better incentive to sleep:  
Don't believe all the stories and stuff  
'Bout the waves and the breezes so free,"  
For if Neptune's inclined to be rough  
You'll get heartily sick of the sea!

1.

A trusty weapon, highly prized in stern duello's strife,  
As exquisitely fitted to let out a rival's life.

2.

The name of a remarkable (perhaps fictitious) bird;  
Within the poultry-yard, at least, I fancy 'tis unheard.

3.

Be slow to wrath, or certainly some evil will betide;  
For anger's oft with greatest difficulty pacified.

4.

An interesting spot am I, and dear to any man  
Who loves to scan the relics of the days of 'Old Japan.'

5.

A staple article of trade in this you may behold;  
And yet as you perhaps are tired, I'll let it rest untold.

HOODLUM.

ANSWER TO TRIPLE ACROSTIC, OF FEB. 21ST, BY "AU REVOIR."

<i>Fare</i>	<i>Thee</i>	<i>Well</i>
F lo T W		
A t H E		
R o b e r t t h E	l o n D e v i	L

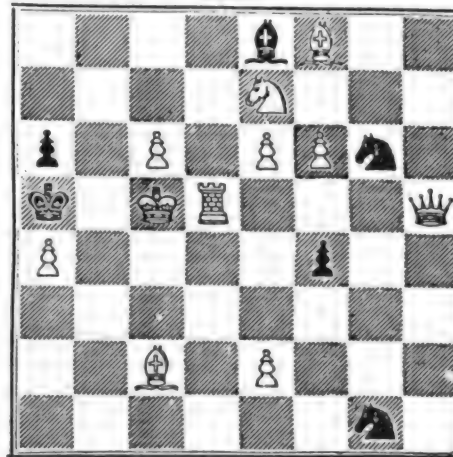
<i>Come</i>	<i>Back</i>	<i>Soon</i>
C a B o b S		
O r l A a n d O		
M e r C u t i O		
E i K o N		

No correct answer received.

#### CHESS PROBLEM,

By S. A. HARRISON:

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF FEB. 21ST, BY R. BRAUNE.

White:

1—Q. to Q. R. 8.

2—K. to K. 2.

3—mate.

2—Q. takes P. ch.

3—R. dis. ch., mate.

2—Q. to R. sq.

3—mate.

No answers received.

Black:

1—B. takes Q!

2—Any.

1—B. takes Kt.

2—K. takes Q.

1—Kt. to Q. 3.

#### NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 28th February, 1880.)

	Yen Satz.			Gold Yen.	Nibu.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
	A.M.	Noon	Clos- ing.				
1880.							
Monday.....	Feb. 23	567	570	567½	374	326	113
Tuesday.....	" 24	569	565	566	—	—	—
Wednesday.....	" 25	563	568	566	—	—	—
Thursday.....	" 26	564	561½	566	—	—	—
Friday.....	" 27	568	566½	568½	—	—	—
Saturday.....	" 28	569	568	569	—	—	—

#### NEXT MAIL DUE FROM

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 1st*
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 11th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Mar. 2nd†
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 1st
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 6th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 2nd
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 2nd
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Mar. 2nd

\* Left San Francisco, 7th February, City of Peking.

† Left Hongkong, 22nd February, China.

#### NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

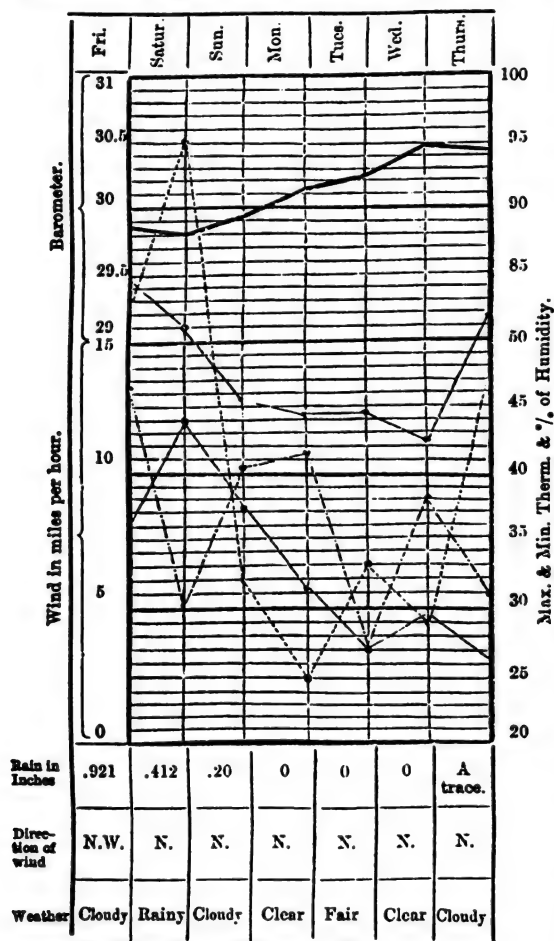
AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 9th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 13th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG, .....	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 8th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG, .....	M. M. Co.	Mar. 8th
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 6th
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 6th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 4th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 4th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Mar. 3rd

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.



## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH, 1880.  
Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujimicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.  
Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.  
.....represents velocity of wind  
.....percentage of humidity  
Max. velocity of wind 28 miles per hour on Friday, at 5 a.m.  
The barometer is reduced to the fixing point and to the level of the sea.  
The highest reading of the barometer was 30.539 inches on Thursday, at 7 a.m. This is the greatest recorded barometrical height for a period of more than one year. The lowest reading was 29.752 inches on Saturday, at 10 p.m., from which time there was a steady rise until the maximum for the week was reached. The rise in the barometer, it will be observed, was accompanied by a considerable and continuous fall in the temperature. During the week there was a total fall of 1.533 inches of rain, and on Sunday morning there was a trace of snow and hail.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Feb. 22, Russian corvette *Djigit*, de Livron, 1,334, 8 guns, 250 H. P., from Kobe.  
Feb. 23, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christensen, 1343, from Hakodate, General, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 23, Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, Pyne, 295, from Yokkaichi, General, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 24, Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Moore, 896, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 25, German 3-masted schooner *Johann Heinrich*, Oestmann, 411, from Takao, Sugar, to Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
Feb. 25, British barque *Coldstream*, Morgan, 545, from Antwerp, General, to L. Kniffler & Co.  
Feb. 25, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,260, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 26, British barque *Vicid*, Peterson, 238, from Melbourne, Coals, Wool &c., to Okura.  
Feb. 26, French steamer *Volga*, Guiraud, 1,502, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Feb. 26, Japanese barque *Somanoura Maru*, Speigenthal, 925, from Nagasaki, General, to M. B. Co.

Feb. 27, German barque *Anna Bertha*, Krause, 462, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.  
Feb. 28, German brig *Gustav*, Johannsen, 240, from Takao, 1st instant, 5,700 piculs Sugar, to Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.  
Feb. 28, German brig *Peter*, Holm, 241, from Takao, 4th instant, 5,900 piculs Sugar, to Walsh, Hall & Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru* from Hakodate:—12 Japanese in cabin, and 77 Japanese in steerage.  
Per Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru* from Yokkaichi:—193 Japanese in steerage.  
Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru* from Kobe:—Captain Frask, and 120 Japanese in steerage.  
Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Rev. Mr. Amerman, Messrs. Reynolds, Sagel, Rhode, and Colomb, General Miyoshi, General and Mrs. Ida, Mr. and Mrs. Ide, Mrs. Kawada, Messrs. Ogata, Mikami, Kawada, Matsumoto, Koyama, Akashi, Iwakura Mamiya, Kawano Tanabashi, Kitajima, Kiyogoku, and child, Kawase, Yamada, Bando, Nakagawa, Fujii, Katayama, Hirota, and Mayeda in cabin, and 225 Japanese in steerage.  
Per French steamer *Volga* from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, Messrs. Scribe, (Belgian Consul), E. Dubois, Disae, A. Bertrand, Ch. Dubois, Austen, Kishimoto, and Finger in cabin, and Messrs. Delton, Rion, Tessier, Coopman, Bocher, Enault, Blanguemon, Delille, Uguen, Komen, Meunier, Le Grignon, Le Lay, Gautier and Le Boulon, in steerage.

## OUTWARDS.

Feb. 22, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Kilgour, 908, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Feb. 22, Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Drummond, 1,240, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Feb. 22, British barque *Nimrod*, Clark, 696, for Moulemein.  
Feb. 23, British schooner *Ching-too*, Baikie, 304, for Takao, despatched by N. Trading Co.  
Feb. 23, American ship *Oakland*, Purington, 1,237, for Manila, despatched by Pearson, Low & Co.  
Feb. 23, French steamer *Tibre*, Reynier, 1,726, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.  
Feb. 23, American ship, *Highland Light*, Reynolds, 1,315, for Kobe, original cargo, despatched by China and Japan Trading Co.  
Feb. 24, American ship *Kate Davenport*, Mallot, 1,248, for Philippines, Ballast, despatched by Fraser & Co.  
Feb. 25, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Feb. 26, German schooner *Caroline*, Michelson, 274, for Chefoo, despatched by Walsh, Hall & Co.  
Feb. 26, German brig *Hermann*, Lembke, 210, for Chefoo, despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
Feb. 26, Japanese steamer *Kinshiu Maru*, Davidson, 690, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Feb. 28, British steamer *Malacca*, Reeves, 1,709, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer *Tibre* for Hongkong:—Major D. McNeil, and Messrs. F. Souhart, J. Creach, Fenardant, Darcel, Maldines, A. Mow, and Hipkeo.  
Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Shanghai and way ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Tanaka, Messrs. A. E. Olarovsky (Russian Consul, Nagasaki), Ishikawa, Niwa, Ashizawa, Kato, Aramaki, Kisho, Takenouchi, Mitsui, Fujino, Wada, Etakura, Shimamoto, and Murakami.  
Per British steamer *Malacca* for Hongkong:—Messrs. A. Nielson, Lemon, Pearson and servant in cabin; 1 European, 5 Chinese and 1 child in steerage.

## CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Tibre*, for Hongkong:—  
Silk for Franco... 174 Bales  
" " London ... 32 "  
Total ... 206 Bales  
Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—  
Treasure ... \$ 9,300.00  
" ... Yen 8,000.00  
Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—  
Treasure ... \$ 57,541.37  
Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—  
From Europe ... 2,572 bales.  
" Hongkong ... 161 "  
" Sugar ... 1,017 pkgs.  
Per British steamer *Malacca* for Hongkong:—  
Silk for London ... 14 Bales.  
" France ... 1 "  
Total, ... 15 Bales.

## REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru* from Hakodate reports: Left Hakodate 4 p.m. 21st February. Experienced light N.W. winds and fine weather throughout. Arrived at 7 p.m. 23rd.  
The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru* reports: Left Kobe at 6.30 p.m. 22nd instant. Experienced strong N.W. winds to Rock

Islands: thence to port moderate N.E. winds with clear weather. Arrived at 8 a.m. 21th instant.

The German barque *Anna Bertha* reports: Left Takao 8th Feb. Experienced very bad weather throughout the entire passage, anchored 7 p.m. last evening, after being two days in the Bay. The German brigs *Prier* and *Gustave* are both in the Bay from same port.

## VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

## SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charlwood	LONDON	Yokohama
Nov. 5	Crossfield	"	"
" 5	Bundaleer	"	"
Dec. 26	Castello (s.s.)	"	"
" 29	Cairnsuir (s.s.)	"	"
Nov. 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
July 2	Fleetwing	NEW YORK	"
Sept. 3	Mervia	"	"
" 3	Clydesdale	"	"
" 3	Larnaca	"	"
" 25	Merom	"	"
" 26	Clydesdale	"	"
Oct. 3	Lucille	"	"
" 8	St. Charles	"	"
" 10	Columbia	"	Hiogo
" 25	L. J. Morse	"	Yokohama
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 7	Centennial	"	"
" 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
" 21	Mannuel Llaguno	"	"
Dec. 1	Paul Revere	"	"
" 29	Susan Gilmore	"	"
Nov. 5	Hesperia	HAMBURG	"
Dec. 18	Lydia (s.s.)	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Nov. —	West Glen	"	"
Oct. 26	Sea King	PHILADELPHIA	Hiogo
Nov. 10	H. H. McGilvery	"	Nagasaki
Dec. 20	Laertes (s.s.)	GREENOCK	"
Dec. 13	Bonanza	SAN FRANCISCO	Hiogo

## LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Jan. 9	Flintshire (s.s.)	LONDON	Yokohama
" 9	Ullock	"	"
" 9	Matchless	"	"
" 9	Santos (s.s.)	"	"
" 9	Meath (s.s.)	"	"
" 9	Sunbeam (s.s.)	"	"
Dec. 18	Alice Buck	NEW YORK	Hiogo
Jan. 9	River Logan	HAMBURG	Yokohama
" 9	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 9	Vale of Nith	"	"
" 9	Scottish Fairy	GLASGOW	"

## LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

## YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

## DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

## UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital ... \$5,000,000.  
Reserve Fund ... \$1,200,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. Sassoon, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—Wm. H. Forbes, Esq.

E. R. Bolillos, Esq., H. L. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppius, Esq.,  
Hon. W. Keswick, Adam Lind, Esq., Wilhelm Reiners, Esq.,  
W. S. Young.

Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

## LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillpotts, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.

E. F. Duncanson, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.

Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

## SHANGHAI:

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo, Hankow,  
Saigon,  
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

## YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

I teres allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.

On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o

" " " " 6 " " 4 "

" " " " 3 " " 4 "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

A. M. TOWNSEND, Acting Manager.

Yokohama, April 13, 1878.

6mly.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA,  
(HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

PRIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class, let at the rate of from 50 sen to 80 sen per day, and from 12 yen to 20 yen per month.

## BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class.....	1.50 yen per day, or 40.00 " " month.
3rd class.....	1.00 yen per day, or 28.00 " " month.

All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates, for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tl.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND RIG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16/79	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Genkai Maru	Conner	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 26	M. B. Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13/78	M. B. Co.
Tanis	De la Marcelle	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Feb. 12	M. M. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Feb. 26	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Anna Bertha	Krause	German barque	462	Takao	Feb. 27	Chinese
Coldstream	Morgan	British barque	545	Antwerp	Feb. 25	Simon Evers & Co.
Glenhuntley	Bidwell	British barque	546	Sunderland	Feb. 17	J. D. Carroll & Co.
Hagarstown	Whitmore	American ship	1,003	New York	Feb. 17	C. & J. Trading Co.
Johann Heinrich	Oestmann	German schooner	411	Takao	Feb. 25	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	—	German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matineo	Lenard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	Walsh, Hall & Co.
North Star	—	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Otome	Jensen	Russian schooner	65	Nemuro	Feb. 9	Russian Authorities
Otaego	Isacsen	Russian schooner	46	Bonin Islands	Jan. 27	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Itomo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Vivid	Peterson	British barque	238	Melbourne	Feb. 26	Okura & Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH.—Pegasus ...	6	1,124	900	Sloop	Nagasaki	Com. Hon. H.N.S. Hood
FRENCH.—Champlain ...	10	1,901	—	Corvette	Chefoo	Com. Michaud
AMERICAN.—Alert ...	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ...	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostock	Captain Schauce
" Crayser ...	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Cruise	Captain Nazimoff
" Djighit ...	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Kobe	Captain de Livron

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ...	Tanis	M. M. Co.	Mar. 8th, at 7 a.m.
Hongkong via Kobe...	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	Mar. 6th, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco ...	Belgic	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 9th.
Shanghai and way-ports...	Genkai Maru	M. B. Co.	Mar. 3rd, at 4 p.m.





## MISCELLANEOUS.

# ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,  
BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.

Manufacture all kinds of

## IRON WORK,

Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.*

ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.

*See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.*

Railings. Balcony Panels.  
Gates. Street Posts.  
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.  
Balusters. Newels.  
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Columns. Column Capitals.  
Brackets. Gratings.  
Windows. Casements.  
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.  
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTHES & PORTABLE FORGES  
12 Shapes and Sizes.

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Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,  
LONDON.

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TRANSLATIONS from JAPANESE into ENGLISH or Vice-Versa undertaken by the advertiser, a Japanese who is well versed in the English Language, and familiar with Commercial and Legal technicalities.

Enquire at

H. MacARTHUR'S Office,  
NO. 179.

Contracts, Letters, Advertisements, or Legal Documents promptly translated at small cost.  
Yokohama, January 13th, 1880.

tf

## MISCELLANEOUS.

SAVORY MOORE'S	PANCREATIC EMULSION MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY MOORE'S	BEST FOOD FOR INFANTS	SAVORY MOORE'S	DATURATA FOR ASTHMA
IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES		SUPPLIED TO THE ROYAL NURSERIES. THE MOST DIGESTIBLE, CONTAINING THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF NOURISHMENT IN THE MOST CONVENIENT FORM. In Tin 1s., 3s., 5s. and 10s.		Asthma & Difficult Breathing promptly relieved and paroxysms avoided by Datura Tatula Inhalations Testimonials accompanying each box of Cigarettes, Cigars and Pastes. Also, in the economical form of tobacco, and also in powder form for burning, from 3s. 6d. to 51s.	
IMPROVES THE APPETITE Increases Strength and Weight. Bottles 3s. 6d., 4s. 6d. and 5s. 143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &c., everywhere.					

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE MARK.



ELLWOOD'S  
PATENT AIR CHAMBER  
HATS AND HELMETS,  
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION  
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters  
and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS,  
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

## DINNEFORD'S

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY  
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,  
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists  
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

## FLUID MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout  
the World.

March 30, 1879.

1y.

## MISCELLANEOUS

# J. & E. ATKINSON'S PERFUMERY,

CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained the following

## EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA, 1872. PHILADELPHIA, 1876. VIENNA, 1878.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY,"  
PARIS, 1878.

## Atkinson's Choice Perfumes for the Handkerchief,

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang Ylang, Stephanotis, Opopanax,  
Jockey Club, Ess. Bouquet, Trevol, Magnolia, Jasmin,  
Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,  
And all other odours, of the finest quality only.

## Atkinson's Florida Water,

A most fragrant Perfume, distilled from the choicest Exotics.

## Atkinson's Quinine Hair Lotion,

A very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

## ATKINSON'S Ethereal Essence of Lavender,

A powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

## ATKINSON'S

Quinine Tooth Powder, Violet Powder, Macassar Oil, Glycerine Cream,

And other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the Manufacturers.

**J. & E. ATKINSON,**  
24, Old Bond Street, London, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

**CAUTION.**—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, "a White Rose on a Golden Lyre," printed in seven colours.

ESTABLISHED 1799.

July 26, 1879.

12m. 26in.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.

Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,  
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,  
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED CHEESE,  
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,  
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,  
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,  
PLUM PUDDINGS,  
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.

## CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars they should invariably be destroyed when empty.

Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.

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# THE Japan Weekly Mail,

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JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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Yokohama, March 6, 1880.

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## THE RECENT MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

ALTHOUGH it has been known for some time that the subject of a constitutional change in the mode of governing this country was under consideration in the Supreme Council of State, yet the rumour in Tokio, on Saturday evening last, that such change had been accomplished, was at first received with incredulity. A special issue of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* on Sunday morning, however, which gave the offices and names of the individuals affected by the change, soon set all doubts on the subject at rest. And, in truth, large as are the individual interests concerned, the practical effect on the constitution is still greater. As in most other civilized countries, the men who composed what is called the Cabinet, or *Nai Kaku* as it is the custom to name it in Japan, were those who were also responsible for the administration of the chief departments of state. While having complete freedom in all matters of detail within his own office, a single Minister could take no important step without consulting with, and obtaining the consent of, his colleagues in the Cabinet. This was virtually the condition of affairs from the time of the restoration up to Sunday last, although, as in every other assemblage of men, personal or other considerations obtained for individuals a power and ascendancy over their colleagues which was not originally contemplated. The direct connection between the Cabinet and the Executive is now so far swept away as to show that a complete severance between the legislative and deliberative assemblies on the one side, and the executive or administrative on the other, is to be an elementary principle in the system of the Japanese Government. A supreme Council of State, which somewhat resembles the Council of Ten in Venice is established. It is composed of the former heads of departments, who resign their administrative appointments, and are

succeeded by men who, in many cases, held subordinate positions heretofore. The present ministers (for so we may call them) will therefore be instrumental, in their respective offices, in carrying out the decisions of the Council of State. This measure agrees in some respects with the views of men who some years ago advocated the complete separation of the legislative and executive offices. Any speculations as to the ultimate effect, or the wisdom of this change, would evidently be misplaced. The most that can be said is, that the subject was brought five years ago to the notice of the nation; that it has caused much discussion; and that now those who are responsible for the government of the country, and who are better acquainted with its necessities than any other men can possibly be, have decided to adopt the system, after careful consideration, although its adoption entails the relinquishment of a large amount of power and patronage. Under these circumstances, the chances are greatly in favour of the alteration being beneficial and satisfactory to all moderate men.

With respect to the movements among the leading officials, although foreigners cannot in most cases judge of their wisdom, or of the capacity of the new men appointed to superintend the working of various departments, yet native opinion may be taken as a fairly accurate guide. The departments of Foreign Affairs and of Colonization are the only ones which still retain their former heads. Of the wisdom of this step, in the former case, there cannot be a doubt. If, in pursuance of a general system Mr. Inouye now left his department, it would be all but impossible to obtain a suitable successor; more especially at a time when the treaties with foreign nations are about to be revised. Apart from this, it is doubtful whether the minister in charge of foreign relations can ever be removed with advantage from the Council of State. Prince Arisugawa, the commander in chief of the army, becomes one of the assistants to the Prime Minister, a post which has been vacant since Shimadzu Saburo resigned nearly five years ago. In the Finance Department, the successor to Mr. Okuma will labour under the disadvantage of obvious comparison with the late minister, whose industry, grasp of detail, and knowledge of his subject were unrivalled. But Mr. Sano has had a long and honourable service in the past, in Europe as well as in Japan, and much confidence is said to be felt in his ability to deal with the many and important questions that will doubtless arise in his department. As commissioner for Japan at the Vienna Exhibition, as Minister to Austria and Italy, as well as in his recent post in the Senate, he seems to have won golden opinions from all men. That he may obtain as much in his present post as he did in his past positions, is to be cordially wished. Mr. Matsukata, who succeeds to the Home Department, was until recently Vice-Minister of Finance, and is reported to possess much resolution and vigour—qualities greatly needed in dealing with the internal affairs of a centralised empire such as Japan. The Judicial Department is placed under the control of Mr. Tanaka, whose conduct of educational affairs has gained him a deservedly high reputation as an administrator; while

Mr. Yamao, for many years Vice-Minister of Public Works, now obtains entire control of the ministry. Admiral Enomoto, well known at the time of the restoration as Idzumi no Kami, and the last and staunchest supporter of the Shōgun, whose fleet (such as it was) he commanded, is made Minister of Marine. It is needless to refer to the minor appointments, as foreigners take but a feeble interest in them.

What the ultimate results of all or any of these changes may be, it is impossible to predict; but of this we may feel assured, that the selection of the men was a subject of anxious consideration to the Government, and that all that merely human skill and foresight could do to prevent improper appointments has been done.

#### HONGKONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE JAPANESE SILVER YEN.

AT the close of a lengthy discussion in the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, it was resolved "that this Chamber memorialize the Government to take action with a view to making Japanese yen current in this colony." Mr. Jackson, manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation's branch was the proposer of this motion, which found a seconder in Mr. McEwen, and was carried in the face of an amendment proposed by Mr. Nelson, of the Chartered Mercantile Bank, who found a lukewarm supporter in Mr. Granville Sharp. The counter-proposal, which was put first to the meeting, and was only voted for by the two gentlemen just named, was couched as follows: "That the Committee of the Chamber endeavour to ascertain what steps, if any, have been taken by the Government with a view to legalising the Japanese yen in this Colony, and what guarantees, if any, are offered by the Japanese Government to keep up the present currency to standard." The debate on the question was highly interesting, and shews the favor with which the silver dollar of this empire will be received by the commercial community in the dependency. Mr. McEwen, in opening the subject, remarked that the trade between the port and Japan had largely increased of late, and would probably augment still further. The only real ap-  
pointment to the adoption of the coin was Mr. Nelson, and his objections were, if not foolishly prejudiced, derived from insufficient acquaintance with the matter. He evidently confounded the present yen with the former trade dollar and was ignorant, or professed to be so, that the question was not a new one, and had already been discussed by the Chamber. What seems of importance to us is that the most influential and wealthiest merchants of Victoria are of the same opinion as the two hundred and more Chinese gentlemen, who are said to have anticipated them in approaching the head of the executive with a view to obtain the realization of a common desire. Here, in Japan, we all are aware how frivolous are any objections to the yen, either on the score of its present standard of purity, or the chance of that standard being lowered. This was well demonstrated by the Honorable P. Ryrie, who averred that he believed that the most perfect and reliable assurances could be given by the Japanese government that the excellence of the token would be maintained. Further than this went Mr. Jackson, whose experience derived from residence in Japan imparts authority to his statements. He said, in reply to a suggestion from Mr. Sharp, that the Tokio authorities should be requested to furnish such guarantees as the "bankers and merchants" of the colony should deem advisable: "I don't think it would be desirable to force the Japanese Government in any such way. I think it would be almost an insult to the Government. They gave us the very best

guarantee they possibly can, that is, that quantities of the coin are sent to the mint in San Francisco and to the Royal mint in Calcutta, either annually or six-monthly, for assay. I don't think it would be practicable to put the question to the Japanese in that way. They would say, 'What do you mean? You insult us.' I think we have the best guarantee we could have." Of course Mr. Jackson is in the right here, as he took care to be throughout the discussion, which he practically led, and in the course of which he not only gave some interesting information about the circulation of the yen in ports of China and elsewhere, but showed that if it paid the republic of Mexico to keep up the reputation of its coinage for purity, similar reasons, to take no higher ground, would be likely to operate in the same way upon the Japanese Government. No apology is needed for quoting Mr. Jackson's exposition:—

"The yen are preferred to anything else at Amoy and Foochow. They are taken readily and in any quantity. That is our experience within the last few weeks, and last year they took all the yen that we sent up. It is also taken in the Straits Settlements and Penang. Within the last ten days the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has received a telegram stating that Chinese prefer it to the Mexican dollar, and there the currency is clean Mexican dollars, not chopped dollars. I think the experience at the coast ports is in favour of it; and they would prefer it if it were made current in Hongkong. Mr. McEwen referred to the trade with Japan being larger than it was some time ago, and I have no doubt it will go on increasing. Communication with Osaka has been opened by the Mitsui Bishi steamers, and already direct shipments have been made on a large scale. Now it would be a great boon to this trade route if we had the yen current here. It would facilitate merchants drawing against their shipments if banks knew that they could have the proceeds of their bills sent here in the event of their not having use for the money in Japan, and trade would be greatly benefited thereby. I am sure this is a very important question: As to the reliability of the coin, I think it is now beyond all doubt, no matter what the experience of the past may have been. The Japanese are now possessed of one of the best mints in the world: they regularly send their coins for assay to the Mints in Calcutta and San Francisco, and they have the strongest motive, that of self-interest, to induce them to maintain the purity of the coinage, as they are seeking to circulate it beyond their own shores. We might say, what guarantee have we with regard to the Mexican dollars? We have no guarantee under the sun. We know nothing about the people who manufacture them, but we do know this, that they have hit upon a very profitable industry, that the coins are always marketable because of their purity, and that it is therefore to their interest to maintain that purity. And this is plain reason. But I think we do the Japanese an injustice in doubting them on a matter of this kind. I think they would be about the last nation to do anything dishonourable, after pledging themselves to the whole world. But it may be said they tampered with their currency before, and what guarantee have we that they will not do so again? The cases are not the same. The coins they tampered with were not the silver yen, but the old currency of Japan, which was not intended for circulation outside their own shores, and the Government was then barely established. But in this matter of the silver yen they are not making a coin simply for circulation in Japan, but are seeking for circulation in China and the Straits. For the reasons I have mentioned I think it would be a desirable thing to make the yen current here, and I think this Chamber ought to take action."

Mr. Jackson's address was received with all but unanimous applause. Mr. Ryrie remarked that, after hearing the speech, the Chamber might support the legalization of the coin. He added, it is true, that it would be preferable for Hongkong to make its own dollars; but that there seemed no possibility of that event being realized. In fine, the action taken by the colonial Chamber of Commerce may be held to be the virtual admission of the Japanese silver yen to



equality of currency with the Mexican dollar. The subsequent and necessary legislative proceedings are mere matter of time and detail. Japan is certainly to be congratulated upon the result; but the British colony will none the less benefit. Trade between the two countries will be aided by the measure, and exchange will be more settled. In fact, the arrangement is one of those so unfrequently arrived at—one which is agreeable and advantageous to all parties concerned in it.

#### SEISMOLOGICAL SCIENCE.

THE writer of an article published in the *Japan Herald* on the third of March endeavoured to show that great advantages would accrue to the residents in Japan, and to the world in general, by the establishment of a Society for the study of Earthquakes. The arguments which were used in favour of such a scheme were broadly as follows,—

- 1.—In Japan there are many workers in seismic science; and if a society were formed the number of these workers would in every probability be increased.
- 2.—There is nowhere in the world a society existing which is suitable for the reception and collecting together of papers such as those which have and will be written by these workers.
- 3.—A Seismological Society would command the attention of the scientific world, and obtain in consequence assistance, which individual workers could never hope to attain.

And finally it was suggested that, if such a society were formed, because in Japan we have so seldom the means of exchanging ideas, papers on any scientific subjects might on suitable occasions be read, a note published of the same; and the contributions would then be handed back to their authors to be published if expedient in other quarters.

Accepting all that has been said as urgent reasons for the formation of a Seismological Society, we will endeavour to shew the necessity for carrying out such a scheme, from a new and totally different standpoint, namely, the vast range of subjects over which seismic science extends; and therefore, in order that it should be thoroughly investigated, that the number of workers it calls to its service is indefinite.

To found a society for the study of what to many must at first sight appear nothing more than a mere shaking which can not be obviated, must appear like summoning toilers to a field where there is no chance of either fruit or harvest. If, however, we consider how much a fly which, when it sits upon a horse's back and is roughly shaken off, might have obviated, if it had only the powers of thought and observation of a human being, we may be led to different conclusions. Suppose for instance that the fly when he first settled down had watched the horse's ears, had noticed a vicious turning in the eye, an impatient pawing with the hoofs, a twitching of the skin, in very many cases it might have prognosticated the violent shaking which was at hand, and if unpleasant, although perhaps not possible to avert, was at least possible to avoid. Similarly we, instead of simply taking observations on the shakings when they come, may watch the premonitory signs, and perhaps yet provide ourselves with suitable means of escape.

How to foretell earthquakes and how to escape from them are by no means the only problems which these shakings put before us. To a geologist there is perhaps no phenomenon of nature more interesting than earthquakes. Coming, as a shock often will, from a region of volcanoes, in order to understand the origin and cause of an earthquake, he must study the nature and working of a volcano. Then, as an earthquake wave travels along from strata to strata, he observes its reflections and changing velocities in transit, and oftentimes by a reverse method of pro-

ceeding,—by studying the reflections and velocities,—he may be led to inferences about the existence of certain rocky structures buried deep beneath his view, and about which without the help of earthquakes it would be hopeless ever to attain any knowledge. Of earthquakes, whether looked at only as dynamical agencies producing changes in the earth's crust, or considered from the point of view here indicated, we shall see that they are intimately bound up with the work of the physical geologist. Just as the study of earthquakes affords food for geologists, so if we continue our examination we shall find the same subjects finding sustenance for physicists. It is by studying researches of physicists that we are led to understand the manner in which an earthquake wave is transmitted. From their researches into the elastic *moduli* of different rocks we can draw conclusions as to what the velocity of propagation of a wave should be, the motion of an earth particle, and generally be led to the proper understanding of many phenomena which at present are beyond our ken. By following the sequence in the motion of earth particles we may yet learn something more definite about the originating cause. In this branch of the study we have before us labour which will occupy the attention of students of seismology for a long period before it is satisfactorily mastered.

What are the connections between the earth's magnetism, such as the Japanese affirm to exist, and earthquakes, or the connection between them and the current they appear to induce in the wires of our electric telegraphs? These and a hundred other questions, all of which have a direct bearing upon earthquakes, fall within the domain of the physicist; and to study earthquakes without the aid of the physicist and understand their meaning, would be as difficult a task as it is for many Eastern merchants to transact business without a *banto*, or for an algebraist to determine the values of a multitude of unknown quantities from a single equation. The meteorologist must tell us what the connections are between earthquakes and the fluctuations of his barometer, the changes in his thermometer, the quantity of rainfall, and the kindred phenomena which he makes his speciality. Some may say that these connections, or this want of connection, as the case may be, have been investigated, and that we are only indicating for our exploration roads which have been traversed by the workers in other countries. In most cases, it is needless to say, the connections which have been sought between earthquakes and meteorological phenomena have been failures; but by them it remains for us to profit, and instead of seeking for a relation between earthquakes, and say, for instance, the rise and fall of a barometer, might we not branch off in a new direction and look for earth tremors. We must remember that each time the barometer rises one inch, the effect is equivalent to placing on every square foot of Yokohama a weight of seventy-two pounds, or upon every square mile something more than two thousand million pounds. Although the crust of the earth is probably as strong in Yokohama as it is in any other part of the world, is it not within the realm of reason to see whether loads like these may not possibly produce a *crackle*? Should we calculate what the load is which is put upon the bottom of the harbour every time the tide rises to a height of four feet, we shall find that the numbers we have obtained must be multiplied by three, and that the pressure tending to produce a breakage or a giving way is increased in like proportion. Connections have been sought between earthquakes and the movements of the heavenly bodies, and have been attended with more or less success. Would not these also have been more perfect if, instead of seeking *periodicity in earthquakes*, a periodicity had been looked for in earth cracklings; and have we not here, with our microphones and modern refinements in our physical instruments, a new and almost untried

ruine from which it seems reasonable to think we may extract a rich reward?

Next, we will turn to the more practical portions of our subject, and ask ourselves what are the effects of earthquakes upon our buildings, and how are our buildings to withstand them? Here we are face to face with problems which demand the most serious attention of engineers and builders. To attain what we desire, observation, common sense, and subtle reasoning must be brought to bear upon this most important subject. Lately we have had brought before us an opportunity for investigation which it is certain all those who have to erect buildings in the future will endeavour to take advantage of. Are we to put up houses like wicker baskets, which, shake them as you will, will only bend and yield? Or are we to build our houses like steel boxes, which, even if they were rolled from the highest peak of Fujiyama to its base, would still resist the jolts and shakes they had received? When we know more about the actual nature of an earthquake movement, perhaps we may be more scientific, and build our houses on principles of relative vibrations. In a subject like this we are brought in presence with the architect, who very rightly tells us that in constructing a building there are a hundred other points besides those of earthquakes to be considered. After an earthquake has once rendered a building unsightly by cracking it, it seems as if it should become more flexible under succeeding shocks. This proposition might be investigated, and if its truth were firmly established we might ask architects to design our houses with artistically formed cracks, and thus save ourselves that aggravation which we feel when we gaze upon buildings disfigured by unsightly fissures.

In all our investigations we need the aid of the mathematician, who by means of his powerful instruments for reasoning, will bring us to conclusions which mere words would always fail to reach. We need him to investigate the principles on which instruments record; we need him to analyse the results they give; we need him in all problems connected with astronomy, with physics, with buildings. To the perfect working out of seismology he is as essential as strings are to a violin.

At this point it might seem that the demands of seismology were ended, but then he who reflects will see problems still branching out, and for their satisfactory solution asking aid even from domains like those of natural history, medicine, literature and moral culture. All of us know how the pheasants in Japan will scream before we feel an earthquake as if they were sensible to some slight tremors to which man had been insensible. Not only pheasants but many other animals are affected by earthquakes, the reasons for which fact we are at present quite ignorant of. Why should we not study the connection between earthquakes and the human species? Why do earthquakes produce feelings of nausea and sickness such as many felt during the last earthquake? Is it an effect upon the nerves or what is it,—nature? Further,—might we not enter upon a broader question and consider what general effects have been produced upon the inhabitants of an earthquake country. People are familiar with the effect of a severe beating upon a dog,—it often renders it timid for life. We know the effect of a sudden fright upon a child, or even upon a grown person,—it may shake the nerves for the remainder of the lifetime. What was the action of the last earthquake upon us? Were not many of us seized with a sudden fear lest we might be buried in our houses? When we retired to rest upon the following night, did we do so without the reflection that perhaps a similar shaking might take place and be even more severe than the first? Upon many the effects were probably something such as these. A mental shock was experienced by Yokohama which in some form or

other has produced a result. If vibrations like the last were experienced every month and with varying and uncertain intensity, the feeling of insecurity which would be awakened would produce a most powerful effect upon the mental system. Living under such conditions we might perhaps grow reckless; and drinking, gambling and other vices might consequently be a characteristic of the residents in Japan. Perhaps imbecility might become prevalent; and by inductive reasoning such as this, it would be a legitimate research for our physicians to investigate the madness, and for students in ethics to investigate the morality, of earthquake shaken countries.

Buckle shews how phenomena such as earthquakes have worked upon the imagination of those who dwell in countries like Spain and Italy, and have given a cast to the character of the people. Superstition has been engendered; and the imaginative, to the detriment of the reasoning, faculties have become paramount. It is possible that students of Japanese literature may shew us that similar agencies have been at work in this country. That volcanic activity has to a great extent been the originator of mountain worship seems to be indicated in the eruptions of many of its volcanoes; and no doubt seismic energy, the intimate relation of volcanic action, has played an important part in giving a tone to the religion of the people.

We have here only indicated in the most meagre manner the number of branches of research that seismology throws out to them who wish to study them. For any individual, even should he make seismology a speciality, will continually be forced to seek aid from various branches of science and literature which he himself has never been able to master sufficiently in all their intricacies and detail. We hope that we have now shewn that the study of seismology is not so narrow as might at first sight be anticipated; that it is a branch of science which has had, as yet, but comparatively few workers; and that it is one from which some valuable results yet remain to be gathered.

#### ELECTRIC LIGHT ON STEAMERS.

THE enterprise of the proprietors of the Inman line of Atlantic Mail steamers, in trying the experiment of illuminating their magnificent vessel the *City of Berlin* by means of the electric light, appears to have been a most unqualified success, and proves the suitability of the new agent for some of the purposes to which we alluded in an article in the *Weekly Mail* of the 14th of February.

Some ten years since, we believe, an attempt was made to utilize electric light on shipboard. The experiment was a failure, principally because a battery was then used instead of the present magneto-electric apparatus. The contents of the battery were, of course, liable to spill from the motion of the vessel; and the light was, under the most favourable circumstances, unreliable. The experience of the *City of Berlin* may therefore be looked upon as the first successful attempt to use the light on board an ocean steamer. We read that the effect on board was very brilliant, and that the lamps burned with a steadiness far in advance of the flickering flame which we are accustomed to associate with the electric light as generally employed. The passengers by the *City of Berlin* were quite enthusiastic in their praise, and signed the following document, testifying the complete success of the experiment and their appreciation of the value of the illuminating agent which had served them so well:—

"Steamship *City of Berlin*, New York, Dec. 13.—The undersigned cabin passengers, per steamship *City of Berlin*, Captain James Kennedy, from Liverpool, December 4, 1879, to New York, would hereby express their hearty and grateful appreciation of the progressive enterprise of the Inman Steamship Company in utilizing for the comfort and pleasure of

patrons of the line that marvel of modern science, the electric lighting system. From the time of leaving Liverpool, throughout the voyage, with but slight and unimportant interruptions, the splendid saloon of the *City of Berlin* has been illuminated, whenever artificial light was required, by four large electric burners, the effect of which has been to turn night into day, and render lustrous with light (superior even to that of day) one of the finest floating parlours in the world. The immense saloon, 45ft. square—an area of nearly 2,500 square feet—has blazed with light, so that reading, writing, and even sewing have been possible in every part of the room, and this, too, under circumstances of ease and comfort heretofore unattainable through any process of illumination on shipboard. Although undertaken as an experiment, under the inspiration, perhaps, of hope rather than faith—an experiment too, obstructed by unavoidable obstacles, as well as subjected to the antagonism of angry waves during a wintry voyage—the electric light has proved a great success, and, apart from fulfilling its peculiar mission as an illuminator, has thrown its cheering and enlivening influence over the entire voyage, thus not only justifying the faith of Messrs. Siemens Brothers in their system, but contributing to reduce to the minimum those discomforts which are inseparable from a sea voyage even on the best appointed vessel. And that which has so delighted us as cabin passengers has been an infinitely greater boon in the 'steerage' of the steamer, where two of these electric lights have continuously shed a brilliancy hitherto unknown in the steerage part of any vessel. It appears to us that the experiment as performed by Mr. George Schultz, representing Messrs. Siemens, has completely demonstrated the adaptability of the electric system to vessel lighting and justifies the expectation that this novelty may soon assert itself as a necessity upon ocean steamers. Therefore, with entire unanimity, we tender thanks to the Inman Company for such a brilliant addition to the pleasures of our voyage, and would put on record this their latest title to recognition and credit as pioneers in whatever enterprise will tend to popularize their own line and at the same time contribute to diminish the discomforts and dangers of an ocean trip."

The unqualified success of this attempt will probably lead to the adoption of the system upon passenger steamers on the ocean, so that not many years may elapse before steamers plying to and from Yokohama will enable their passengers to enjoy the comfort of perfect illumination so eloquently referred to by the sojourners on the *City of Berlin*. The apparatus appears to be simple; a special engine of about three and a half horse power is used, fed, however, from the regular boilers of the steamer. This drives the magneto-electric machine which produces the light. We read that each of the lights on board the *City of Berlin* is equal to 400 sperm candles; and as eight similar lights can be supplied from one machine, about 3,200 candle-power is produced by a three and a half horse-power engine.

There is, nevertheless, one consideration forced upon us in connection with this subject, that is to what extent the apparatus may be depended upon to continue to furnish light during the trying scenes so frequently experienced at sea. The slightest interference with the continuity of the electric current, and the vessel would be plunged into darkness. Nor is this idea far-fetched. In the *Arizona*, which lately ran against an iceberg, all the electric bells were rendered useless in consequence of the current being interrupted by the shock. Now suppose that the *Arizona* had been dependent upon the new light. The collision of the vessel—rushing through the water at the rate of sixteen knots an hour—with the iceberg, was in itself alarming enough, in all conscience, without utter darkness being added to the horrors of the situation. Any one who has witnessed the effects of a fire-panic in a crowded theatre with insufficient means of exit, can form some slight conception of what might have been expected in the cabins of the *Arizona*, if her four hundred and fifty passengers after being aroused from sleep by the shock of collision, had found themselves, without light, and expecting every instant to be drowned in the darkness of their cabins.

#### SMALL-POX ON BOARD THE CITY OF PEKING.

THE arrival in the harbour of San Francisco of the Pacific Mail Company's steamer, the *City of Peking*, flying the yellow flag at the peak, as a warning that the vessel carried disease and for no one to come on board, excited no small amount of alarm, more especially when it became bruited abroad that the much-dreaded small-pox was the particular form of malady with which the ship was infected. Under ordinary circumstances, the fact of a pest-stricken vessel arriving at her port of destination would evoke no comment; but since there have been so many rumours, many of them entirely without foundation, on the subject of the *City of Peking* and the few patients on board, it may be as well to briefly detail the actual facts as related by one of the local journals:—

"The publication in the *Call*, of the statement by the Quarantine Officer, Dr. W. F. McAllister, that Captain Berry, of the *City of Peking*, and his first officer were privy to the fact of there being cases of small-pox on board the ship when she came up to the dock, created considerable sensation in circles where the commander of the *Peking* was known. During the day, a *Call* reporter visited Captain Berry at his residence on Webster street, and interrogated him as to the truth of the statement. Captain Berry emphatically denied having any knowledge of there being any sickness on board of the ship when she was relieved from quarantine, or that he concealed any one on board after she came to the dock. The ship came to the dock on Friday, and on the morning of the following Monday the mess-room waiter came to him and said he believed that he had an attack of varioloid. The Captain replied at once that he must go to the hospital, to which the man made no objection. He was unable to find Dr. McAllister at the time, as he says his visits to the ship were few and far between, but that evening reported the matter to the agent, and the next morning the Quarantine Officer sent the man to the hospital. Captain Berry says that when he came into the harbor he had the yellow flag flying, and reported that he had small-pox on board. He had made up his mind to submit to a vigorous quarantine, and had prepared a letter to be sent to his wife, telling her of his situation. The following day, however, the Quarantine Officer told him he could go ashore, and he did so. As long as the ship was in quarantine of course he did not consider that it was his province to interfere with the business of the officer whom the law placed in charge. At the time the cabin passengers were released, Dr. McAllister was on board, and allowed the two steerage passengers, who had eaten at the cabin table, to go ashore. The others, however, he ordered back below. This is not in accordance with the statement made by the Doctor to a representative of the *Call* on Tuesday evening last, when he stated that he was not aware that there were any steerage passengers on board of the ship until she reached the dock. Captain Berry says very truly that the Quarantine Officer should have known full well of the presence on board of the nine steerage passengers from consulting the ship's way-bills. The surgeon of the ship, Dr. Haskell, he says, was kept on the go between the hulks and the steamer, and really was hardly responsible for what took place on the latter vessel. Captain Berry says that men could not be expected to stay on board of the vessel when she was lying alongside of the dock; she was not in quarantine, and any one leaving her would not have broken the quarantine law. As to any intention on his part to violate the quarantine laws, Captain Berry says it is ridiculous to make any such charge, and his long service as a commander and reputation as a man ought to be sufficient answer to any such charge. As to the presence of ladies on board, Captain Berry said there was nothing to prevent them going on board when the ship was at the dock, and if they wished to remain with their husbands in quarantine no one should object. Yesterday afternoon, P. J. Hogan, lute butcher on the *City of Peking*, and who has been reported as being afflicted with small-pox, came to the *Call* office and exhibited a certificate signed by Dr. C. G. Strong, stating that he had examined him and found no symptom of the disease. Hogan said that he had not endeavored to conceal himself in any way, but had left the



ship, as he did not care to spend a month in quarantine. Hogan stated that he believed the Quarantine Officer was guilty of making a misstatement when he charged the officers with being cognizant of sickness on board when the ship came to the dock, as he was positive there was none there. It appears that at the time "thorough fumigation," according to the Quarantine Officer, was going on on board of the *Peking*, she was lying quietly at anchor, and the fumigation did not, in fact, commence under Thursday last.

H. B. Williams, the agent of the Mail Company, said yesterday that he did not think Captain Berry intended violating the quarantine laws, and that he had assured him (Williams) that the published statement of his having knowledge of sickness on board when the ship came to the dock was a falsehood. He believed him, and he added that the company had no better officer in their employ than Captain Berry. It is now reported that the steamer will be released from quarantine and return to the dock this morning. The general impression is that the Quarantine Officer has been guilty of gross negligence."

This matter of the *City of Peking* has brought prominently forward the fact that there is absolutely no Quarantine station connected with San Francisco, and that the passengers and crew of the infected vessel were actually detained in an old hulk belonging to the Pacific Mail Company in a state of discomfort that, to use the words of one of the officers, "the state prison would have been a far more desirable place to pass an enforced season of seclusion." When it is once thoroughly realized that San Francisco possesses no Quarantine accommodation, it will cease to excite wonder that the enforcement of Quarantine is left to the unaided exertions of "one officer, a small boat and four men"; but it is, under the circumstances, very wonderful that the City which permits the existence of such a condition of affairs, in the face of the warnings constantly occurring in every quarter of the globe, America not excepted, has not been visited with a succession of disastrous epidemics of foreign origin, which would most effectually impress upon the citizens the generally acknowledged axiom, that ill-judged economy is, in the long run, the most expensive course to adopt.

The experience of San Francisco will be valuable here in Japan, if occasion arises to again enforce the Quarantine regulations. With the numerous examples of other countries to fortify their action, and indorsed by the recent episode in which the *City of Peking* and her officers occupied so unpleasantly prominent a position, it remains to be seen if the Japanese authorities will again permit their reasonable sanitary regulations for preserving the health of the community, to be treated with contemptuous indifference.

THE Ministerial changes mentioned in the early part of the week have, with slight alterations, been since officially announced. The government is now composed as follows:—

#### COUNCIL OF STATE.

His Excellency Sanjo, *Daijo Daijin*.

H. I. H. Prince Arisugawa, *Sa-Daijin*.

His Excellency Iwakura, *U-Daijin*.

Their Excellencies Oki, Okuma, Ito, Terashima, Inouye, Generals Yamagata, Kuroda, Seigo, Yamada and Admiral Kawamura, Privy Counsellors.

#### MINISTERS.

His Excellency Oki, President of the Senate.

His Excellency Sasaki, Vice-President of the Senate.

His Excellency Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

His Excellency Wooyeno, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs.

His Excellency Yoshikawa, Assist. Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs.

His Excellency General Kuroda, Colonization Minister.

His Excellency General Yamagata, Chief of the Staff.

His Excellency Matsukata, Minister of the Interior.

His Excellency Mayesima, Vice-Minister of the Interior.

His Excellency Shinagawa, Assist. Vice-Minister of the Interior.

His Excellency Sano, Minister of Finance.

His Excellency Yoshiwara, Assist. Vice-Minister of Finance.  
His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, Minister of the Navy.  
His Excellency General Oyama, Minister for War.  
His Excellency Kawano, Minister of Education.  
His Excellency Kuki, Assist. Vice-Minister of Education.  
His Excellency Yamao, Minister for Public Works.  
His Excellency Tanaka, Minister of Justice.

MR. J. Lescasse, Member of the Society of Civil Engineers in France, and at present resident in Tokio, where he is architect of, and contractor for, some extensive buildings, has sent us a copy of his memoir upon "Japanese structures, and structures in general, considered in connection with earthquake shocks; and a description of a system intended to give great security to buildings of masonry." This paper was read on the 6th of April in Paris at the meeting of the institute of which Mr. Lescasse is an associate. The original manuscript was, we think, about simultaneously with its arrival in Europe, translated in the columns of the *Japan Gazette*. Mr. Lescasse's system has now, in more than one building of considerable extent, stood the test of very severe earthquake trials. The German Hospital in this port, and the edifices erected expressly for occupancy by the German Legation in Tokio, have both been built upon his plans, on his system, and under his control and supervision. In both instances no damage has been wrought by two startling shocks, the later and more trying of which is still very fresh in the memory of all residents in this neighbourhood. The principle adopted by the architect is a very simple one. He formulates it thus:—"A number of bricks—a miniature wall—are placed upon a table dry and unmortared. If the base on which they rest is shaken, they will tumble in all directions. But if the whole mass is compactly bound together with a string or an iron band it will be held together, and if it fall, will fall inward or outward in one piece." Mr. Lescasse applies this principle to the various sections of walls which comprise a house. Each parcel of masonry in stone or brick is strongly bound: and all the different parts are again firmly interlaced. Thus his formula is "to bind masonry in masses or parcels, which themselves are firmly bound one to the other, in such fashion that neither can the separate bricks or stones be disjoined or the walls rent." The method by which Mr. Lescasse's plan can be carried into effect consists of details which he himself explains at some length, and which would, no doubt, when once the principle is grasped, be comprehended by any practical builder without the help of ample explanation. We have before said that the scheme has already, in the buildings of the German Hospital in this settlement, and the German Legation in the capital, withstood a crucial ordeal. That his professional brethren in Europe have faith in the notion is evidenced by the favour with which they have received it; and that persons in Japan who are not wholly theoretical believe in it, is demonstrated by the fact that the erection of the new buildings of the Mitsui Bishi Company in Yokohama, has been confided to Mr. Lescasse, with instructions to apply his method, in all its details, in the construction.

WE learn that since Dr. Anderson's departure for England the announcement of his appointment to the post of assistant-surgeon at St Thomas' Hospital, London, has reached Tokio by telegraph. The large section of the community who enjoyed the benefit of Dr. Anderson's professional services while he resided here, and who may truly be classed with his personal friends, will, we are sure, join us heartily in congratulating him upon his good-fortune. However well it was deserved, and upon this point there cannot possibly be a second opinion, it rarely happens that the memory of merit survives the effacing influences of time, separation and that wealth of new achievements with which the scientific world of England is constantly enriched. That it has



survived in this case, will not, we think, surprise those who have had an opportunity of estimating Dr. Anderson's high attainments. It is pleasant also to observe that his services were fully appreciated by the Japanese Government—we use the word in its widest sense for it would be difficult to name any Department with which Dr. Anderson was not directly or indirectly connected—and that he received at his departure such expressions of gratitude and approval as have seldom fallen to the lot of any foreigner employed here. Special allusion was, we understand, made by the Minister of Marine to the fact that Dr. Anderson's treatment of *hakke*, had been the means of saving a large number of lives; and, indeed, it is difficult to over-estimate the value of his services in this matter alone. His work upon the treatment and pathology of that disease, hitherto so little understood and so largely fatal, was translated into Japanese by order of the authorities. It has now reached a second edition and is, we understand, in the hands of almost every regular practitioner in Japan. Dr. Anderson, before his departure, had the honor of a special audience with His Majesty the Emperor, while farewell entertainments were given in his honor by the Admiralty, the Naval Hospital, the Board of Public Works, the Home office, the President of the Sanitary Committee and Her Majesty's *Chargé d'Affaires*. We, though the last to bid him 'god speed' are by no means the least sincere. We do not wish him success, for that, we believe he is sure to achieve, but we hope that he may always find friends who will think of him with as much affection and esteem, as those he has left behind him in Japan.

MR. Luther Whiting Mason, of Boston, arrived in Yokohama on board the *City of Peking*. He has accepted a position with the Japanese Government, in the Tokio normal schools, as a Professor of music, a post created specially for Mr. Mason, with a view to introducing the culture of the musical art into the primary schools of Japan. Mr. Mason has, for the past fifteen years; been in charge of the primary musical education of the public schools of Boston, and is the originator of the elementary system which bears his name. He has met with considerable success in the instruction of several Japanese students in the United States, and it is their progress which has induced the Government to solicit the services of the professor. This gentleman has already set to foreign music several of the Japanese national songs, and has devoted some time during the last two years to the study of the sounds of the Japanese language, and their adaptability to the foreign scale of music. The proposed experiment is a new one; and many may doubt its success; but in the opinion of the professor, and those Japanese with whom he has been intimately associated, there is no question whatever that the creation of a national school of music is simply a matter of time. It is, they think, necessary to commence early with the youngest pupils in the public schools. The system consists of a series of musical books with charts attached, adapted to the ages of the pupils, between the years of five and eighteen. The method is now prevalent throughout the United States, Germany, and Switzerland, and has made great advance in England. Such foreign songs as may be found suitable will be translated into Japanese, and the native repertory will also be drawn upon, and its best songs set to music on the European scale. The first work will be to find how many pure melodies exist in Japan, founded upon the five tone scale (for Mr. Mason has discovered that the Japanese scale contains five tones only, being deficient of the fourth and seventh of the Italian gamut). Such of these melodies as exist can

be preserved and the proper accompaniment will be written for them. The Educational department has already prepared a building in the old Kaga yashiki, consisting of ten rooms for study and practice, and each containing a "Knabe" piano. There is also a hall for lectures. Mr. Mason will be assisted in the Japanese literary branch of his work by one of his most successful pupils, Mr. Isawa, who is devoted to his profession and has the greatest hopes of its eventual progress in Japan. Music being a recreation, and it being a matter of importance that children shall not be tired in the schools, occasional singing exercises give relief in their studies; they will also promote a better pronunciation of the language, be conducive to health, and, indirectly, effect a good and beneficial influence on society. Most educators admit the numerous advantages of the study of music. In Boston it was introduced into the schools in 1859; but the methods of instruction and the knowledge of the teachers were ill devised. A classical standard was fixed far too high to be grasped by young children. In 1864, Mr. Mason was engaged. He had been at work in Cincinnati and elsewhere, and in all places good results of his teachings were apparent. Boston has now the most perfect system of musical instruction, and the Boston system is that of Mr. Mason. He has introduced a method of charts and elementary instruction, in which, on an original plan the songs and music of the various countries of Europe, are arranged. The study of music in the schools of the United States is of comparatively recent date; but the beneficial influence which it is capable of exerting is already profoundly felt. It is fortunate for Japan that the gentleman who has been mainly instrumental in bringing it into favor there, should have been selected for the adjustment of a system which shall make it equally popular and productive of felicitous results in the seminaries of Japan. We subjoin a couple of extracts from American papers, which may serve to shew the estimation in which Mr. Mason is held in the United States.—

"Professor Luther W. Mason, of Boston, who has recently been appointed by the Government of Japan to a position in the Normal School at Tokio, in that Empire, while stopping over in the city on his way to that distant country, met the teachers of the city at the Central School building yesterday afternoon (Jan. 17th) and delivered a lecture on the method of teaching vocal music in our public schools, and it has probably never been the good fortune of the teachers of the city to be more highly favored. Professor Mason began his exercise about two o'clock, and so well pleased were the teachers, that they held him until near nightfall. There was so much in his lecture, or rather, in his instruction, that the teachers kept him answering questions, and telling how to get over difficulties, during the entire evening. To give the good points of what was said, would be to commence with the first and follow him to the close. He introduced a class from the primary department of the Humboldt school and showed how the work was done. This was especially instructive and interesting, and the teachers showed their attention. The most unique thing presented was the hand movement. It was highly appreciated by the teachers, and it had one grand advantage over everything else in running the scale or reading music. It is sure to obtain the most perfect attention. The exercise was of great value to the teachers, and they were willing to do their part by showing their high appreciation in close and critical attention. At the close of the exercises the thanks of all present were tendered Professor Mason, accompanied with the wish that his life might be as useful and his lines full in as pleasant places on the Eastern hemisphere as they have on the Western, and that he might return to us at the expiration of its term of service in Japan, again to bless his native land with his valuable services. Professor Mason is one of the most eminent musical authorities in the United States, if not in the world. His works, which have recently been adopted in our public schools, have been adopted in many of the cities of both America and Europe, and in the entire empire of Japan. He commenced in the schools of Louisville twenty-seven years ago, and left on an increase of salary and located in Cincinnati, where he spent five years. Boston then secured his services, which she has had fourteen years, and now the Empire of Japan has him for an engagement of five years. He will leave the city to-day for the scenes of his new field of labor, remembered by all who have met him here. Many citizens, not connected with the schools, availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing and hearing him yesterday evening. The *Times*, with the teachers, joins in good

wishes for a prosperous voyage, pleasant fields of labor and safe return."

"Prof. L. W. Mason, formerly teacher of music in our public schools, and now on his way to Japan, spent Sunday and yesterday visiting old friends in this city, many of whom remember his untiring devotion to the graded system of teaching from charts, of which he is the author. For the past fifteen years he has been in charge of the primary musical education in the public schools of Boston, and has been awarded the highest prize medals at three of the world fairs. His system has been adopted in many of the large cities of the Union. But the most substantial testimonial he has received is given in his appointment by the Educational Department at Tokio, Japan, to establish a system of notation and musical culture, from the elementary to a complete conservatory of music, as a national enterprise. He has already sent on six organs and sixteen pianos, and is empowered to select teachers and professors as they may be needed in the growth of the institutions to be established, and at such salaries as will command the talent and skill to insure success. One building for instruction and study will be ready for occupancy on the 13th of March, and another for the residence of teachers is nearly completed. Plans have been matured that will require five years for their execution, out of which he hopes to bring thorough musical culture to all parts of the empire, with a central institution at Tokio. Mr. Mason has been studying the language the past two years, under the instruction of Japanese youths, who were sent to this country for education and to learn the methods employed for the general diffusion of knowledge. These young men have made such attainments in music as to be able to assist in the difficult work Mr. Mason has undertaken."

WE have received from the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, the forty-fifth number of their Gazette, being for the period from October to December 1879. This volume is one of the statistical series of publications now being compiled, and deals with the trade of the various open ports of China for last year.

#### REVIEW. \*

ONE of the questions which we may be allowed to ask ourselves, in perusing a paper, such as Mr. Atkinson's, printed among the transactions of the Asiatic Society, is, surely, what substantial contribution to knowledge does it convey? If it be intended as an aid to future travellers, then we think that, eliminating the author's references to personal commonplaces, the same amount of information, in a far more practicable shape, may be obtained from the numerous cheap and tolerably reliable guide books and maps of the country. When a traveller, with proper qualifications for the purpose, visits some place of historical, religious or architectural interest, his descriptions and observations are always valuable. In the paper before us, however, we are at a loss to find any addition whatever to our knowledge of the monuments, history, or landmarks of Japan. The days are gone when a journey to the top of Fuji or into the province of Musashi could find a place in the Transactions of the Royal Geographical Society.† It is well known that foreigners now travel over all parts of the country with facility, and though diaries of such little journeyings, with notes on diet and feeble outbursts of weak sentiment on scenery, may be very good material for letters to anxious relatives at home, they are scarcely sufficiently important or romantic to send to a society intended for the increase of knowledge of the countries of Asia. One naturally reads such a production as this with the most wearisome feeling of being bored by continual repetition of puerile remarks. Dreary truisms and egotistic commonplaces occur on every page. "A short distance from the shrine down the side of the slope there was a little water which we were glad to drink as we learnt that for the next two and a half *ri* we should come across none." Such a sentence as this would probably convey to a fond parent at home the idea that her "good dear boy" was crossing some fearful wild or desert, to be prepared for which it was necessary camel-like—to lay in a supply of water beforehand. To any one at all conversant with Japan, it gives an impression that

the author is of a very peculiar turn of mind, since, not being thirsty at the time, he drinks all the water he can find, because he fancies he may want to drink before he reaches water again. This is a new notion, and if Mr. Atkinson can apply it generally, and take in, on an August morning, his supply of liquid for the day, thereby preventing the necessity of refreshing himself again, he will have made a singular discovery. The writer in another place enters into long discourses upon boots and foot-gear generally, giving to little matters, that most men would settle for themselves with scarcely a thought, almost the importance that would be bestowed upon the equipment for an Arctic expedition. Many similar and equally aggravating commonplaces of the same kind might be alluded to, such as the shape of his portfolios, the gentlemen's houses which he stopped at, the time he got up in the morning, and we might almost say his night thoughts. The descriptions of scenery bring to our minds no force of imagery, nor any of the inspiring thrills of sympathy with the beauties of nature which render pardonable in some writings references to simple surroundings. An artist's touch is required to give life and interest to scenes, which dryly and mildly described are tedious and wearisome. The only portions of the paper likely to be of any value to inquirers are those devoted to remarks on botany and barometrical observations. From remarks on these subjects those seeking information might certainly find some small amount. The money of the Society is literally thrown away upon the map, which conveys no information whatever. The author makes a rough sketch in his note book from an old map which he finds in a certain tea-house, and he transfers his scrawlings to a copper plate at the expense of the Society. We cannot, indeed, protest too strongly against the freedom given to such itinerant journalists as this, to write, print, correct the proof sheets, and then send out into the world within the covers of the transactions of a learned society, such empty and valueless material, as in this number takes up one-fourth of its pages.

The remaining papers, however, are of a different calibre. Respecting Mr. Aston's proposal for an arrangement of the Korean alphabet we shall say nothing, because, with the exception of Mr. Aston himself, no foreigner in this country, as far as we are aware, is capable of discussing the subject. But we may take this opportunity of mentioning a paper, by the same author, read, during his stay in Europe, before the Royal Asiatic Society of London, entitled "A Comparative Study of the Japanese and Korean languages," in which he considers the phonetic systems of the two languages, the functions of their grammar, and the character of their grammatical procedures.

Mr. Milne's paper on stone implements found in Yezo is another instance of the attention devoted to prehistoric times in Japan, which seems to have derived its first great impetus from the labours of Professor Morse. Besides the ordinary remnants of the stone age, such as arrow-heads, chisels, &c., the objects described in the paper are, inscriptions, grindstones, and cave dwellings. Many of these are well illustrated by photographs; but the most noticeable point is the apparent identity of the Yezo pottery and shell-heaps with those found in various parts of the main island. A second part of the contribution is intended as a supplement to a paper on the "Stone Age in Japan," read last year before the British Association. The same arguments are used in the endeavour to ascertain the makers of these shell-heaps, but new evidence, collected during travels in Yezo, is adduced. One new and striking argument used by the author to determine the age of the celebrated heap at Omori, is geological, and is based on the rate of Delta formation. The general conclusion arrived at seems to be that wave after wave of race has swept over Japan, each wave being pushed on by its successor; and the order which the writer thinks most probable is, Aleuts or Kamtschadales, Ainos, and Japanese. A very curious map of the capital, to illustrate the rapidity with which a Delta increases in this region, is appended.

Mr. Gubbins's paper on the practical subjugation of the Satsuma clan by Hideyoshi, in the sixteenth century, will attract very general interest, not only on account of its intrinsic merits in point of style and arrangement, but also because it is the first attempt to shew that Japanese history may be written, by one possessing the necessary qualifications, in such a manner as to be attractive to ordinary readers.

\* Transactions of the Asiatic Society Vol. VIII., Part 1.

† Least this should be considered an exaggeration, the reader is referred to the volume of the Transactions of the Royal Geographical Society for 1873.

That common Japanese histories never can be so will be evident to any one who has read them either in original or translation. To take but one instance: some years ago there appeared in these columns portions of a translation of the well-known *Nihon Gwaishi*, which, it is no secret, came from the pen of an eminent scholar; but the public got utterly weary and disgusted with it before the work was half done, and it was deemed well to stop the publication. Japanese historians seem to be able to give—or to think it their duty to give—only the dry bones of history; and under their hands, history is, in truth, nothing more than an old almanac.

In this article we have merely criticised each paper on its own merits, but on another occasion we may discuss the Society, as a whole—its aims, its past and its probable future. This subject arises naturally from the pan of congratulation which the late president, Dr. Sytle, utters in his valodictory address.

Incidentally, we may refer to the last publication of the German Asiatic Society, which is a complete index to the first ten numbers of the transactions, and is an invaluable aid to the student of any particular subject.

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 1st March, 1880.

Rigorous measures are being taken in Russia to repress disorder, as fears are entertained of a Nihilist outbreak.

LONDON, 4th March, 1880.

The Emperor of Germany has written a letter to the Emperor of Russia, assuring him of his life-long friendship. Gothard tunnel completed.

### The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notices will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 6TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, SED MONTH, 6TH DAY, DO-YO-NI.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

We have received two home mails during the past week, one by the P. & O. steamer *China*, the other by the *City of Peking*: both vessels arrived on Monday last. Homeward despatches went forward by the P. & O. steamer *Malacca*, on the 28th ultimo.

The M. B. Co.'s steamer *Sumida Maru*, had very heavy weather during her last trip hither. The vessel left Hongkong on the 21st of February, and immediately experienced a strong north-east monsoon with a high sea. On the 24th and 25th there was a tremendous gale from the east-north-east accompanied by much rain, lightning and high confused sea, the ship labouring very heavily and the decks being constantly flooded with water. On the 26th, at 2 a.m., the wind shifted round to the eastward, and frightful weather came on at 4 a.m. and lasted until 10.30 a.m.; the ship was now hove-to, labouring heavily and shipping much water, carrying away the poop ladders, &c. On the 27th, at 4 a.m., the wind changed to the northward and continued blowing very hard until arrival in Kobe on Sunday morning, 29th February. The *Sumida* left Kobe on the same day at 10.30 p.m. and arrived here yesterday, having met head and strong winds all the passage. Off Vries Island there was a heavy fog and snow.

As the *City of Peking* was leaving San Francisco, the U. S. S. *Ranger*, from Japan, was steaming into the harbour.

H. I. R. M. corvette *Cruyzer* has sailed for San Francisco.

The *Loudoun Castle* left New York on the 12th January, the *Guy Manner* on the 17th, and the *Oxfordshire* on the 22nd, all homeward bound.

The O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, left San Francisco for this port, on Saturday last, the 28th February, and may be expected here about the 22nd instant.

A slight, but very distinct shock of earthquake, was felt yesterday morning, at about twenty minutes to five o'clock.

A telegram was received in town on Monday last, announcing that the American ship *St. Charles*, just arrived from New York after a rapid passage of one hundred and forty-two days, had caught fire, and no hopes were entertained of saving either vessel or cargo. The ill-fated craft was commanded by Captain Gates, and sailed from New York on the tenth of last October. The cargo consisted of 47,000 cases of kerosene oil. The ship is irrecoverably lost; but it is thought that much of the oil may be recovered.

The Ocean Company's steamer *Nestor*, left Singapore for Hongkong on the 19th of February.

The French flag-ship *Thémis*, with Admiral Duperré on board, left Singapore for Saigon, on the 4th of February.

H. M. S. *Hart* arrived in Singapore on the 6th of February and found there the *Encounter*, *Egeria*, and *Foxhound*. H. M. S. *Vigilant*, with Admiral Cécile, has left Singapore for a cruise in the Straits of Malacca.

The dead body of a child was found on the fore-shore at the bund on Monday, at about six o'clock. The infant was newly born and it is supposed died from exposure.

A new line of steamers, to be named the Union Line, is advertised for China and Japan, under the auspices of the China and Japan Shippers' Association. It is to provide tonnage to the Association at fair current rates, and, we need hardly mention, has been promoted as a consequence of the Conference of Shipowners. The line at present comprises ten steamers, all more or less known in the trade of the Far East.

The following regulations have been issued by the Post Master General, for the exchange of money orders with Australia and the Straits Settlements:—

1. The Post Office of Yokohama issues Money Orders on New South Wales; New Zealand; Queensland; South Australia and Port Darwin; Western Australia; and the Straits Settlements.
2. The exchange of Money Orders between Yokohama and Hongkong etc., continues as heretofore, subject to the rates laid down in the next paragraph.
3. The Commission to be charged on all Money Orders named above is as follows:—For a sum not exceeding £5 or \$25, 25 cents. From £5 to £10 or \$25 to \$50, 50 cents.
4. No Order must exceed £10 or \$50, nor will more than two such Orders be issued to the same person, in favour of the same payee, by the same mail.

In an undefended case heard in the British Consular Court on Wednesday last, judgment was given against D. Blackie, at the suit of Osaka Senjiro, for 39.52 yen and \$3.00 costs.

The U. S. steamer *Ranger*, when a few days out from Japan, met with a heavy cyclone, lost all her boats, and was badly damaged aft. She put into Honolulu for temporary repairs, after which she proceeded to San Francisco.

The ship *St. Charles*, of New York, loaded with kerosene, took fire yesterday morning and burnt to the water's edge. The ship arrived in the bay on Friday afternoon, but on account of strong winds she had not entered the harbour. Smoke, which made it evident that she was on fire, was first discovered at 1.30 a.m. yesterday. Assistance was at once asked from H.B.M.S. *Sylvia* and H.I.G.M.S. *Prinz Adalbert*, and both ships promptly responded. The *St. Charles* was four or five miles from shore, and the men-of-war boats were used as tugs to bring her into shallow water, so that if the fire could not be mastered, she might be scuttled. Flames burst out at 10.30 a.m. and just abaft the foremast on the starboard side, and so quickly did they progress that there was no opportunity to save anything beyond the sailors' clothes and bedding. Holes were at once bored, and one a few inches square was cut under the main chains. She soon filled, but upon sinking it was found she was in shallow water, as she sank only 12 or 13 inches and then took bottom. The



lead had been kept going, but the man using it had miscalculated, so that when the anchors were let go to the call of four fathoms it turned out there were only three fathoms. On discovering the appearance of fire at 1.30 one of the hatches was opened, for the purpose of seeing where the fire was, but the smoke was so thick that it was impossible to breathe or see anything. The hatches were at once battened down, holes were bored and water was pumped in, which kept the fire down for some time. Some explosions took place at about 10 a.m., which caused nearly everyone to leave the burning ship, some jumping overboard. From this time nothing could be done to save the ship or cargo. At 3 p.m. the fore-top and top-gallant masts, with yards, fell. At 4.10 the jib-boom fell, and at 4.45 the main-mast, with all the gear, carrying with it the mizzen-royal-mast. At about 3.50 some men went on board and cut the lanyards of the mizzen rigging, and for some few minutes they cut away at the mast, but to no purpose, for soon after it was enveloped in a mass of flames.

The ship is eleven years old and is on her first letter. She had new sails and was newly coppered for this voyage. She had a small miscellaneous cargo and 10,000 cases kerosene oil for Messrs. Smith, Baker & Co., and 30,000 cases for Messrs. Fearon, Low & Co. The kerosene was insured, and the bulk of it will probably be recovered. The ship was uninsured.—*Hiogo News*.

There is, I believe, no reason to doubt the truth of the statement current in society last week, to the effect that the two sons of the Prince of Wales, now serving on board the *Bacchante*, have been induced by some foolish companion to allow themselves each to be tattooed on the nose with an anchor-embellish. The Prince and Princess are said to be in despair about the affair; and all the medical science of London has been consulted as to the possibility of obliterating the marks. 'Boys will be boys,' however; and perhaps, after all, an anchor is not an inappropriate symbol for the future ruler of a maritime Power; and as the defects and ailments of Royalty have not unfrequently been aped by their admiring subjects, a day may dawn when, in order to show that they are 'in the swim,' it will be fashionable for all the young bloods in the kingdom to be marked with an anchor.—"Atlas" in the *World*.

A correspondent of the *World* is responsible for the following:

'It is astonishing to me how little men who might reasonably be expected to keep abreast of the times know of contemporary social history. In *Vanity Fair*, of 3d instant, I read, in all pride of place of its first column, a story about the relations between the Emperor and Empress of Russia. It is put forth that he and she are separated through a *liaison* he contracted some years ago with "a princess of a well-known name." This connection, the story proceeds, had been known for several years; but during last summer it first attained public notoriety. At last the Empress met the Emperor driving with two children, and demanded an explanation, with the result that the Empress has gone abroad with the expressed intention not to return to Russia. "Report runs," so your contemporary proceeds, "that the princess has told her *entourage* that the Emperor has promised to marry her on the death of the Empress," and will abdicate that he may do so the more easily.

'What of truth there is in this connection is as well known in Russia as is the existence of Nihilism; and this being so, there can be no infraction of delicacy in narrating the real facts. Many years ago the Emperor contracted certain relations with a Princess of the Dolgorouki family, and was deeply attached to her. She died about eight years ago, and the Emperor transferred his affections to her younger sister, with whom for some time he lived in the same relations as he had done with her sister. Having for her a sincere affection, and she having borne him a child, he desired to legitimate her by a morganatic marriage, and after some negotiation procured to this measure the consent of the clergy. The union took place there according to the laws of the Greek Church; but the Empress, who had closed her eyes to the connection while as yet illicit, felt herself aggrieved by the consummation of the closer tie, and retired to the Crimea, vowing she would never comply with the Emperor's desire that she should receive the Princess Dolgorouki at Court. After a time she relented, returned to the capital, and received the morganatic lady, who

ever since has been within the Imperial pale. I have seen her at the Russian Court myself, and have met her at the receptions of the Foreign Ambassadors (including Lord Augustus Loftus,) who complied with the known wishes of the Czar. The Princess is universally known in St. Petersburg society by the *sobriquet* of "La Grande Demoiselle;" and I may add that her favourable influence is recognised as all-important by those desiring favours of his Imperial Majesty.'

The friends of Mrs. Ayrton will be glad to learn that she has received the degree of doctor of medicine from the Faculty of Medicine in Paris. It will be remembered that Mrs. Ayrton, after successfully pursuing her medical studies at Edinburgh, was refused a degree. She recommenced her labours in Paris after leaving Japan, and has at last succeeded in obtaining the object of her ambition. We understand that Mrs. Ayrton passed an extremely creditable examination and was highly complimented by the Faculty. The thesis which she presented before obtaining her degree was entitled "Researches into the size and development of the body among the Japanese."

We observe a remarkable falling off in the direct shipments of kerosene for China and Japan, during the month of January last. The *Alice Duck* cleared for Hiogo on the 9th January, with 100 bxs. soap, 100 kegs nails, 100 bbls. rosin, 100 cs. canned goods, 100 oars, 25 pkgs. blacking, 8 bales waste, 50 lbs. pitch, 30 do. pork, 22 pkgs. earthenware, 5 bales domestics, 37 pkgs. mfd. iron, and 47,000 cases of kerosene. One vessel left for China during the same period and, when the mail left, there were only two vessels ostensibly on the berth, one for Hongkong and one for this port. It is however worthy of remark that the clearances to Amoy for orders during January have been abnormally great. They are as follows:—

January 9th, <i>Coryphene</i> , ...	27,160 cases kerosene.
" 13th, <i>City of Liverpool</i> , ...	43,331 " "
" 13th, <i>Barbadian</i> , ...	26,000 " "
" 15th, <i>Troubridge</i> , ...	46,236 " "
1,008 lbs. tobacco and sundries.	
" 17th, <i>Hermann Lehmkuhl</i> , ...	45,500 " "
" 17th, <i>Kilkerran</i> , ...	44,600 " "
" 19th, <i>Mystery</i> , ...	13,781 " "
" 22nd, <i>J. G. Pendleton</i> , ...	30,500 " "
" 23rd, <i>Wealthy Pendleton</i> , ...	27,841 " "
" 30th, <i>Ella</i> , ...	32,910 " "
" 30th, <i>Andrea Wilhelmina</i> , ...	28,100 " "
and 113 cases of perfumery.	
Total...	365,959 cases "

#### YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL. PATIENTS DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1880.

Class of Patients.	Remained.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained March 1st.	Total Treated.
1st .....	0	1	0	0	1	1
2nd .....	1	1	1	0	1	2
3rd .....	10	9	9	2	10	19
4th .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charity .....	1	0	0	0	1	1
Total .....	12	11	10	2	13	23

EDWIN WHEELER, M.D.

#### PARIS LETTER.

JANUARY 17TH, 1880.

The distinctive characteristic of the political situation is the unanimous desire for action; the ministry, no matter how it may be composed, will not live the life of the rose if it does not grapple with the reforms now for nine years awaiting solution. No promise will be accepted; no expediency considered; the measure of a cabinet's fitness will be tested by its capacity for work. Good intentions are of no avail. Since the commencement of the century, the tendency of all monarchical legislation has been to cripple the republican idea; hence the determination of republicans to abolish barriers and favor their principles. The de Freycinet cabinet understands these necessities, and if its programme be executed, if ministers do not faint by the way, there is no reason why it ought not to enjoy length of



days. Hitherto, cabinets when not actually hostile to the existing constitution, indulged in hide-and-seek, or battledore and shuttle-cock with questions of vital importance to the Republic, and hence, why no further deception will be tolerated.

The opposition journals commence to perceive that no capital can be made out of the fact of M. Gambetta being re-elected by a smaller number—48 votes, President of the Chamber. There is neither a political nor moral clock in the matter; it merely expresses the opinion of several, that Gambetta would be better either as prime minister or an independent member; that his place is the tribune, not the presidential arm-chair. But the fate of the Republic, and he has himself avowed it frequently, is not bound up in the life of any individual. Democracy recognises no necessary men, no saviours of society. It is the nation rules and governs. France is rapidly curing herself of individualities. It is because he is influential, that the monarchists demand that Gambetta become minister, the quicker to be used up, and distort an election into a grave check. It is complimentary, but futile. Louis XIV. said, "I am the State;" but no republican is so idiotic as to exclaim, "I am France." The Republic was to expire with Thiers, Mac-Mahon, Dufaure, Decazes, and Waddington, and yet it smiles over all their tombs.

The new ministers have so far responded to public opinion, by superseding those unjust stewards up to the present maintained in the service of the Republic they detest, by the feebleness of preceding cabinets. In the provinces, elevated functionaries made it almost a duty to snub the constitution by abstaining from appearing at its official ceremonies, while attending meetings of a private nature, directly opposed to the government of the day. Generals received in plain clothes instead of in uniform, and judges smirked sarcasms from the Bench. This is now suddenly changed; the Republicans insist on guarding the constitution, and they would be niuncies to leave that duty in the hands of declared enemies.

The Bonapartists had a little field-day on the occasion of the annual mortuary mass for the repose of the soul of Napoleon III. The ceremony contradicts the assertions of the enemies of his ex-majesty, that he is past praying for. The attendance was limited to those imperialists too compromised to change; there were no new recruits, which fact Prince Napoleon—who is evidently becoming religious, would do well to note. The annoying practice was largely resorted to, of printing the names of persons as present, who were not, to place them in the awkward position of correcting the error. Paul de Cassagnac as usual was ovated, and was escorted by four hundred enthusiasts to his residence, a proof of the weakness of the Bonapartists, and of the strength of the Republic to tolerate the manifestation.

Rochefort continues to brighten up a little in his "Star" contribution to the *Rapport*. Occasionally he gives proof that the light of other days is not faded; but his articles have no more importance than a column in *Charivari*, so much has France changed. He has become reconciled to the Hugo party. He is longing to be able to enter France, not to become a deputy or an idol, or a spectre, but to settle a few duels, notably with Paul de Cassagnac, whose superior he is, either in cunning fence or pistols. Clemenceau, the terrible Radical can alone match Rochefort in these accomplishments. No man possesses a greater stock of *sang froid* than Doctor Clemenceau, the leader of the extreme *Gauche*, and now the proprietor of a journal, *La Justice*, which is more determined than Red, and cruelly logical for all republican ministers who have the will to do, but not the soul to dare.

The reception of M. Saine at the Academy, has proved a happy break in the monotony of snow and frost life, of coughs that stick to one like the shirt of Nessus; of the abnormal price of food and fuel, and of the efforts to relieve the great misery abroad. Naturally shy and retiring, these traits only bring out the celebrated critic more strongly to view. To escape being interviewed, he had at one time the intention to have tan and straw laid down in the street before his door, and give out he was down with gout, cholera, or diphtheria. Dumas père, in order to get rid of duns, circulated that he was in a dangerous fever, to which the creditors became accustomed, as they encountered the malady frequently on the stairs in the form of a scarlet lady or woman in white. Timothée Trim freed himself from a tailor, who vowed he would not leave till paid, by calmly proceeding to stop every nook and cranny in his room; pinning a notice on the door, that they voluntarily destroyed themselves and no one was to be accused of their deaths, then he lit a charcoal fire and next his pipe with the bill. He never saw the bolting tailor afterwards. M. Saine is 52 years of age, tall, grey-bearded, very little hair; he detests crowds and publicity, and has steadily refused to be photographed or drawn. As a materialist—he maintains that thought is only a secretion of the brain; he did not receive a "yes," from the lady he proposed for, till he promised to be married according to all the rights of the church, and he had to consent to his little daughter being baptised. His reception at the Academy—the official residence of the Republic of Letters, was as great an event as that of Dumas fils. Places were occupied hours in advance, but somehow room is found for every

ticket holder, the ladies were in force as well as the college professors: the Princess Gortschakoff, daughter of the chancellor was well ogled, and also the Princess Mathilde, the friend of all literary talent. Saine is one of the three or four Academicians who "draw;" he is a man of world-wide fame, and his works, on every subject, are better known in Russia, England and America, than in France. He is a plain, outspoken writer; subscribes to no school's rules, sees nothing very extraordinary in man, and regards talent or genius as the product of circumstances, like pine trees or Dutch cheese. He was at one time regarded as a veritable Anti-Christ, but is viewed as a converted sinner, since he has somewhat attacked the Revolution—the least successful of his works, for he forgets that great movement is not finished, but is actually pursuing its way at this very moment, after being interrupted by Napoleon I. Saine read this admirable address slowly; it was a little long and monotonous; it repays better to be read than listened to. Although he wears spectacles, he seemed to be uneasy under the batteries of opera glasses levelled at him: he speaks like an Englishman having a perfect knowledge of French, and it is one of his *dadas*, to express himself in that language whenever he can. The peg on which the ceremony hung was to eulogize the defunct and Mediocre Loménie J. B. Dumas the eminent chemist, gave the reply to Saine, in a sort of sermon; courteously castigated him for his criticism on Pope, and, as a scientist, cut him up for stating that man was only a superior kind of animal, who produced poetry and philosophy nearly about the same way as silk-worms do cocoons, and bees, hives.

Society is becoming active, and if the forecast of the weather would only indicate, "no more snow till December next," the capital would be gay indeed. Storms of snow came unexpectedly, and then showers of verglas or rime, so as to prevent all locomotion, save for wise people with felt stockings kept in advance in coat pockets, or cab-men capable of frosting their horses themselves in two minutes—the time necessary to print 100 visiting cards—an accomplishment not to be despised at the present juncture when the farriers are on strike. Mme. Grévy will give her first ball in about a week, and Mme. Adam, one of the leading republican ladies who keeps a *Salon*, gives her fancy ball, and curiosity is on tip-toe to know how ministers and leading politicians will be "disguised." There is no reason why, if the reactionists be virtuous, the republicans are not to have their cakes and ale. The first masked Opera ball revealed a character—a "coal man," a public functionary about as popular just now as Bazaine: he gave occasion for more sport than he anticipated, and was very witty till he became cross. Near the coal depots in and around the city, poor persons wait the exit of the carts to pick up any morsels that fall, and somehow they do, very plentifully—of course known to the drivers. Trade is a little brisker, only small dealers complain, but then much of their ill-luck is due to themselves, having no fixed prices, and fleeing when they can all round. Not many philanthropists incline to pay three francs for an article at a small house, where the same can be had for one franc at the monster houses. It's the struggle where the fittest survives.

As the best people in the world may inadvertently come to grief once in their life-time, visitors to Paris will be glad to hear, that if they get into trouble, and are invited by a Bobby to accompany him to the station house, the dispute will be heard out immediately, instead of being held over till morning, and the accused compelled to share a night's lodging on the cold ground, in company with the choicest specimens of the "dangerous classes."

The Prince de Wagram has an odd way of paying his debts: when his private secretary demanded a settlement of salary for work and labor during the 1877 elections, the Prince committed an assault and battery on his confidential serviteur, for which he was fined.

M. de Grandsegue is a passionate admirer of Donizetti's music, so when the *Favorite* was announced at the grand opera, he took a box in the third gallery. Judge of his feelings when he perceived the artistes had skipped an important scene in the first act; he at once protested, and the manager had to represent the opera in its integrity, to give the complainant the same box to witness it, plus 1,600 francs damages, to compensate his disappointment.

The young and handsome wife of a travelling druggist and the mother of three pretty children, has been sent to prison for 15 months; she committed adultery with her husband's brother, one of whom helped her to rob him in addition of his strong-box; this scoundrel has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

There is a story current of Dr. Clemenceau. This political notoriety gives gratuitous medical advice to his poor constituents, at his dispensary in this city; one appeared, whom he ordered to strip, to examine his lungs, and made out a prescription; another patient entered, who was ordered also to undress, while his predecessor was dressing; which lung? asked the Dr, placing his ear to the man's ribs. I'm not ill at all Monsieur; I only came to thank you for obtaining me the situation of letter-carrier."

A house porter is wanted, capable of giving the proprietor's son occasional lessons on the piano.

Some journals discuss the question: "Is the Empress of Russia

really ill—or is her absence from Russia politically compulsory?"

Since the new Minister of War has entered on duty, the Duc d'Aumale is simply styled "General d'Aumale."

"Is that your infant Mlle?" Non Monsieur, I am not married." "I thought it might have been, as so many young ladies have of late gone wrong."

Husband to wife, "I do not say you are the wickedest woman in the world, but the wickedest that ever I heard of."

#### JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

#### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

##### NOTIFICATION NO. 6.

It is hereby notified that the Prefecture of Tokushima has been established, with jurisdiction over the whole Province of Awa.

SANJA SANETOMI,  
PRIME MINISTER.

2nd March, 1880.

#### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

Mr. Ishi-i, Vice Assistant Police Inspector, has been promoted to be Assistant Police Inspector. He will have to superintend all details connected with the working of the police force.

His Excellency Okuma, the ex-Minister of Finance, will not visit the Osaka Exhibition as originally intended. He will go to Kiushiu in company with General Yamada, the former Minister of Public Works, in the early part of the present month.

The Governor of Tokio is about to summon the members of the local Assembly to another session.

Some of the local Governors have been ordered to remain in the capital.

Governor Matsuda, of Tokio *Fu*, proposes to entertain the Foreign Representatives and Consuls at the *Enryo-kan*, on the 8th instant. The palace has been lent for the occasion.

The new civil and criminal codes are it is said, to come into force during the current month.

Chief Secretary Yegi Takato, of the Japanese Legation at Washington, and Mr. Yegawa Kumpei, who has been appointed Consul for New York, will leave Japan by the *Belgic* on the 9th of March instant. His Excellency Yoshida, sails by the *City of Peking* at the end of the month. Messrs. Yegi, and Yegawa, had a farewell audience with His Majesty the Emperor on Wednesday, the 3rd instant.

The newly appointed Ministers attended at their respective Departments, yesterday, and the Prime Ministers and Privy Counsellors were present at a meeting of the Cabinet.

The Foreign Office is to be removed from Takarada-cho to the premises at Kasumiga-seki, formerly occupied by the Department. The vacant buildings will, it is reported, be used as a Bureau connected with the National Assembly.

It is currently reported that there will shortly be an increase in the salaries of the *Choku-nin* officers.

General Oyama, Minister of War, proceeded to the Police Bureau the day before yesterday, and handed over charge to Assistant Police Inspector Ishi-i.

Prince Nabeshima, who attended His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa during his visit to Osaka and Kioto, returned to Tokio in the *Sumida Maru* on the 2nd instant.

Mr. Kitagaki, Governor of the prefecture of Kochi, has been appointed Acting Governor of the new prefecture of Tokushima, at the same time retaining his former post.

The members of the Local Governors' Assembly were entertained at the *Seiyokoku Hotel*, on Monday evening, by the former and new Ministers and Vice Ministers of the Home and Finance Departments. The local representatives were entertained by His Excellency Matsukata, the new Minister of the Interior, at his private residence, on the 5th instant.

His Excellency Shinagawa, Assistant Vice-Minister for the Interior, has been ordered to act as Superintendent of the Agricultural Bureau.

His Excellency Matsukata, Minister for the Interior, visited the Post Office on the 2nd instant. His Excellency Kawano, Minister for Education, proceeds to Atami on account of illness.

The local Governors and Secretaries who are now in Tokio, will shortly visit the Quarantine ground at Naga-ura, in the prefecture of Kanagawa.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* hears that His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa, has declined to accept the office of *Sa-daijin* lately offered to him.

Mr. Nakajima, a member of the Senate, has sent in his resignation.

The Chinese Minister will visit the Tokio Library, on the 15th instant, to worship the image of Confucius.

The 17th instant being the birth day of Her Majesty the Empress, the Princes of the Blood, the Prime Ministers and the Privy Counsellors, will visit the Imperial Palace to offer their congratulations.

The grounds for archery and equitation which have been established within the precincts of the Akasaka palace, will be opened on the 23rd instant.

Mr. Hayashi, Chief Secretary of Public Works, has been appointed Superintendent of the Secretaries' Office, and Mr. Ishi-i, Under Secretary of the same Department, Superintendent of the Telegraph Office.

Mr. Justice Kishira, who has been sojourning at Atami has now returned to Tokio.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The men of the second army reserve, residing in Tokio *Fu*, are to be called out for inspection on the 28th instant.

Sub-Lieutenant Uchiyama, who was imprisoned at Akasaka after the last Takebashi mutiny, went mad recently, and has been removed to another gaol where he is now kept under a strong guard.

The military inspection of the empire was completed at the end of last month, and the meeting of commanding officers will take place in a few days.

The Japanese man-of-war *Tsukuba Kan* will sail for America early next month.

Lieutenant-General Prince Higashi Fushimi, has been promoted to the rank of General. General Toriwo was relieved from his office as Commander of the Imperial Guard on the 1st instant, having been superseded by General H. L. H. Prince Higashi-Fushimi.

The Staff Office has despatched Lieutenant Kaitsu and two other officers, to survey the coasts of China.

The *Setsu Kan* has been selected as a training ship under the care of the Naval College, and is now undergoing repairs.

The Navy Department is reported to contemplate selling the *Taka-o Kan*.

There will be a special festival at the *Yasukuni-shinsha* (formerly known as the *Shokon-sha*) at Kudan, Tokio, during the current month, to commemorate the 13th anniversary of the death of those who fell in the wars of the Restoration.

#### INDUSTRIES, TRADE, AND FINANCE.

The Cotton and Sugar Exhibition at Osaka, has attracted a great many visitors. There are 12,062 specimens of cotton shown by 8,231 exhibitors, and about 3,000 different samples of sugar contributed by 930 persons. A statistical report has been prepared and distributed, shewing the quantities of cotton and sugar produced in various countries in Europe and America and also in Japan. The document states that in 1877, this empire grew 30,642,333 pounds of cotton and 25,933,409 pounds of sugar, while the quantity consumed during the same period was 65,826,107 pounds of cotton and 78,776,259 pounds of sugar. A large deficiency had therefore to be supplied by importation and the framers of the report giving the information, point out that it would be very advantageous to the country if all the demand for these necessary articles was locally furnished, thus materially reducing foreign importations and rendering the community more self-supporting.

The following is a return of exports and imports at all the open ports of Japan, for the six months ending the 31st December 1879:—

Imports .....	yen	18,256,582.84.
Exports .....	"	17,334,716.53.
Excess of imports over exports...	yen	921,866.31.
Duties on exports and imports, and miscellaneous revenue at Customs	yen	1,487,802.69.
Houses .....		
Export of bullion .....	"	5,135,264.26.
Import " " .....	"	1,711,625.52.
Excess of export.....	yen	3,423,639.44.

A native paper states that the number of ships owned by the Mitsui Bishi Company, is thirty-seven steamers and seven sailing vessels, and that various persons in the different provinces possess one hundred and thirty-one steamers, and one hundred and thirty-nine sailing vessels.

A correspondent in Fusan of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, in a letter dated the 23rd of February, says:—"Trade in our port is very brisk, and the imports and exports are increasing rapidly. One of the steamers of the Mitsui Bishi Company runs regularly to Japan once a month, and there are always five or six Japanese sailing-vessels and fourteen or fifteen junks in harbour here. The cargo offering is so great, that some has always to be left behind when a vessel is leaving. The principal articles of export are, rice, bonas, hides, gold and silver, &c. The Koreans are much pleased at the way trade has developed, as they never expected it to be so prosperous. It is rumored that the Korean Government are about to despatch an embassy to Japan for the purpose of arranging a commercial tariff, and also that Russia and France contemplate concluding treaties of amity and commerce with Corea, the ambassadors of those nations travelling overland by permission of the Chinese Government. It is also said that demands will be made by Russia and France upon Corea for having fired upon ships sailing under the flags of those countries, but this, I think, is only idle talk, at any rate I know of no foundation for it.

"In the sea contiguous to Corea are large numbers of whales, but as the Koreans have no experience in whaling no attempts have been made to capture any. If the industry were once initiated, it would certainly prove very successful, and I understand some capitalists of Chisaki, in Yamaguchi ken, obtained permission from our Consul here to establish a whaling station. I am informed that they have employed two experienced whale fishers, who arrived here by the *Kompira Maru* on the 19th of January, and immediately set to work to put the station in working order. The vessel employed by the company as a whaler has already left Fusan; the capital invested in the venture is, I believe, some thirty thousand yen."

The number of visitors to the Osaka Exhibition during the week ending the 28th ultimo was 1,264, and the tickets sold were 466 season tickets and 789 ordinary tickets, realizing 15.78 yen.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

His Royal Highness Prince Heinrich of Germany, is going to visit various celebrated places in the province of Banahui. The Hiogo Ken authorities have despatched a number of police sergeants and constables to escort him, so as to prevent the possibility of another disagreeable *contretemps*.

A fire took place at Yodo-cho, Nagasaki, at 3.30 a.m. on the 28th ultimo. Thirty houses were destroyed and several persons injured before the conflagration was extinguished.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* contains the following, relative to a fire in the Otsu gaol:—"A telegram has been received at the Central Telegraph Department announcing that 'a fire took place at the prison yard at Otsu, in the prefecture of Shiga, shortly after 8 p.m. on the 28th ultimo, and destroyed six buildings. The fire was got under at half-past 10 p.m.'" A further message addressed to another office mentions that "on the occasion of the fire twenty-six prisoners effected their escape from the prison yard, and their whereabouts is not yet ascertained. It is not known whether the prisoners set the gaol on fire for the purpose of effecting their escape, or merely availed themselves of the opportunity offered." The correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* telegraphed to the office stating that "a fire occurred at the Otsu prison-yard, at 8 p.m., on the 27th ultimo, and destroyed six houses. All the prisoners escaped, but through the activity of the officers and assistants, they were re-captured with the exception of eight, for whom strict search is now being made."

According to the *Choya Shimbun* the volcanic indications at Amama-yama are daily becoming more threatening, and dense volumes of black smoke are continually ascending from the crater. The same paper notes that the inhabitants in the vicinity of the mountain are in great anxiety for fear of an active eruption taking place, and are removing from their homes.

The City of Peking brought from San Francisco a horse, as

a present from General Grant to General Kuroda, Chief of the Colonization Department.

The number of vessels which arrived in Yokohama during the past month was,—78 Japanese and 23 foreign. The clearances were 71 Japanese and 21 foreign vessels.

H. R. H. Prince Heinrich of Germany, will pay a visit to the Exhibition in Kioto, about the middle of this month.

A new telegraph line, connecting Chibamachi and Sakura in the province of Shimosa, having now been completed, will be opened for business in a few days.

A telegram announces that a fire broke out in the prison in Fukuoka, at 7 p.m. on the 2nd instant, and destroyed some fourteen houses before it was extinguished at about 12 o'clock. It is not known whether or not the fire was the work of an incendiary. A report from Okuyama says that the prisoners there took advantage of the stormy weather on the night of the 23rd ultimo, and broke out of the prison. About twenty effected their escape, and are now being searched for vigorously. Six prisoners escaped from the prison at Hiogo, on the 28th ultimo, and one of them has been recaptured.

There has been another fall of earth, &c., in the Osaka-yama tunnel on the Kioto-Otsu line. About sixteen fathoms of the tunnel have given way, and in consequence it is expected the work will not be completed before next May, instead of April as previously thought.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* says that the value of the money of different denominations, coined at the San Francisco Mint during the past year, amounted to \$28,065,750.

The passengers who travelled by the steamers running between Yokohama and Yokosuka during the past month, numbered 13,592 persons.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 29th February, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 7,910.64
Merchandise, &c. ....	871.39

Total.....\$ 8,782.03

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 7,117.01
Merchandise, &c. ....	855.92

Total.....\$ 7,972.93

Miles open 18.

##### KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 29th February, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$14,954.99
Merchandise, &c. ....	1,852.79

Total.....\$16,807.78

Miles open 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$10,195.93
Merchandise, &c. ....	1,111.66

Total.....\$11,307.59

Miles open 47.

#### A LETTER ADDRESSED BY THE KIYOSONDOSHU OF JAPAN TO THE PUBLIC OF EUROPE AND AMERICA WHICH HAVE AT PRESENT TREATIES WITH JAPAN.

We, the members of the Kiyosondoshu, moved by the spirit of public opinion in Japan, with the object of recovering her legitimate right, submit to the impartial judgment of the European and America people the following letter:—

The reason why we, with one accord, send this letter is that there are circumstances which compel us to bring forth the subject of treaty revision between our country and other powers. But before we enter into this important subject, we will explain briefly the political condition of our people when those treaties were made. The people of our country—now amounting to over 30,000,000 and having a history of nearly 3,000 years—were accustomed to be governed by free and liberal institutions and inclined to be a commercial nation, but at the time when those treaties were concluded, we were subjected to the feudal system which existed generally in Asiatic countries. Thus the liberty of our people was some-



what restrained by this government and their policy was to make us a peaceful nation. The principal course which they resorted to, was to abolish the construction of large ships so that the people might be prevented from holding foreign intercourse. Although this may have been the cause of our enjoying peace for 300 years, yet it subsequently became a fetter and impediment to the progress of our people. We were left in entire ignorance of the state of foreign countries. Even the statesmen of that time had very little experience of the affairs of foreign nations and very seldom came into contact with the people of other countries.

It may easily be seen that we were under a very disadvantageous position as regards foreign intercourse. Thus the statesmen themselves did not quite understand the nature of the international intercourse between European and American nations, and we, the People of Japan, were utterly unaware of what was going on in the Central Government as well as abroad. The position of the Japanese people was like that of a helpless child without mother or father, who was compelled to make a contract with some experienced people. While the treaties were thus signed and ratified by the Shogun, or Tycoon as he was called by Europeans, there came, in 1868, the restoration of the Japanese Emperor to his original power and legitimate throne and the overthrow of the Shogun's power. Since this great event, many reforms have been carried out with the object of giving the Japanese people the political liberty which they did not possess under the Shogun's government. Thus we have now the means of understanding what is going on in our government. But looking back at the conduct of the last government, and seeing the nature of the treaties signed by them, we are utterly astonished. As we said before, we were kept in ignorance of the affairs of the Central Government, and consequently we did not know what sort of a treaty existed between Japanese and Europeans. Although we felt vaguely that the foreign intercourse between Japanese and foreigners was not founded on a perfectly equitable footing, yet we did not imagine that there was such an injustice as we now find in certain clauses of those treaties.

Speaking of an international treaty from a general point of view, we maintain it to be a contract between nations. If so, when an inexperienced infant suffers a loss from the contract which he made with an experienced man, it is void according to the law of nearly all civilized nations. Therefore we think that no one, whether an individual or a nation, ought to be bound by a treaty which was made through the want of knowledge and experience. In fact our position was like that of the infant above mentioned, and therefore we think we ought not to be subjected to a treaty made by inexperienced statesmen with foreigners, even when there are no injurious clauses such as those of the treaties in question. As these treaties contain clauses which produce serious injuries to the Japanese people, we cannot submit to it, especially, as the term of revision is already passed. Although we are dissatisfied with the treaties, yet we do not write this letter in order to bring charges against the statesmen of the Shogun's government and foreign diplomats. The only thing which we complain of is, that the treaties themselves are founded on unjust principles. And the feeling of injury and dissatisfaction is not confined to the small circle of this Society, but extends throughout the whole nation. Therefore we speak as a nation on this subject, and ask for the speedy revision of these unsatisfactory treaties. Under these circumstances, it may easily be seen what sort of feeling we have, with regard to the international intercourse between Japanese and foreign nations.

As 1873 was the expiration of the term of the present treaties, we understand that our government proposed to some foreign governments to revise these treaties. We, however, have not yet heard any result from it. We believe that the treaties may be very shortly revised; yet impressed by the serious disadvantages of the subjects of the tariff and extra-territorial jurisdiction, we cannot wait any longer without speaking about this necessity, and rest with implicit reliance upon the government authorities. At present, the public opinion of our country speaks with one voice, and asks why our government is prevented from revising them, and why the treaty powers do not make a new treaty on the principles of mutual justice and equality. Every Japanese with a grain of patriotism deeply regrets this delay and urges the revision. The popular feeling on this subject compels us, the members of the Kiyoosondobu, to speak of the subjects in question.

As we have said, the present treaties produce serious injuries to Japan in the matter of the tariff and jurisdiction.

It is not necessary to mention that we, the Japanese people, pay direct taxes, as well as indirect ones, just as people do in other countries; but before we opened the intercourse with foreigners, the expenditure of our government was comparatively moderate, and consequently we were not heavily taxed. But since the last twenty years, many reforms have been carried out for internal improvement, and some public works, such as railways, lighthouses, &c., of which the foreigners too in Japan enjoy the advantages. Thus the expenditure is increased tenfold compared with that of the government of 20 years

ago. The effect of this increasing burden might have been mitigated, if the regulation of the tariff had been within the power of our government.

According to the present treaty, we are deprived of the legitimate right of an independent nation to make such changes in the tariff as the exigency of the country may require, that is to say, no rate of tariff can be altered without the consent of the foreign diplomatic agents, and besides, this tariff regulation cannot be revised or changed independently of the main treaty, as it is appended to the latter and to be considered as forming a part of the same. Thus the most heavy duties are borne by the producers of Japanese articles, and unduly small amounts are imposed on foreign articles.

Besides these inconveniences, there are many foreign products introduced into our country without any duty whatever. Some kinds of clothes, &c., were first introduced only for the private use of foreigners without any duty, but now they are being used by the Japanese people, and have become articles of commerce: still they are imported without any duty just as when they were used only by the foreign residents in Japan. Under these circumstances the income raised by the import-tariff is not above one-thirtieth part of the whole revenue and the balance is contributed by the Japanese people.

This produces serious injury and discouragement to the productive power of the country, and makes the future state of the internal resources almost hopeless. Therefore, we sincerely hope that the time has now come, when the power of regulating the tariff should be restored, and that our government should be able to impose all duties in due proportion, thus avoiding the evils which exist at present, importing more foreign products and at the same time exporting home articles as much as possible. And we shall be able to take away unfairly heavy taxes upon our products so as to increase the productive power of the country.

We repeat, we hope that the revision of the treaties shall be carried out also regarding the subject of legal jurisdiction. It is admitted by all civilized nations that every independent nation has a right to have the jurisdiction over all those, who enter within their territory, both in civil and criminal matters. This is the legitimate right which every independent nation ought to have according to the principles of international law.

But a European or an American coming to our country is not subject to the laws of Japan, under the clause of extra-territorial jurisdiction. This is what seriously affects our nationality as it shows the want of respect due to an independent nation. Therefore this extra-territoriality which is against the principle of equality should be taken away in revising the existing treaties. We freely express our opinion on the subject of the tariff and extra-territorial jurisdiction in accordance with the public opinion of our nation, and we claim the control of them to be the legitimate right of an independent nation. Although the feeling of the public is equally strong on these two subjects, yet we call the attention of the European and American people more earnestly to the question of tariff than the other, simply because the former has a more direct effect on the material progress of the Japanese nation. If this claim, which we consider just and right, is not admitted by European and American authorities, we fear that the people of Japan may possibly be obliged to resort to a course, which will seriously affect the mutual intercourse and commercial relation between Japan and foreign countries.

Therefore we hope that the treaty made in 1858 will be thoroughly altered, the tariff regulations separated from the main treaty, and a new treaty established between the Japanese nation and foreign powers on the footing of perfect equality and the principle of justice and equity. Such is the principal object of writing this letter.

But it may be said by some foreigners that if we have full power over the tariff, heavy duties may be arbitrarily imposed upon European and American articles by the Japanese government so as to exclude foreign imports from Japan. We may, however, guarantee that such a course of imposing a tariff will never be tolerated in this country, and their prudence in introducing the western civilization and the respect which they pay to foreign guests to this country should be quite sufficient evidence against such an allegation. We think, it is quite clear that our government under such circumstances will be able to put a fair and reasonable rate of duty on all products, both Japanese and foreign. We might enumerate all the works which our government has been able to do, since the restoration of the Emperor to his original power, as the proof of their sincerity in the advancement of commercial interests, and also of the friendly sentiment toward foreign people. Even within this year, the feeling of hospitality has been shown by the inhabitants of Tokio to the distinguished visitors from England, America, Germany and Italy.

Thus, we appeal to the public opinion of Europe and America by describing the circumstances under which these treaties were made, the injury arising thence to the Japanese people, and their public sentiments against them. We sincerely believe

\* Great Britain, Yedo Treaty, XX Art.; France, Yedo Treaty, IX Art.; United States, Yedo Treaty, XI Art.



that the foreign public will sympathise with what we said, and seeing the injustice and disadvantage embodied in the existing treaty, will support us in hastening the revision which is now pending.

We think it possible that the European and American public may hitherto have been misinformed in respect to some affairs by foreign residents in Japan, who have some prejudices against Japanese habits and customs. If what we so earnestly desire, should be prevented or hindered by the prejudices conveyed by them, we may reasonably conclude that the enlightened public opinion abroad is the same as that which is entertained by a small circle of foreign residents in Japan. If so, we must deeply regret it, and the civilized Europeans and Americans will lose our confidence and the reputation which they have, in promoting the welfare as well as the honour of their countries.

Looking at this subject from the general point of view, no one can object to an independent nation insisting on the right of governing every one within its own territory, and regulating its tariff at will. But we make a concession in not claiming these two rights at once; we only claim at present the right over the tariff, as it is indispensable to promote the material progress of our country. Under this pressing necessity, if the revision of the treaty is not carried out this time, we doubt whether the friendly intercourse between foreigners and Japanese may be continued for a much longer time, because every Japanese subject throughout the whole nation looks upon the treaties with the sentiment of dissatisfaction. We maintain that we ought not to be bound by a treaty, whose term of contract has already expired seven years ago, and whose nature is against the principles of justice and equality.

If the public opinion of Europe and America does not help us in hastening the revision of the treaty, and if it fails on this occasion, we fear that the discussion between Japan and foreign powers about this question may become serious and injurious to the interests of all the nations concerned. We are determined to do everything we can, for the interest of our country even to the extreme. But if this should become so serious, we should not only deeply regret it for the interests of our own country, but also for those of foreigners. Therefore we trust the public of Europe and America will help us in carrying out the pending revision by their unanimous avowal of friendly sentiment to the Japanese nation and by their love of justice and equity.

The members of this Society consist of the liberal minded people having friendly feeling toward the foreigners, many of whom are those who have spent some years either in Europe or in America. The efforts of this Society have been to introduce many European and American institutions into Japan, and to cultivate a friendly feeling amongst the Japanese people in general towards the foreigners. We believe that the Japanese people in these respects are not narrow minded, and they are willing to adopt many things advantageous to them. Therefore, we think that it will not be long before Japanese and foreigners in Japan will be brought into a much closer and more friendly contact with each other. While the public sentiment towards the western civilization is thus advanced, if European and American governments refuse us the only legitimate claim which we make, those parties in Japan who incline to be conservative and are opposed to us in their principles, will be justified in saying that those foreigners whose civilization we are adopting, are promoting their own interests alone, and disregarding the injuries which they inflict on the Japanese nation, and acting against the principles of international law. Therefore they may say that we ought not to continue the friendly relations with Europeans and Americans. We should deeply regret it, if the circumstances were to give the conservative parties such a strong ground for maintaining their principle. The consequence will be that all the public opinion in Japan may be led into the same way, and the people in general may begin to take a prejudiced view of the foreigners and their civilization. Our future hope to bring foreign people into a closer contact with the Japanese will vanish into air. This will produce serious results in the relation between Japan and foreign nations. Indeed, we know not how serious this will be for the interests of our country as well as those of the foreigners. Therefore we, the members of the Kiyosondohu, consider the present as a critical moment and look upon this as the most important question affecting the very nationality of the Japanese Empire, and such is the reason why we address this letter to the European and American public.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

London, 2nd February.—A memorial has been forwarded to Lord Beaconsfield, asking for an inquiry respecting the execution at Kabul of persons not implicated in the massacre at the Residency. *The Times* publishes a telegram from India stating that the report that the Viceroy is desirous of resigning is untrue.

St. Petersburg, 2nd February.—A conflict between the Police and Nihilists took place here to-day. Several arrests were made. A revolutionary proclamation has been

issued by the Russian students in which they declare that they will continue the struggle to the death against the Russian Government.

New York, 2nd February.—The New York press condemn generally the policy of Mr. Paruell.

St. Petersburg, 2nd February.—The Russian press deprecate the occupation of Herat by Persia under the auspices of England.

London, 3rd February.—Experiments have proved that it was double loading which caused the bursting of the *Thunderer's* gun.

Obituary.—Colonel Munro, 93rd Highlanders,

Washington, 3rd February.—A special sitting of the House of Representatives has been called to hear Mr. Parnell make a speech on the Irish land question.

Calcutta, 21st January.—All is quiet in the Khyber, and on the Mohmund border there have been occasional meetings of the border tribes, but the frontier is generally tranquil. Active intrigues continue around Ghuzni in the Logar Valley, where excitement and disorder still prevail. Among the tribes generally in that direction the feeling is said to be one of suspense and anxiety. The Shinwaris still hold aloof from the solicitations of the *moolahs*, and a gathering in Lughman has been dissolved by the Governor, who is supported by our Jellalabad troops. The sons of the Mustaufi have come in to Cabul, and have visited General Roberts. General Gough's brigade is getting comfortably housed in the Bala Hissar. The defences on the hill above are being rapidly strengthened. An excellent bridge has been thrown across the Cabul river by the 23rd Pioneers, on the direct road from Sherpur to Sial Sang. The construction of roads in different directions is progressing satisfactorily. The convoy of ammunition and warm clothing reached General Roberts on the 18th.

Calcutta, 26th January.—A small party escorting coolies from Zamba to Samaguting were attacked by the Nagas near Depajani. One sepoy of the 44th and one policeman were severely wounded. The Nagas rushed to get their arms and ammunition, but one man of the 42nd and two men of the Frontier Police placed the wounded men under a tree, and used their rifles with such effect, that the Nagas were kept off until the arrival of reinforcements from Zamba, where the firing was heard. Their names have been sent up to General Nation for favourable notice.

Calcutta, 27th January.—From Cabul; further reports of the gathering at Ghuzni reach Cabul of disbanded soldiery to the number of 500 who are said to have joined it from Logar. All quiet in the Khyber. Mulla Khalil is reported to have gone to Bajour. Rumours of disturbances among the tribes near Kelati Gilzai state that they are contemplating an attack on it.

Bombay, 28th January.—Men have been telegraphed for to take charge of the stores of Kandahar that cannot be carried forward. It is believed here that General Stewart takes the Bengal troops to Ghuzni, General Phayre marching with the Bombay troops to Herat.

Calcutta, 28th January.—Cabul 27th.—General Roberts visited the Latibund on the 26th. Orders have been issued for every post to be provisioned for a month and to have always three weeks' supplies in hand. Wheeled Artillery can now go to Jugdulluck. The road will soon be made practicable throughout to Cabul. The Sappers are improving a bad bit between Seti Baba and Latibund, supplies being brought in sufficient to meet any demands. No change in position during the last few days either at Ghuzni or other places.

Allahabad, 28th January.—Mahomed Jan is said to have issued a general order to the tribes saying that February the 24th is the day fixed to renew an attack upon the British. Seditious placards have been posted on the city walls. Several sepoys of the Ardal regiment have been seen in Kabul. Gholam Hyder, the Governor of Turkistan, has sent six horses as a present to Mahomed Jan, Mir Butcha and Surwan Khan, thus showing his sympathy with their movements. Mahomed Jan was last reported to be making for Bamian, probably expecting to meet there reinforcements from Turkistan. Armed men are gathering at Kalangar in Logar. We are making a small-arm magazine in the Bala Hissar. All the officers absent from the Cabul division, on recruiting or remount duty, have been ordered to rejoin by the 15th March. This looks like renewed military activity in Spring.

Bombay, 29th January.—The Bombay papers announce by authority that Sir Frederick Haines will assume the command of the troops in Afghanistan shortly. It is understood that a regiment of Madras Cavalry comes to Bombay to take the place of those sent to the front. Sir R. Temple and Sir R. Sandeman leave this evening. Additional to troops already wired: 2-11, 2-15, 1st Sind Horse, regiment of cavalry to be named hereafter. The 3rd Native Infantry, 23rd, and 24th, have been detailed from Reserve division for service. Bombay troops on service are held in readiness; two batteries horse, two field artillery one mountain train battery, four regiments British Infantry, six Native Cavalry, thirteen Native Infantry.

At the preliminary meeting last night for Irish Distress, it was decided that subscriptions be received and expended without reference to politics or creed. There was a lively discussion. It is understood that Sir R. Temple, who presides at the public meeting this afternoon, wishes the funds to be sent to the Duchess of Marlborough, not to the Lord Mayor.

From Silchar information has been received that on the night of the 27th, a raid was made on Caladhun tea garden, by the Nagas or Kubis. The buildings were all burnt. The manager, Mr. P. Blyth, was killed. The district superintendent of the police has proceeded to the place with a party of thirty police. With reference to the raid on the Baladhun tea garden reported to-day, there is nearly a full regiment in Cachar and a detachment will be sent out at once to support the police in the direction of the raiders.

Calcutta, 29th January.—From Silchar, it is stated that the District Superintendent of Police has found two more bodies of coolies at Baladhun and one is wounded. No further details are known. The Deputy Commissioner of Cachar will reach Baladhun on the 30th. He has arranged with the military for outposts at the gardens west of Baladhun, and considers that additional troops are not necessary. The military and police under Mr. Savi are moving towards our frontier from Naga hills. The Political Agent is requested to expedite matters.

Calcutta, 30th January.—Last reports from Silchar state the raiders in Baladhun were Nagas, but it is doubtful what Nagas. Nine coolies were killed besides the manager. All the house was destroyed. Mr. Savi, with 120 men of 34th and Cachar police, left Kohima, on the 24th, and should reach Asaloo on 31st; and if the raiders are Nagas, should take them in rear. Mr. Savi's party and a party under Lieut. Macgregor, which has gone to Raplongmai and Kuteha Naga country, should make the retreat of the raiders difficult. Sir Stewart Bayley will reach Cachar on the 2nd February.

As a proof of our clemency Doctor Owen is now treating in a charitable dispensary that has been established at Cabul, the Afghans and the men wounded in action against us. Messages were sent round the villages of the district to the effect that wounded men will be attended if brought in and will not be molested in any way. The city people are greatly pleased at this generous treatment accorded to the late insurgents, and the dispensary is largely resorted to by all classes of men and women. The average daily number of cases is 200.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

London, February 1st.—The week's political interest is divided between the Liverpool election and the opening of Parliament. Every preparation is being made to enhance the interest and add to the splendor of next Thursday's ceremonies. The Queen's appearance is due to Lord Beaconsfield's personal entreaties, and is intended to emphasize her known approval of the ministerial foreign policy. The Lord Chamberlain is overwhelmed with applications for places in the House of Lords. Besides the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Leopold, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the Princess Beatrice, and perhaps the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, now in Paris, will be present at the ceremonies. The Queen proceeds in state from Buckingham Palace to Parliament House, but drives there direct by the park route, having refused to pass through the streets, remembering her last unfriendly reception. She remains in London one night, and returns to Osborne on Friday.

The Queen's speech is expected to recommend several

important measures, Lord Beaconsfield desiring to persuade the country he is sincerely desirous to make the session fruitful. The proposal to abolish primogeniture and to facilitate the sale of lands, with a bill to permit life tenants to dispose of their interests, will undoubtedly be brought forward, relying on the Peers to eject the bills. Relief measures are to be promised to Ireland. The criminal code will receive a prominent place in the ministerial programme. An announcement is expected that British forces will retire from Afghanistan after crushing the military resistance and recognizing some native ruler, but retaining a sufficient frontier. Sundry measures dealing with English local government are expected, including country boards, valuation of the metropolitan water supply, and perhaps a redistribution of vacant seats in the House of Commons. The Irish members threaten obstruction from the start, proclaiming their intention to oppose the address in reply to the Queen's speech. The Ministers hope to counteract this by sympathetic declarations regarding the Irish distress, accompanied by promises of substantial relief. The liberal leaders intimate that the Government must henceforth fight obstruction without liberal help.

Although Lord Beaconsfield is ill with gout, he attended the Cabinet council to-day. Lord Salisbury was absent. He is suffering from bronchitis, and is unable to leave Hatfield.

The Liverpool election is appointed for next Friday, the Tories having hastened the day from alarm at the improving chances of the Liberals since Lord Ramsay secured the Irish vote. Few Liberals believe it possible to overcome the Tory majority. Many persons object to Lord Ramsay's compromise with the Home Rulers. Lady Ramsay, who is young and pretty, is energetically canvassing for her husband. The Earl of Derby having authorized the statement that he hopes for Ramsay's success, is bitterly attacked by the Tory organs.

The Liberals expect to win the seat at Southwark, which has been rendered vacant by Mr. Locker's death.

The land question—Irish and English—is daily increasing in importance. It is understood that Mr. Bright's colleagues accept, substantially, his scheme to aid tenants in purchasing farms by treasury loans. The question is discussed in speeches, pamphlets, journals and books, including a varied treatise by Arthur Arnold, in "A Free Land Appeal."

A fresh quarrel has broken out between M. Gambetta and M. Jules Simon. There will probably be a coalition in the French Senate between lukewarm Republicans and reactionary members. President Grévy and M. Gambetta remain friends.

Minister Lowell is expected in a fortnight. He will present his letters and have an audience with the Queen at Osborne. He will then return to Madrid and fetch his wife, whose health, after eight months' severe illness, is daily mending. As she will probably be unable to bear the London climate, Mr. Lowell intends to find a suitable seaside place for her, perhaps the Isle of Wight, while he temporarily takes a house in London himself. Society is preparing to give Mr. Lowell a brilliant welcome. A letter to-day from an important country house says: "Much eagerness is expressed to know both Lowell and his works." Tom Hughes is giving readings to guests from Lowell's poems. His diplomatic colleagues will send congratulations. The German Ambassador declares he is most desirous to give Mr. Lowell a friendly reception, thereby carrying out the Emperor's and Prince Bismarck's well-known wish to cultivate good relations with America. The McMillans announce a new edition of Lowell's poems, in three volumes, with the author's approval and editorship.

Attacks continue in the Press on the Postal Telegraph management. Numerous letters are published daily. Mr. Preece's—the Postal electrician—attempted defence is pronounced unsatisfactory, and a Parliamentary inquiry is urged.

The Duchess of Edinburgh, although several days in Paris, omitted to call on Madame Grévy. This the French consider a mark of discourtesy, and intended to discredit the Republic socially. The Duchess excuses herself on the ground of her mother's illness, but she appears in rank Bonapartist houses.

The Queen's request that Sir Evelyn Wood should ac-

company the ex-Empress Eugénie to Zululand is similarly interpreted in France.

Two fresh volumes of a series of conversations contain damaging disclosures regarding the late Emperor. General Changarnier bluntly accuses him of cowardice. He says he found him hiding at Strasburg in abject terror under a carriage. At Boulogne he landed while drunk, and was never under fire at Magenta or Solferino. Extraordinary accounts are given from other authorities of the corruption of his upholders, and they confirm the worst previous accusations.

In commenting upon the unsatisfactory relations still existing between Russia and Germany, the *Cologne Gazette*, contending that the Austro-German alliance was not prompted by hostile or aggressive designs against Russia, says that if this latter Power will only honestly respect the Berlin Treaty, there need be no further complication arising out of the Eastern question in the future. "But," continues the writer, "we (in Germany) are in a state of uncertainty as to the course Russian policy may pursue. In many circles, particularly those connected with the army, hatred of the Germans continues, as proved by the event which recently occurred at Kalisch. We do not desire to attach any exaggerated importance to this, but it is not without significance as the sign of sentiments prevailing in the Russian army. Since the Moscow attempt and the return of the Czar to St. Petersburg great confusion has been manifest in the highest regions of the capital, and it is not yet known what directions Russian policy may take as regards home and foreign affairs." In Russia there exists neither national representation nor an influential press. It was, therefore, with great interest that the appointments to the highest offices in the State were watched, as, from the nature of these, it was believed that a conclusion might be drawn in reference to the sentiments prevailing at Court. A good impression was created in Germany by the nomination to the Presidency of the Ministerial Committee of M. Walujeff, who, at any rate, does not belong to the Pan Slavists, and who, since 1861, as Minister of the Interior, has been largely engaged in the reforms that have been effected. M. Walujeff is also known to consider it desirable that the home and foreign policy should be both under the united direction of the Premier Minister. Meanwhile, other appointments have followed, among which, more especially noticeable, is that of Prince Lieven, and these do not afford the same guaranty for a peaceful and amicable policy on the part of Russia. Prince Lieven is a typical Russian, born and brought up in Moscow, and his elevation to the post of successor to M. Walujeff appears highly characteristic of the want of system prevailing in the Government circles of St. Petersburg. Prince Lieven is ambitious, and is not a man to play a political rôle in the narrower sphere of the word. He will, as soon as the thing is possible, make the attempt to play the part of a party leader, and if he is left free to act as he pleases, will endeavor to advance the objects of the National and Slav Parties.

The *Pull Mall Gazette* has a strong article, entitled "English Parties and Irish Revolution," in which it is said that the country has the right to demand, on the meeting of Parliament, that all political parties represented in the House of Commons shall be forced to declare, through their leaders, their relation to Mr. Parnell and his agitation. "It cannot be questioned," the *Gazette* goes on to say, "that the movement led by Mr. Parnell has now assumed proportions of public danger. His enterprise is daily growing more dangerous. It is accompanied by systematic resistance to law, and is carried by appeals to a foreign country thought by him to be hostile to the British Empire, and the object for which is nothing less than a revolutionary transformation of society by the destruction of the accepted forms on which society is based."

The Lord Mayor of Dublin writes to the effect that the English people fail to realize the gravity of the Irish crisis, and that except prompt assistance be forthcoming, tens of thousands of Irish people must surely die of starvation. He complains that England has contributed less to the Mansion House fund than Melbourne. There is, in fact, general complaint respecting the paucity of English subscriptions. It is believed that this is occasioned by serious disturbances that have occurred in Ireland, and the agitation set on foot by Parnell. Lord Godolphin, in Osborne, reports that the distress is vastly underrated. It is un-

fortunate that quarrels have arisen in the management of the different Irish relief funds, and it is hoped that the Government will devise some method of concentrating the various charities under one general head. The Baroness Burdett Courts has sent £5,000 to Ireland by the hands of a special agent, to insure the proper distribution of her munificent contribution.

Paris, February 2nd.—Of the estimates for the expenditure of the French Government for 1881, the War Department absorbs 574,000,000 francs, being an increase of 6,500,000 francs, and the Navy Department 168,000,000 francs, an increase of 4,500,000 francs.

The Senate adopted all the clauses of the educational bill. *Le Globe* announces as positive the establishment of diplomatic relations between France and Mexico.

Rome, February 2nd.—The *Diritto* published a Ministerial communication, denying certain statements contained in Vienna dispatches. The document says it is untrue that the representative of a power friendly to Austria has made a communication to the Cabinet of Rome in regard to pretended hostilities of Italy toward Austria: that it is untrue that the Cabinet of Rome has alleged as an extenuating circumstance that in the public opinion of Italy there existed an anti-Austrian current; untrue that the consequence of a possible war against Austria have ever been laid before the eyes of the Italian Government; and untrue that in the Oriental question Italy has acted as "my other self" of Russia.

Rome, February 2nd.—A decree has been promulgated, fixing the date of the opening of the new session of Parliament on the 17th inst.

Berlin, February 2nd.—The *North German Gazette* asserts that Prince Frederick William has gone to Pegil, simply to visit his wife, and that all conjectures to the contrary are erroneous.

London, February 2nd.—A Berlin correspondent reports: Rumors are afloat of impending changes in the Prussian Ministry. The Minister of Finance has been defeated on one of the proposed new tax bills, and the Minister of worship is said to have taken too many measures on his own responsibility, without consulting his colleagues. Such divisions seem to herald the approach of a ministerial crisis, but there is reason to hope an understanding may be reached.

Madrid, February 2nd.—The Ministry has decided to examine into the scheme for placing bonds on European markets, by aid of certain French societies, on account of the Cuban deficit.

New York, February 2nd.—The *Herald's* Dublin dispatch says: Mr. Parnell's unwarranted attacks upon the Mansion House Committee for the relief of the distress, as telegraphed, are regarded as utterly inexplicable. They cause great consternation among Parnell's own friends. It is believed that the excitement connected with his American tour has proved too great a mental strain for him, and he is becoming insane. The Mansion House Committee is entirely non-political in its character. Each of its 300 local committees consist of Protestant and Catholic clergy, the most respectable inhabitants of the neighborhood, and in many cases some of Mr. Parnell's personal friends are connected with them.

London, February 2nd.—Davitt, Killen, Daly and Brennan have been served with the customary four days' notice to come in and plead to indictments found against them.

London, February 2nd.—Prince Lobanoff, the new Ambassador has arrived.

St. Petersburg, February 2nd.—A letter to the *Golos* from Susdal, in the Province of Vladimir, reports that an Archbishop and two Bishops of the faith, or old believers, are confined in the fortress there on account of their creed. The Archbishop has been there twenty-six years, and the Bishops twenty-two and seventeen years respectively. The *Golos*, in a leader on the subject, supposes they had been forgotten by the authorities.

St. Petersburg, February 2nd.—Although the police seized many copies of the *Will of the People*, in the house where Deutsche shot himself, the same issue of the paper had already been circulated in St. Petersburg. It contains the programme of the Executive committee, stating the only way to gain the reforms they seek is to overthrow the Government by forcible revolution or conspiracy. The Socialists would then transfer the Government to an assemblage



elected by the Russians, irrespective of class. This is the general policy of the Socialists, by which they cast their lot with all oppressed Russians. But when the Assembly is elected Socialists will recommence a programme in favor of permanent popular representation, with full power over all general state questions; a wide liberty of local self-government; independence of the rural community; the principle that land is the property of the people; the transfer of works and factories to workingmen; complete liberty of speech, conscience, the Press, public meetings and associations and electoral agitation, and the replacement of the standing army by a territorial army.

St. Petersburg, February 2nd.—The Minister of the Interior has deprived the *Colos* of the right of inserting advertisements during the present month, for publishing an article suggesting that three Bishops, incarcerated at Susdal, had been forgotten by the Government.

St. Petersburg, February 2nd. The Minister of Finance favors the redemption of a portion of the paper currency, the issue of which has become enormous.

St. Petersburg, February 2nd.—A well-informed Teflis correspondent says it is proposed to appoint General Skobloff Commander-in-Chief of the Tekke expedition.

St. Petersburg, February 2nd.—Several new measures will be announced on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Czar's accession to the throne. Among these, proposals placing Jews upon the same footing as other Russians, and extending to Poland all the regulations existing in the rest of Russia, have been settled in principle.

London, February 2nd.—A correspondent of the *Times* at Candahar, after mentioning the disastrous results of the strife between the Ghilzas and Hazaras without the British lines, adds that similar tales of internecine war come from the direction of Farah.

An expedition sent by Ayoub Khan to Farah has been defeated by Ibrahim Khan of Chaknasar, who is putting the country under contribution. Ayoub Khan is reported to have sent two regiments, six guns and two hundred horse against Ibrahim Khan. Other accounts, however, say these troops of Ayoub Khan refused to march.

Cabul, February 2nd.—The prophecies of impending defeat and disaster published in some English newspapers have been read here with astonishment. The dates of the writers are as inaccurate as their deductions are gloomy. Mahomed Jan was not a soldier of great repute in the wars of Turkistan. Until lately he was an unknown subordinate officer of artillery. General Charles Gough never was in danger during his march to the relief of Cabul. General Roberts was right when he reckoned on his ability to bring up the reinforcements. He never had to fight his way around the city to Shipur. He had in December enough firewood for four months and forage for fifty-four days. The idea of a forced retreat upon Jellalabad never suggested itself here.

Paris, February 2nd.—In the Chamber of Deputies, to-day, Gambetta, after reading a letter addressed to Paul De Cassagnac, announcing the death of his father, expressed, in the name of the Chamber, and regardless of party feeling, regret at the death of such a distinguished man.

Debate on the customs tariff was resumed. The report of the Commerce said the protective system had produced good results in the country. The Committee was willing to agree to a system of commercial treaties. It had discarded prohibitive duties and abolished export dues. The report concluded by saying: "Our national industry is far from flourishing. We have been for some time outstripped by foreign competition."

London, February 3rd.—The *Standard* states that among the measures promised by the Government, to be presented at the opening of Parliament, is a bill regarding the distress in Ireland.

Dublin, February 3rd.—The Irish Court of Queen's Bench granted Davitt, Daly, Killen, and Breunen, an extension of time to plead and orders have been given to furnish the accused with copies of indictments against them. It is believed their trials will be held in March.

Clonmel, February 3rd.—A large number of unemployed people to-day made a demonstration before the Mayor's office, demanding work or bread, accompanying their demand with threats to sack the bakers' shops.

Dublin, February 3rd.—At the annual meeting of the Home Rule League to-day, William Shaw disclaimed any

pretensions to be considered a leader of the Irish people.

Dublin, February 3rd.—At a meeting of the Irish National Land League to-day, it was resolved that Michael Davitt should be deputed to wait upon the editors of French and other continental newspapers to enlist their support in efforts for the relief of distress in Ireland.

London, February 3rd.—The steamer *Strathleven*, with a cargo of fresh meat in cases and live stock, from Australia for London, has arrived. The meat in the cases is perfectly fresh.

Paris, February 3rd.—De Freycinet, President of the Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs, replying to a deputation from the St. Etienne Chamber of Commerce, said he appreciated the importance of a treaty of commerce with America, and would take the subject into consideration as soon as Tirard, Minister of Commerce, placed it before him.

Dublin, February 3rd.—At a meeting of the Mansion House Relief Committee, to-day, Lord Mayor Grey presiding, it was announced that £41,115 had been received by the Committee to date, and £15,400 distributed.

Replies to inquiries from the Lord Mayor have been received from thirty bishops, including three Catholic archbishops and one Protestant archbishop, repudiating Parnell's charges of discriminating against rent defaulters, expressing entire confidence in the Committee.

Vienno, February 3rd.—Trustworthy accounts represent the internal condition of Russia as becoming daily more critical. A number of officers high in command have become disaffected, while those not promoted after the late war with Turkey have, with few exceptions, joined the Revolutionists.

Madrid, February 3rd.—In the Chamber of Deputies to-day, the Minister of Colonies, replying to an interpellation, said the Government would accept any proposal for financial or commercial reforms which would ameliorate the condition of the Cubans.

Athens, February 3rd.—The Chamber of Deputies voted the bill granting the Government authority to make a loan for the defrayal of current expenses. It was the refusal of this grant which caused the recent ministerial crisis.

Rome, February 3rd.—The *Avenire d'Italia* announces that General Bonelli, Minister of War, has resigned from the Cabinet in consequence of the attitude of those Generals of the army having seats in the Senate during the discussion on the Grist Tax bill.

Rome, February 3rd.—The condition of the Pope's health is unsatisfactory, owing to recent worry and anxiety.

Berlin, February 3rd.—Bismarck yesterday held a long conference with the Emperor on the Army bill and new taxes.

Lahore, February 3rd.—Mahomed Jan has established a chain of armed posts on the Turkistan and Ghuznee roads, where his officers search people passing to and from Cabul.

Havana, February 3rd.—General Grant and party visited the Vento Water Works, near Havana, yesterday. To-night a great tea party, followed by a ball, was given at the Palace, in honor of the distinguished visitor. The principal families of the city, and all official persons, were invited. The Vice Governor-General issued invitations in the name of Captain-General Blanco. Thursday the party will go to Matanzas, and visit some plantations in that vicinity.

On the 1st instant another earthquake occurred at Candelarin, in the District Vuolta Abajo. Three oscillations were felt, the direction being east-southeast and west-north-west.

Chief Lunbano Sanchez has been defeated in the jurisdiction of Baracoa, and 600 huts belonging to the insurgents were burned.

Dublin, February 4th.—The daily, hourly cry of distress in Ireland becomes more and more urgent and widespread. Every day reveals new horrors in the catalogue of suffering. The outlook for the coming months is gloomier than any prediction has yet painted. No language can describe the appalling privations, the utter destitution which prevails. It is impossible to overdraw the situation, so rapidly do matters become worse. What might have been an exaggeration yesterday will to-morrow be an under-estimate. Three hundred thousand people are slowly starving, and can only be kept alive by superhuman efforts on the part of their fellow-creatures. Some of them are living on one meal daily, of turnips or of meal. Thousands more are



consuming their last potatoes. Local efforts are becoming feeble.

Berlin, February 4th.—The *National Zeitung's* Vienna letter asserts that Austria is firmly resolved to increase the defences of that Empire. The military authorities consider it desirable that Buda-Pesth be fortified, instead of Vienna. The necessity for immediate construction of new fortifications is unanimously recognized.

London, February 4th.—The American demand for iron is causing unprecedented activity in Great Britain. Four vessels, loaded with over 5,000 tons of pig iron and rails, sailed from Leith for New York to-day, and thirteen are at present chartered to load iron for American ports.

London, February 4th.—The *Times*, in a leader, on the Queen's speech, says: Foreign affairs will probably be briefly dismissed. Anxious attention will have to be paid to affairs in Afghanistan. Great importance, also, will be attached to any announcement respecting south Africa. The Queen cannot fail to refer with sympathy to the distress in Ireland, but the feeling which may find expression in the royal speech will be independent of any passing phase of Irish political discontent. There is no reason to suppose that the present agitation will have any different fate from preceding ones.

London, February 4th.—At a meeting of the Dublin Mansion House Committee yesterday, Lord Mayor Gray stated that at the rate at which they had been expending it, the fund on hand would not last more than four weeks.

London, February 4th.—Owing to the death of his sister, Gladstone will not attend the earlier part of the session of Parliament, unless public business requires his presence.

Madrid, February 4th.—The Chamber of Deputies to-day renewed the debate on Cuban measures. Senor Elduager, Minister of Colonies, reiterated that he would execute all reforms possible, but Deputy Portuando insisted upon developing his interpellation, and demanded the introduction of a series of measures favoring agriculture, commerce and manufactures.

Madrid, February 4th.—Five Kabyles chiefs arrived at Malaga from Morocco, to present a petition on the part of several thousand Moors, asking to be placed under the allegiance of Spain. It is expected that they will come to Madrid to confer with the Ministry. They declare if Spain declines to extend a protectorate over them, they will ask protection from France or England.

Vienna, February 4th.—A St. Petersburg correspondent writes that General Skobeloff will only command the Tekke expedition if the force be fixed at 100,000, which the Minister of War has hitherto refused to accede. It is possible that General Gonrko will be appointed.

London, February 4th.—The Empress of Russia has arrived at St. Petersburg.

Berlin, February 4th.—It cannot be denied that a Conservative majority no longer exists. The Government will soon have to rely upon the support of the National Liberals, which fact will certainly have some influence on the development of the Church question.

Berlin, February 4th.—The Bavarian Parliament is decidedly against the Army bill.

Paris, February 4th.—The Bishop of Angers has issued an appeal to parish priests to collect subscriptions, to be applied in aid of the distress in Ireland.

Bombay, February 4th.—A subscription has been opened here in aid of Irish distress. One native banking firm subscribed £1,000. The Committee consists of both Europeans and natives.

Lahore, February 4th.—Six leading Kohistan chiefs have collected a force to oppose the British nominee for the Governorship of that district.

Thyetmyo, February 4th.—The Burmese Government has empowered its Embassy to negotiate a new treaty with England.

Havana, February 4th.—The reception to General Grant at the Viceroyal Palace last night was a splendidly arranged affair. The elite of Havana society and many transient and resident Americans were present. The Palace was elegantly decorated with flowers, and illuminated.

London, February 5th.—In the House of Commons, Northcote gave notice that he would move to-morrow the adoption of a bill sanctioning the measures of relief for Ireland already taken, and for further relief.

Alexander M. Sullivan, Home Rule member for Louth,

gave notice that he would to-morrow move for leave to introduce a bill for the better protection of life and property in Ireland by suspending the serving of writs of ejectment for non-payment of rent.

Charles Newdegate, Conservative member for Warwickshire, gave notice of his intention to offer resolutions providing for suspension of members as a penalty for obstruction of legislation.

William Shaw, Home Ruler from Cork, gave notice of an amendment to the address, censuring the Government for failure to take efficient measures for the relief of the distress in Ireland, and calling upon them to act in that direction. The amendment concludes with the statement that it is essential for the peace and prosperity of Ireland to legislate immediately and comprehensively on the question relative to land tenure, the neglect of which duty is the cause of constantly recurring distress in that part of the country.

John Robert Mowbray (Conservative), member for Oxford University, moved the address in answer to the speech from the throne.

Corry, in seconding the motion, stated the distress in Ireland was not so general as has been represented. He conceded that any interference with the land question should be conducted with all due safeguards.

The Marquis of Hartington said the Greek question ought to be taken up and settled as speedily as possible. He criticised the recent intervention of the Government in Turkish matters as likely to lead to future complications, and pointed out that reforms in Asiatic Turkey were still in abeyance. Speaking of Austro-German alliance, he said he thought it would be well for England to look to her own security. He criticised the annexation of Transvaal, and argued that the population of Afghanistan is now in a worse position than before, and asked for explanations regarding the military executions in Cabul. He hoped the Government would, at the earliest moment, state definitely what steps had been taken to relieve the distress in Ireland, and contended the Government had a prolonged opportunity for obstruction by unnecessarily continuing the existence of Parliament.

Northcote regretted that the Marquis of Hartington had not given any explanations touching the attitude of the Liberals in regard to the Home Rule question. There was nothing in the state of the country rendering a dissolution necessary. The Opposition must bear its share of the blame attached to the toleration of obstruction, as they had not supported the endeavours of the Government to terminate the obstruction. The great question, he said, is still under consideration—the financial difficulties of the Porte, added to difficulties in dealing with the question of Asiatic reforms. The Austro-German alliance gave great pleasure to the Government, as it is likely to be conducive to the peace of the world. Her Majesty's Government had no wish for the annexation of Afghanistan. The Government had not been remiss in taking what steps in Ireland they thought necessary upon the information received. The Government would ask for a bill of indemnity for loans granted. If the object of Shaw's amendment was to register a vote against the Government, it would not be right that he should offer it while he was ignorant of the Government's proposals regarding Ireland.

Shaw then moved an adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to, after a desultory discussion, in which several Irish members participated, as to whether Shaw should move his amendment before or after the Government's proposal had been made known.

In the House of Lords, the Earl of Onslow moved, and the Earl of Rosse, (Conservative,) seconded the address in answer to the speech from the throne. Both referred to the distress in Ireland.

Earl Granville deprecated the strong language of Parnell. He said he was utterly opposed to Home Rule, but reform in local government, he thought, might do much toward satisfying Irishmen.

Lord Bencousfield maintained the Balkans were an intoligible frontier for Turkey, and said the Government had made a proposition which there was every reason to hope would bring the Greek affair to a conclusion. A telegram just received from Sir Bartle Frere gave promise of carrying out the scheme of confederation in South Africa. The Government was opposed to annexation in Afghanistan,

and the charges of cruelty against General Roberts were unsupported by the documentary testimony. Home Rule he defined to be a dismemberment of the United Kingdom.

The Duke of Argyll followed, and attacked General Roberts and the Anglo-Turkish Convention.

Lord Craubrook replied to the Duke of Argyll, and defended the Government.

The address was then agreed to, and the House adjourned.

Dublin, February 5th.—The Mansion House Committee reports the amount received to date at £42,373, and its total grants at £16,889. A letter was read before the Committee from Dr. Nulty, Bishop of Meath, saying the Committee enjoys the confidence and is entitled to the gratitude of the country.

Paris, February 5th.—The calamity, which occurred on the Circular Railroad at Clichy, Tuesday night, is even more horrible than estimated from first reports. Eleven persons have already died, the most notable among them being Count De Puyferrat. The number wounded is computed at sixty, and of these some are likely to die. Dieudonne, engineer of the train of the Circular Railroad, died yesterday. In his auto-mortem statement, he gave his version of the particulars of the disaster. He was within a few yards of the Argenteuil train before he observed the red lights on the rear car, and before he had time to do anything the crash came and he knew no more. Two causes are mentioned as tending to explain the collision. One is the reprehensible practice of dispatching a fast express train a few minutes after the departure of the slow train, and the other the utter insufficiency of the fog signals on the line. At the time of the collision the express train was running at full speed. M. Maret, of Place Vendome, who was among the killed, was an eminent architect, and had been in the service of ex-Queen Isabella, of Spain. He seemed to have a presentiment of his fate, as he insured his life for \$30,000 a few hours before he took the train. M. Hayme, stage manager, and M. Jolly, comedian, of the Bouffes Parisiennes, are dangerously injured, and in a very critical condition. M. de Milleville, another of the wounded, is the husband of Emilie Broisat, of the Theatre Francaise.

Paris, February 5th.—Dr. Paul Broca, nominee of the Extreme Left, has been elected life Senator to succeed Count De Montalivet, deceased, defeating Bertoland by eight votes.

London, February 5th.—A Paris dispatch says: The Budget Committee proposes to vote a credit of eight million francs for the construction of subterranean telegraph lines.

Berlin, February 5th.—In a debate in the Lower House of the Landtag, to-day on public worship estimates, Herr Windthorst regretted that Herr Von Puttkammer, Minister of Worship, had laid stress on continuing the principles of Dr. Falk, and demanded a complete severance therefrom. He did not feel any extraordinary confidence in the success of negotiations with the Vatican, but said the Ultramontanes would refrain from introducing any definite motion, so as not to interfere with these negotiations, and would acquiesce with any agreement that might be concluded. Herr Von Puttkammer expressed the high esteem for the Catholic Church entertained by the Government, and said although compelled to protect her rights, the State had never relinquished a hope of restoring peace with the Church. He gladly noted the inclination of Catholics toward a compromise, which, however, could only be effected on a basis of existing legislation, and added that he must inflexibly maintain the interests and rights of the monarchy. To obtain peace, he said, all parties must observe great moderation. During the course of the debate, Herr Hemmerstein stated that the Conservatives would await the result of the negotiations with the Vatican, and simply accept the result, whatever that might be. Herr Stengel, on behalf of the Free Conservatives, expressed a willingness to assist in bringing about a *modus vivendi*, on condition that the inviolable rights of the State be maintained. Dr. Falk spoke in refutation of charges made against him by members of the Centre.

Berlin, February 5th.—A Radical journal, the *Berliner Zeitung*, has been confiscated for publishing a sharp attack upon the Government. This is the first instance, for many years of a non-socialistic paper being suppressed.

Berlin, February 5th.—From the fact that Archduke Albrecht is to represent Austria at the twenty-fifth

anniversary of the Czar's accession to his throne, the German Press concludes that the *rapprochement* between Austria and Russia is going on. The Archduke is a recognized friend of Russia.

It is now certain the Count De St. Vallier will retain his post at Berlin.

Madrid, February 6th.—The *Politica* announces that the Paris Societe Generale has offered the Spanish Government a loan of sixty pinsters at six per cent, guaranteed primarily on the revenues of Cuba, and secondarily on those of Spain.

City of Mexico, January 30th, via New York, February 5th.—Shocks of earthquakes were felt at Cardoba, Orizaba, Tehuacan and Vera Cruz January 22nd, the same date they were felt in Cuba. No damage done.

London, February 6th.—In the House of Commons to-day, Stanhope, Under Secretary of Secretary of State for India, replying to a question, stated that he could produce a dispatch in which the Duke of Argyll, telegraphing to Shere Ali in 1859, when he was Indian Secretary, had styled Queen Victoria "Empress of India." Stanhope confirmed the report that certain correspondence between the Ameer of Afghanistan and the Russian Government had been discovered in Cabul, but said it was not in the interest of the public service to publish it.

Sir Michael Hicks Beach, Colonial Secretary, confirmed the report published January 10th, that England had secured from the King of Agbosomes, on the gold coast of Africa, the cession of a strip of his sea-board extending two miles inland, as a measure of preventing the smuggling of spirits into the British possessions on the gold coast by American traders.

The debate on the Home Rule amendment to the address was then begun.

Win. A. Redmond, Home Rule member for Wexford, moved, and F. O'Gorman Mahon, Home Rule member for Clare, seconded, the amendment to the address.

William Shaw, in a speech in support of the amendment, said he did not wish to condemn the Government for what they were going to do in the future, but for what they had done in the past. If the Government had offered to make advances to Irish farmers in the first instance at the rate of one per cent, they might have done much to avert the calamity which is now upon Ireland. The Government ought also to have given greater powers to the Boards of Guardians. He said a gradual process of starvation has been going on in Ireland for some time. He did not wish the Government to lavish too much money on public works, because the people were demoralized by the manner in which money had been wasted in 1847. It was discreditable to England's greatness that in Ireland three-fourths of the people should be reduced to a condition barely removed from actual famine by two or three bad harvests. He acknowledged that the problem to be solved was a difficult one, but the difficulty was not insuperable.

Northcote next spoke. He found no fault with Irish members for taking this early opportunity for drawing attention to so important a matter, but they would be going beside the question of distress by occupying themselves with such points as those dealt with in the amendment. He distinctly denied that the Government had allowed the matter to sleep. The report of the Registrar-General for the past year, just received, disclosed a very unsatisfactory state of things. The extent of land under crops in Ireland was less than during any preceding ten years. The total value of the principal crops for 1879 was estimated at £23,000,000 against £33,000,000 for the preceding year. The potato crop of 1878 was estimated at 50,500,000 hundred weight, whereas it is expected the yield for 1879 will be only 22,000,000 hundred-weight—a most alarming decrease. Toward the end of last October the Irish Government forwarded to the Cabinet information which the Government took into serious consideration, inviting the Lord-Lieutenant and others to attend in London. The Government found there was considerable apprehension of famine in some parts of Ireland. They thereupon took the precautions necessary until the meeting of Parliament. The Chancellor said, that in a bill which he intended at a later period to introduce, there would be provisions authorizing the local Government Board, to authorize Boards of Guardians to issue food and fuel by way

of out-door relief. It would also be proposed to allow Boards of Guardians to borrow money in exceptional cases. The question of stimulating the employment of labor was one full of difficulty, but the Government was desirous of doing something in that direction, and they thought it best to give some encouragement to persons to borrow money to be used in improvement of their land; therefore, they propose to advance loans on exceedingly easy terms to landlords, to be used for that purpose. The Baronial Sessions would also be asked to make presentments.

The O'Donoghue, Liberal, said the proper course was to lend money to farmers, not to landlords.

The debate was continued by the following Home Rule members: Colonel Colthurst, Arthur Moore, Dr. Michael Ward, Major Francis O'Beirne, Charles Joseph Fay, Patrick Martin and John George MacCarthy, all of whom condemned the Government's plans as inadequate.

Right Honorable D. Plunket, Conservative from Dublin University, said Parnell's utterances would only be received with loathing, and their result might be an agitation which would end in bloody resistance to the law.

F. H. O'Donnell, Home Rule, from Durgaroon, rose to a point of order to this expression.

The Speaker ruled that Plunket's language was unparliamentary.

Plunket submitted to the ruling of the Speaker, and qualified his language slightly.

Alex. Martin Sullivan, Home Rule, energetically defended Parnell.

Rt. Hon. James Lowther, Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, stated that no case of death from starvation had occurred in Ireland.

Mitchell Henry, Home Rule, moved an adjournment of debate, which was agreed to.

Sir Stafford Northcote then obtained leave to bring in a bill to render valid proceedings for the relief of Irish distress, and to make further provisions therefor. He explained that advances would come out of the fund at the disposal of the Irish Church Temporalities Commission.

Northcote's bill was then brought in, and read the first time.

Liverpool, February 6th.—The interest in the contest for the seat in Parliament made vacant by the death of John Torr, arises from the fact that Lord Ramsay, the Liberal candidate, had made a bid for the Home-Rule vote by pledging his support to an inquiry into the question of home rule. The remarkably heavy vote was as follows: For Lord Ramsay, 23,885; for Edward Whitley (Conservative), 26,106; Whitley's majority, 2,221.

Dublin, February 6th.—A dispatch from Galway states that a large body of tenantry in the town of Athy, headed by Father McWhillan, beat off a number of process servers, who were under the protection of a small detachment of constabulary. Great excitement prevailed among the populace, and some shots were fired, but no serious damage was done. The constabulary acted with moderation, confining themselves to defensive measures. The process servers were thoroughly frightened and withdrew, carrying their papers with them.

London, February 6th.—Walters, one of the principals in the great turf frauds, in connection with which Benson, Kerr and three detectives—Micklejohn, Drusoovitch and Palmer—were convicted in 1878, has been arrested.

Liverpool, February 6th.—The Court of Inquiry on the *Borussia* disaster has exonerated the owners, captain and officers of the vessel, but is not prepared to say whether the vessel was perfectly seaworthy.

Berlin, February 6th.—The Budget of the German Empire has been submitted to the Bundesrath. The amount of revenue and expenditure are fixed at 544,888,184 marks. The items of permanent expenditure amount to 467,409,487 marks, and temporary expenditure to 77,478,657 marks.

Vienna, February 6th.—The Austrian Delegation has adopted the army and navy estimates of the Government without amendment. Relative to rumored intention of the Government to fortify Vienna, the Minister of War said to the Delegation that the question of the defence of the whole Monarchy had been disposed of two years ago, and had not since been re-opened.

Paris, February 6th.—The *Ganlos* asserts positively that twenty-two dead and 116 wounded are the total casualties at the recent railway accident at Clichy.

## THE JAPANESE PRESS.

### THE INFLUENCE OF COMMERCE.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

(Continued from last Saturday.)

ENGLAND has from very early times devoted great attention to the development of commercial enterprise. This has resulted in a vast expansion of all industries, agriculture, mining, the fisheries, have all rapidly increased, roads, railways, and telegraph lines envelop the land as with a network; navigation has been brought to great perfection and communication with far distant countries facilitated. At first, great difficulties existed, but by the steady perseverance and unyielding firmness so characteristic of the British nation, all obstacles have been swept from the path of progress until the country has at length attained the unrivalled position of a Queen among the nations of the world. Let us briefly sum up the wonderful strides made by this powerful state. To use the words of one of her leading men, the wealth of England has advanced by "leaps and bounds." From 1763 to 1870 the population increased three-fold notwithstanding the swarms which annually left the parent hive to people other lands and spread the name and fame of England. During the same period, imports increased thirty-fold and exports twenty-fold; the tonnage of vessels sailing under the meteor flag rose from 500,000 tons to 7,100,000 tons! while during the past fifteen years the trade of the country has actually doubled! From this we can easily conceive the enormous increase in the material wealth of the country and the improvement in the position of the inhabitants. The imports of Great Britain are chiefly raw material which is manufactured and re-exported. Commercial intercourse is carried on with all countries:—France, Italy, Holland, Turkey, North and South America, Japan, China, India, Hongkong, Australia, &c., &c., so that there is not in all the universe a single spot which the wide-circling arms of British commerce does not enfold. Must we not regard with envious admiration a state which enjoys this proud preëminence? And yet England has not attained her exalted position through the possession of great natural advantages or mineral wealth, but simply by the indomitable perseverance of her people and the avoidance of frivolous wars.

The increase of luxury, however, is generally fatal to the supremacy of a nation and the vast wealth of England is gradually producing the inevitable result. In bygone ages Babylon, Assyria, Carthage and Rome, each in turn, ruled the world, but accumulated wealth proved the ruin of them all. How long then may England hope to continue her present haughty position? "Trade," says John Stuart Mill,\* "has taught the lesson to every country—how to carry on friendly relations with other states. In former days patriots desired other countries but their own all to be poor and powerless; such, however, is not the case at present, and we recognize in the progress and prosperity of another country an increased source of progress and prosperity for ourselves." The same writer also remarks, "War exercises a prejudicial effect upon the interests of every individual; therefore, when commerce attains a high state of development, unprovoked wars cease. International commerce is the foundation of universal peace. It may truly be said that the improvement of the inhabitants of the world depends upon the salutary influence exercised by commercial transactions." This is the opinion of a great political economist upon the true character of commerce, and in giving it he has explained the secret of England's commercial supremacy. We cannot admit that in our day this great nation either refrains from engaging in aggressive warfare, or looks upon the interests of other countries as identical with her own. Observe the manner in which England treats Eastern States: the sword in the right hand and commerce in the left! Her policy is to aggrandize herself at the expense of others, and she treats with contempt weak countries like India and China, whose interests are entirely subjected to the will of England. How long can this wicked, wanton policy continue?

In the not distant future when China becomes powerful, India independent, the other nations of the East advance in

\* The native paper is responsible for this and following quotations—Translator.



civilization, and the mighty Orient is relieved from the necessity of depending upon foreign importations, how can England then retain her present supremacy? What country will take up her position as "Mistress of the Seas?" The answer is obvious—the nation which occupies the same relative position to the East as England does to the West—the Empire of the Rising Sun!

Japan is blessed with unrivalled facilities for water transport, a fertile territory, great mineral wealth and a surpassingly beautiful climate. Thus we have been exceptionally favoured by Divine Providence and may reasonably ask:—how comes it then that the natural resources and commerce of the nation have not attained a higher degree of development? The fault lies with the feudal system which formerly obtained in the country. Under it, the military class alone was encouraged, while commerce was looked down upon with contempt. The farmers and mercantile portion of the community constituted the lower orders, the former being treated with the most consideration. It was usual among the mercantile community, for one man or association to become possessed of a monopoly, this custom was productive of great evil and did much to impede the growth of healthy commercial enterprise. Japan, however, is not the only country which has experienced similar evils. Contempt of commerce precluded the fall of mighty Rome, and it is only of comparatively late years that mercantile enterprise has taken up its proper position. Some excuse may therefore be found for the abuses which existed under our old feudal system. It is recognized that in ancient days, Japan possessed a considerable foreign commerce before the policy of the Tokugawa Government secluded the country, and destroyed mercantile enterprise. However, the records of these olden times are rather hazy and we shall not refer to them any further. It is well known that when the ports of Japan were opened to foreign trade, the shipping of the country was wholly inadequate to its requirements, and navigation entirely unknown. There were no roads or bridges worthy of the name, and as we were entirely ignorant of the condition of foreign lands, we were constantly falling into the snares set by designing strangers. As a result, this country was in a short time despoiled of its wealth. Formerly Japan was known as a very rich state, and for a long period many of the European nations were desirous of entering into commercial relations with us. This is clearly evidenced by the writings of foreign authors. We will here give two or three extracts for the benefit of our readers in proof of our assertion. Marco Polo, writing in 1298 says, "The Japanese possess enormous accumulations of gold and never-ending supplies of the precious metals," and another writer in 1588 says, "The Portuguese send large ships every year to Japan and obtain annually \$500,000 worth of gold and Holland secures 1,400 boxes every year, each containing 1,000 rics in gold." Another author states that "From 1616 to 1706, 6,190,000 gold *loban* and 112,260,000 silver *coin* were exported from Japan," and also "The palace in Yedo is ornamented with gold." Thus it will be seen that foreigners have for a very long time been yearning after the enormous wealth of this country. But what is the present condition of Japan, once so envied for its riches? From the very first opening of the ports a constant draining of specie has been going on, until at length the nation is reduced to the existing state of poverty. What is to be the future of Japan? Nothing is more essential in order to restore the prosperity of the country than the encouragement of commerce and production. We have the great empire of China and also Corea in our neighborhood as markets for our produce. By constant communication with them we can improve our knowledge of navigation and with the aid of our wealthy capitalists can thus prevent English merchants from absorbing all the benefits of our trade. Therefore we repeat, that the encouragement of commercial enterprise is absolutely necessary, and on some future occasion we will give our views as to the best means of effecting so desirable an object.

#### LAW REPORTS.

IN H. B. M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. T. RENNIE, Esq., Judge.

Thursday, March 4th, 1880.

ANDREW JAFFRAY *versus* ALEXANDER CLARK.

The plaintiff, Andrew Jaffray, alleged in his petition

that the defendant, Alexander Clark on the 27th of January, 1880, while acting as the agent for and on behalf of the plaintiff, purchased for the plaintiff from the executors of E. S. Benson, deceased, the property known as number 123 Settlement, and that the defendant obtained a transfer to himself of the property so purchased and refused to convey it to the plaintiff. The plaintiff therefore prayed that the defendant should be ordered to transfer lot number 123 to plaintiff, and that plaintiff should have such further relief as to the Court should seem just.

The defendant in his answer denied that he was acting as agent for the plaintiff in the purchase, and put in issue all the material allegations contained in the petition.

Mr. Lowder appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Kirkwood for the defendant.

Mr. Lowder opened the plaintiff's case by reading the petition, the three first paragraphs of which he observed were admitted by defendant's answer.

Mr. Kirkwood applied for permission to make a slight verbal amendment in the answer, which was granted by consent.

Mr. Lowder continued:—The pleadings raise a simple issue, one of fact, whether or not the defendant was acting as the agent of the plaintiff in the purchase of the property mentioned in the pleadings, and to the evidence on this point I shall confine myself. If it is once established, as I think it will be, that defendant was the agent of the plaintiff, then I shall call your Honour's attention to certain cases which will incontestably prove that the plaintiff is entitled to the relief prayed for.

Plaintiff sworn and examined by Mr. Lowder.—I am a livery stable keeper residing at Number 123, which I hold under a lease having about two years to run. My landlord died, and I heard in the latter end of December that the premises were for sale. I called upon Mr. E. R. Smith, who was one of the executors of deceased, and asked if they could sell me the place. He told me that the executors (Mr. Drake and himself) were waiting for instructions from America, but he thought they would be open to receive offers about the 15th of January. I said I was anxious to know then as the new year was approaching and I would have to make arrangements about the money. He said he would let me know as soon as they heard from America. He did not do so, however. I met Mr. Smith subsequently on the 23rd of January, and again mentioned the matter. He said that he and Mr. Drake were waiting for me to make them an offer. I called on Mr. Smith, the same afternoon, and offered \$2,600 for the property. Mr. Drake said it was worth more than \$4,000 to me, seeing I had all my buildings on it, and therefore he could not entertain my offer of \$2,600. I saw the executors expected I would pay a high figure, so I made up my mind to withdraw from direct negotiations and deal through an agent. On the 27th of the same month Mr. Smith called at my place on some business. I asked to be given the refusal of the property. He said he would let me know more about it. I waited for some time and hearing nothing from him I went in search of defendant. I met him in Main Street, in front of Mr. Bourne's, and asked him to become my agent and go and purchase number 123. He said "certainly." I asked him to come to my house and we would talk the matter over and I would give him further instructions. I asked him if he knew of any person likely to oppose me in purchasing the property. He said, "no, except perhaps the Chinaman formerly in the employment of Messrs Sitwell, Shoyer & Co." I said "do you think there is anyone likely to offer for it besides the Chinaman and myself?" He replied, "no, I do not." I asked him what he candidly thought was the value of the property? He said \$3,000, or a few hundred more if I made up my mind to remain in Japan. I told him to go and secure it for me. I said if it can be bought for \$3,000 or \$3,400, or thereabouts, you need not refer to me again, secure it at once. If it is much above that sum come back immediately and let me know what amount will purchase it and I will instruct you further. He replied, "very well, I will do the best I can for you." Before he left I told him my idea was that he should tell the executors that he knew of my offer and then offer \$3,000 at first, but without disclosing his principal, as it was likely they would charge me more than anyone else. He left again, saying, "I will do the best I can for you." It was then about twenty minutes after

eleven in the forenoon of the 27th of January. Defendant returned a few minutes after twelve and said, "I'm your landlord," and afterwards told me he had purchased the property for \$3,500. I said "Well, I suppose you have done the best for me you could. I'll allow you a handsome commission—I suppose \$100 will be satisfactory: we had better get the matter settled as soon as possible, the transfer made out and so on, as you know the money is lying idle." He replied, "I will attend to it to-morrow." The next evening defendant called at my place just before the evening meal and I asked him to have a beefsteak with me, and we would talk business afterwards. That was the evening of the ball at the Hongkong and Shanghai bank, and as I had carriages to attend to, I went out after dinner, defendant promising to remain until I returned. When I got back he was gone, leaving a chit for me which I tore up and burned: the following was the effect of it:—"This is to let you know that I have made up my mind to keep the property for myself."

Cross-examined by Mr. Kirkwood—Mr. Smith came to me on the 27th of January and asked me to send him some horse manure for his garden. This was about ten o'clock in the forenoon. He did not tell me the property was sold; he promised to send me further particulars. I did not meet defendant in Mr. Cope's auction room on the morning of the 27th, I met him in Main street. I had not seen defendant on the 28th, before he came to my house. I did not offer to purchase the property from him at \$3,600. The chit he wrote was not a refusal to sell me the property, it was only to let me know he was going to keep it himself. He had not told me before that he was going to keep it. I might have been twenty minutes away after dinner. I drove up to Mr. Cope's with a pair of horses and back again. I was so angry when I got the chit that I tore it up. It was very disappointing indeed. The document produced I have read before. I read it at the corner of my own place on the evening of the 27th of January, when defendant called. He pulled it out of his pocket and gave it to me to read in the street. (This document is as follows:—

Yokohama, January 27th, 1880.

Received from Mr. Alexander Clark five hundred dollars on account of thirty-five hundred dollars to be paid by him for premises (land only) No. 123 Foreign Concession. Balance of purchase money to be paid by the 17th of next month. Premises sold subject to the lease now held by Mr. A. Jaffray. Rent from February 1st to be collected by Mr. Clark, and ground rent from the 1st of February to be paid by him.

CHARLES DRAKE,

Executor of Estate of E. S. Benson, deceased.)

I put no question to defendant after I read this paper. I did not ask him why he had fixed a particular date for the completion of the purchase. I was willing to increase my offer from \$2,600 to \$3,400 because I was anxious to secure the property. It was worth \$4,000 to me. I could not ascertain if any offers had been made above mine. I was groping in the dark as it were. I was guided to some extent by defendant's valuation. I saw Mr. Drake on the 27th, after I saw Mr. Smith. I asked him if the property was sold. He said "Yea." I asked, "who was the purchaser?" He replied "Mr. Clark."—"The price?" "\$3,500." I did not say in reply I would sooner have Mr. Clark for my landlord than a Chinaman. After defendant intimated he intended to keep the property, I suspected he was cheating me, and I took every means in my power to get the property without litigation. I did not notify the executors that defendant was my agent in the purchase and therefore not to transfer the property to him. I did not notify them because I never thought of doing so. I did not notify the American Consul either. Neither myself nor anyone on my behalf ever claimed the property in writing before the 18th of February. On the 29th of January, in the morning, I met defendant and asked him why he had left my house, and again renewed my offer to pay him his commission. He said he would keep the property for himself. From that time to the 18th of February, I made no other claim upon him. During this time I was aware the transfer was to be completed on the 17th of February. I have tried to purchase the property from defendant since the 28th of January. I instructed Mr. Winstanley to purchase the property from defendant for me and to go as high as \$4,000, as it would avoid

litigation. Mr. Winstanley was the only person I employed to purchase from defendant for me. I may have told Mr. Drake that business was bad and I did not care about the property if I had to give more than \$2,600 for it. I was buyer and he was seller. It was my business to get it as cheap as possible. I would be very much surprised to learn that the property was sold to defendant on the 26th of January, because Mr. Drake told me on the 27th he had just sold it. I would also be surprised to learn that defendant had made a standing offer of \$3,500 in December. I never made an offer through Mr. Peacock. He said he thought he could settle the matter amicably.

Re-examined:—When I instructed defendant to purchase the property for me he did not tell me that he was the owner, he led me to believe the contrary by saying that he knew of no one who would oppose me but the Chinaman.

By the Court:—I had often employed defendant previously as my agent in the purchase of horses. The seller always paid the commission and, I believe, a handsome one.

George Shirras, sworn:—I am a British subject, residing at 113. I am a horse-shoeing blacksmith. I am on good terms with both parties to this action. I had a conversation with defendant one Sunday afternoon, early in February, concerning the dispute. Defendant told me he bought the property. It was the first I heard of it and I asked him "what property?" He replied "did not Mr. Jaffray tell you?" I said "no." He then said he had bought No. 123—Jaffray's place. I asked him how he came to buy it and why Mr. Jaffray did not buy it. He said "Mr. Jaffray asked me to buy it for him at a certain price." I then asked how it was that he did not buy the place for plaintiff, and he replied "Jaffray would not give the price for it."

Cross-examined by Mr. Kirkwood:—No one asked me to see defendant. I often go to see him. Defendant did not tell me that when plaintiff asked him to buy the place for him it was too late. Plaintiff has never asked me to see defendant in the matter. No price was ever mentioned, as the negotiations never went so far. Plaintiff paid my passage out from Scotland. I came out under two years engagement to him, and I now shoe his horses.

By the Court:—I do not know what defendant meant. He used the words I have repeated.

Resumed at 1 o'clock.

Peter Peacock examined by Mr. Lowder:—Am a British subject and Inspector of the Guard at Her Majesty's Legation. I am particularly friendly with both parties to the suit. The defendant has called me. About the 14th of February I had a conversation with defendant. I met him on the bund. I said "I have not seen our friend Jaffray lately. Is the rumor true that you and he have had some disagreement?" He replied "I will tell you all about it. A short time ago the property 123 was for sale and Mr. Jaffray asked me to buy it for him and consulted me as to its value which I said was about \$3,400, or a little more if he intended to stay long in Japan. Mr. Jaffray said the price appeared high but that his own bid of \$2,600 had been refused, and requested me to go and buy it for him as cheap as I could. I went to the agents and offered them \$3,000 for the land on Mr. Jaffray's account, but they would not take it, so I concluded to purchase for myself for \$3,500, and went back to Mr. Jaffray and told him that I was his landlord." Our conversation was then interrupted. I saw defendant again on the following day at his residence on the Bluff and I said "I have called out of friendship as a mediator on behalf of Mr. Jaffray and I am prepared to give you a handsome present for your trouble if you will give up your claim to the lot of land at No. 123." Mr. Clark replied "friendship is friendship but business is business, I bought the land for myself and I am going to stick to it, for I heard two days ago that a third party offered more for the land than I offered on Mr. Jaffray's account, so if I had not got it myself Mr. Jaffray would not have got it. He then reiterated what he said on the previous day and added that "the bid I made for Mr. Jaffray was refused and the bid I made for myself was accepted," and also that when he went back and told Mr. Jaffray he was his landlord he stared back to him as if he could not believe him, but afterwards said:—"You will let me have it won't you? I replied I would consider about it and I afterwards left a note at his house saying I would not

part with the property. On the next occasion we met, Mr. Jaffray said, "let me have the land and I will give you \$100 for your trouble." I told him I would not part with it nor do I intend to do so now, I bought the land for myself and I am resolved to keep it, for if it had been a bad bargain no one would have wanted it." I reported the conversation to plaintiff on the same afternoon.

Cross-examined by Mr. Kirkwood.—Plaintiff was in Yokohama the same afternoon. I wrote the note produced. I wrote down what Clark said a day or so afterwards, as soon as I heard there was going to be litigation. I told Clark I should do so when we had the conversation. Defendant did not say he was authorised by plaintiff to buy the property after he had bought it himself. I offered defendant \$300 for his trouble or \$3,800 if he had paid for the property. Plaintiff said he would rather pay \$4,000 than resort to litigation if it could possibly be avoided. Plaintiff did not tell me that he had offered defendant \$100 for his trouble. I did not know when first I spoke to defendant about the matter what land it was. I was surprised to learn it was number 123. I said plaintiff wanted to get the property as cheap as possible, defendant said plaintiff wanted to get it for nothing, but he took care he did not. Defendant did not tell me plaintiff's limit for the place, nor did he say when he was authorized to buy. I was not requested by plaintiff to see defendant. Defendant took credit to himself in our conversation for being smarter than plaintiff.

This closed plaintiff's case.

Mr. Kirkwood in opening the defendant's case remarked that he had a few witnesses whom he would call and on whose evidence he would rely. Setting on one side the veracity of the witnesses, he would prove that the property was purchased by the defendant some time before the plaintiff stated he asked the defendant to buy it for him. In other words, the defendant after several months of negotiation bought the property on the 26th of January and paid \$500 deposit between 9 and 10 o'clock on the morning of the day on which plaintiff said he commissioned defendant to buy for him.

Alexander Clark, examined by Mr. Kirkwood:—I am a British subject and the defendant. I own several houses on the Bluff and in the Settlement. My occupation is that of a landed proprietor and I live on my rents. In the early part of 1879, I saw Mr. Benson and asked him if he would sell number 123, and he said he would, at a price. He asked me \$5,000 for it. I said it was too much, but if I could get it at a reasonable price I would like to buy. Mr. Benson said he would let me know his lowest price either direct from Kobe, or through his agents. I never received any communication from him. He died on the passage from Kobe to Yokohama. About fifteen days after Mr. Benson's death, which was in the early part of last year, I called upon his agents Messrs. Smith, Baker & Co. I saw Mr. Smith and asked if the property 123 was for sale, and mentioned that I had seen Mr. Benson about it. Mr. Smith said the property would be for sale after instructions came out from America. He told me to call and see him again and he would let me know. From then until October, I called at the office two or three times every month. The last time I called Mr. Smith said "We have made up our minds to close the estate at the end of the year." He also said "call in December, what would your offer likely be?" I said I would like to get the property for \$3,000. He laughed and said "it will not be sold for any price like that; at any rate call in December." After the 20th of December, about the 24th, I called again and was introduced to Mr. Drake. He said "what is your offer for the property?" I said \$3,000. He said "the place is worth more you had better take time and consider." I replied, "very well I will call back in two days and make you my best offer." I returned in the two days and made an offer of \$3,300; both Mr. Smith and Mr. Drake were present. They said it was too low. I said, very well, I'll make you my last offer that is \$3,500. Mr. Drake said "will you make that a standing offer so that in case we accept you will not retract it?" I said yes. Mr. Drake said, "We have got to do the best we can with the estate and will give you the refusal, anyhow we cannot sell until January." I called on them about the 14th of January. Mr. Drake said they were waiting for another offer, and they would like to get it

as it might be better than mine. I said I would call back in a day two. He replied, very well. I next called on the 26th of January in the afternoon between 3 and 4 o'clock. Mr. Drake said "Look here will you make your offer \$250 more; make it \$3,750?" I told him "no, \$3,500 is the uttermost limit I will give for the property." Mr. Drake said "Very well the property is yours." He said you will have to make a deposit, I said I would guarantee to pay him a deposit before ten o'clock next morning. He said that would do. The next morning about a quarter or half-past nine I went to Mr. Drake's private office. Mr. Drake was not there but Mr. Smith was. I paid him a deposit of \$500, while I was writing the cheque Mr. Drake came in and wrote out the receipt and handed it to me. The document produced is that receipt (put in and marked A). I asked Mr. Drake to fix the 17th of February for the completion as that time would be more convenient for me, and he agreed to it. As a fact I paid the balance on the 16th of February and received the title deeds from Mr. Drake. After I left Mr. Drake's on the morning of the 27th, after paying the deposit, I went towards the hatoba, walked along the Bund and turned up into Main Street. I eventually went into Cope's auction room. There I met plaintiff, he came up very excited and said "Smith has told me that my property No. 123 is sold. I believe it's a G—d—lie. Will you run down and offer thirty-one or thirty-two hundred dollars for me." I said no it's no use the property is sold and I am the purchaser. He said "it's a b—lie." I took this paper (exhibit A) out of my pocket and showing it to him said "Will this convince you?" He said he would go and see Mr. Drake and see what they meant by selling the property without letting him know. We both walked together towards Mr. Jaffray's. On the way he said "you must have more money than brains to buy the property for any such price. I would never buy any property in Japan, unless I could get it for three or four years purchase." When we reached plaintiff's he asked me to go in and have a cocktail, I did so. He seemed very much annoyed with Messrs. Smith and Drake and called them "smart Yankoes" or something of that sort. He said nothing about my buying the property for him. He never asked me to buy it until the day after I did so for myself. I met plaintiff at Cope's the same afternoon (27th). He said he had seen Mr. Drake who told him I was the purchaser. He then said, "Look here we have been very good friends, will you sell me the property at \$3,600 and then you will make a handsome profit on your bargain?" I said I did not think I would; anyhow I would give him a positive answer next day. Next evening, I called and plaintiff asked me to have some whisky hot. I said I did not care for any before dinner. Plaintiff has very good whisky and pressed me to take some. I consented if he would have some also, and he did. During dinner, at which plaintiff tried to get me to drink beer, Mr. Helm came in. We were all talking and a betto came in and said to plaintiff "the carriage is ready." Plaintiff got up and said "Gentlemen you will have to excuse me. I have to go up to Mr. Cope's with my brougham to take Mr. and Mrs. Cope to the fancy ball. Here is a bottle of whisky, make yourselves comfortable during my absence which will be as short as possible." Not long after plaintiff went out, Mr. Helm said he had business to attend to and he left also. I waited for half an hour and as plaintiff did not come back I then left, but before leaving I wrote plaintiff a note to this effect:—"Yokohama, February 28th, 1880; Mr. Jaffray, My dear Sir, In reply to your offer of yesterday, I beg to let you know that I have made up my mind not to dispose of the property number 123, Yours truly, A. Clark." Next morning I met plaintiff who complained of my going away so early. I asked him if he got my note. He said yes. He also said "I thought you would have sold me the property as we have been friends." I said, "friendship is friendship and business is business I have other property and I will neither sell this nor any other." That was the last conversation we had on the subject. The first claim ever made upon me in the matter was when I received the letter produced (exhibit B) from Mr. Lowder. I never heard before that I had been commissioned to purchase the property by plaintiff. I wrote and delivered the reply produced (exhibit C.) stating that I repudiated any claim. I never bought anything for



plaintiff in my life except one China pony, *Gled*. The witness Shirras came to me the first Sunday after I bought the property. I told him I had bought 123 and paid \$3,500 for it. He said, did Mr. Jaffray know the property was for sale? I said yes, and he offered \$2,600 for it which was not accepted and I also said how disappointed plaintiff was, and how he had asked me to buy the property after I had bought it myself. Shirras came to see me on last Sunday and Monday. He told me that if I would sell the property to plaintiff for two or three hundred dollars profit plaintiff would pay all expenses and withdraw the suit. I said I would not sell the property for \$10,000 and refused to receive a letter he brought me from plaintiff. The first time I met the witness Peacock was on a Saturday forenoon, about the 17th of February. He was driving in one of plaintiff's carriages. He said "I heard you and Jaffray have had a fall out because you would not sell the property," that was all that then passed. Next day when I went home I found the note produced (exhibit D) it is addressed to 'Alister MacAlister' which is the "sititious" name I ran a horse under. 'The Baron' is the "sititious" name of the plaintiff. When Peacock came, he said plaintiff had authorised him to make me an offer for the property. He said "Jaffray tells me he offered you \$3,600 but you would not sell, I am now prepared to offer you \$3,700 or \$3,800 if you will sell." I refused to do so. I also told Peacock I had other property and if I went into business and failed I would have the property to fall back upon. Peacock said he did not know until lately that the property was the same as that in which Jaffray lived. I told Peacock I was surprised he would come about plaintiff's business on a Sunday and he said "I and the 'Baron' are in with each other in racing and when he asks me to do a thing for him I cannot refuse."

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder:—I am not and never was a commission agent. I remember an action brought against me in this Court by a Japanese in August last. If I then swore I was a commission agent I made a mistake. I think it likely I made a mistake. If I called myself a commission agent I had no object in doing so. I have been very intimate with plaintiff. He never told me, except at Mr. Cope's, that he wished to purchase the property. When Mr. Benson was in Yokohama in the early part of 1879, plaintiff asked me what I thought the place would fetch if sold, and I replied \$3,000 or over. I know plaintiff offered \$2,600 because either Mr. Smith or Mr. Drake told me so after I concluded the purchase. Plaintiff never told me. Notwithstanding our intimacy we never spoke about the place. We spoke about general subjects such as how he did the Yokohama Jockey Club, an enterprise in which I assisted him on several occasions. I never bought *Admiral Rous*, *Othello*, or *Moor* for plaintiff. I may mention that those ponies never belonged to plaintiff, they were owned by Mr. John Robertson of the Oriental Bank. Mr. John Robertson told me so himself. I paid the purchase money by a cheque on the Bank. I did not stay to tiffin with plaintiff on the day I showed him my receipt for the \$500, part purchase money. I do not remember plaintiff leaving me that day during tiffin. The next day plaintiff asked me to dinner, when I called to give him a decided answer. I think the witness Peacock is making a mistake about our first conversation as it could not have lasted as long. I consider Mr. Peacock is a truthful, careful man, who would not make an intentional misstatement. The writing on the envelope shown me is in my handwriting. I gave it with the enclosure to Mr. Moss to collect the rent from plaintiff. Moss returned it to me saying he could not get the rent. I did not send the letter direct to plaintiff before the 26th of February. (Document put in and marked as exhibit E, being a notice from C. Drake, as executor, &c., to plaintiff, that defendant had purchased the property Number 123, and that the rent was to be paid to defendant in future.)

Charles Drake examined by Mr. Kirkwood:—Am a citizen of the United States. I am one of the executors of the will of the late E. S. Benson, who died in the early part of last year. The sale of number 123 to defendant was completed by me on the afternoon of the 26th of last January. No money was then paid, but \$500 was paid next morning at about 10 o'clock. Exhibit A is in my handwriting. Defendant was several times to see me about the purchase before the 26th of January. About two weeks

before the purchase was completed, defendant left an offer open of \$3,500 for the property. Plaintiff offered \$2,600 for the place about the middle of January, but did not appear anxious about it. He called to see me after the property was sold, and I told him who had bought it and the price. He expressed satisfaction at having defendant for a landlord and not a Chinaman.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder:—About the middle of January I notified plaintiff that if he wanted the property we were ready to sell and to make an offer. He said business was very bad and he should only make a small offer.

Elliot Robert Smith examined by Mr. Kirkwood:—Am a citizen of the United States and one of the executors of Mr. Benson. Previous to the commencement of this year, going back as far as August, defendant has been in communication respecting the property number 123. I was present on the 26th of January during the first part of the conversation between defendant and last witness. Mr. Drake and myself had already agreed to let defendant have the place at his offer. Next morning I called at plaintiff's on my way to the office, say about nine o'clock, and he asked me if the property had been sold. I said I thought it was, but I was not quite sure. He asked me, if it was not sold if I would give him another chance, which I promised to do. Between ten and twelve on the 27th, defendant came in to pay the deposit. Mr. Drake was out at the time but came in shortly after and gave the receipt. I had no idea defendant was buying for anyone but himself.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder:—Plaintiff mentioned the property several times but generally in answer to my suggestions.

James Winstanley examined by Mr. Kirkwood:—Plaintiff instructed me to see what defendant would take for lot 123 and limited me to \$4,000. This was some time in February. My commission was arranged at 1 per cent but I could not effect the transaction.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder:—I had heard of the dispute between the parties before I was instructed by plaintiff. In conversation with me the plaintiff expressed a certain amount of annoyance at defendant's action in buying the property over his head.

This closed the case for the defendant, and Mr. Kirkwood addressed the Court at length, reviewing the evidence and pointing out that plaintiff must fail upon the testimony given by several independent witnesses that the sale to defendant had been actually completed before, the time plaintiff stated he had commissioned the defendant to effect a purchase as his agent.

Mr. Lowder replied on behalf of the plaintiff.

His Honour in delivering judgment stated that it was clear plaintiff must fail, as his petition was based on a misconception of facts. It was proved beyond doubt that the purchase of the property was not effected when, even taking the plaintiff's version of what had occurred as correct, the relationship of principal and agent existed between the parties, and therefore the prayer of the petition cannot be granted. The Court was convinced that the deposit on the purchase money was made in the morning, and although the defendant had not given his evidence in a very satisfactory manner, still in that particular he was borne out by Messrs. Drake and Smith. No doubt it was difficult to account for defendant's conduct and his extraordinary statements to the witnesses Peacock and Shirras. It may have been that defendant did not disclose the fact of his having purchased the property as soon as he ought, but after the evidence which had been adduced, a verdict would have to be given for the defendant with costs.

#### EQUINE MARTYRDOM.

In the *Courrier du Centre* of the Haute-Vienne there appeared in April of last year a terrible account of a frightful martyrdom of horses in France, a country which has been very well termed by Frenchmen themselves "*l'enfer des chevaux*." According to this journal, which gives an official account of the facts from a M. Sapin, member of the Limoges Society for the Protection of Animals, it appears that some speculators at Bordeaux have thought it well to try and make their fortunes out of that very disgusting object of natural history, the leech. To this end they have made artificial swamps on the banks of the Garonne, and filled the swamps with leeches. To be profitable these leeches must multiply themselves by millions; to do this they must be liberally supplied with food;

to thus supply them the Bordelais speculators buy up all the old and worn-out horses of the province, and drive or drag these horses into the swamps, which are subdivided by wooden compartments, so placed that when these unhappy animals have been forced into the mud there is no escape for them. The leeches fasten on them instantly by thousands; the horse is in a few moments black with crawling creatures; the bloodsuckers fix themselves most of all on the open wounds and galls that these poor horses have incurred in their many years of service. An eye-witness describes in terms of horrible vividness the vain struggles of the animals, drawn downward into the mud, bleeding at every pore, striving in frantic terror to shake off the leeches which hang on their eyes, their nostrils, all their most sensitive parts, and at last, exhausted by loss of blood, sucked down into the noxious slime, and seen no more. He adds that all these poor martyrs are bought when they are aged, infirm, weak with over-work, with hunger, and with fatigue, and in this piteous state are devoured alive by the annelides! From eighteen to twenty thousand horses are annually sacrificed in this manner at Bordeaux.

France must cease to be classed amidst civilised nations if such torture as this be permitted when once it has been exposed to the light of publicity. It would be probably useless in the land which has the school of Alfort, with its frightful operations and experiments, to urge the agonies of the horse as a reason to stop the barbarities of the greedy speculators, human leeches who thus draw blood to make them gold. But the argument which may be heard, and this may indirectly save the horses, is the medical statement made by many doctors of eminence that serious consequences to the human body, of inflammation, ulcers, and other affections, frequently follow on the application of leeches; and that there can be no reasonable doubt that leeches thus nourished on agonising and often diseased horses, most frequently if not always affected by glanders or some other malady, must be dangerous in the extreme to many, and liable to transmit to man the taint of scrofulous and other contagious torments.

Perhaps the egotism of human nature, taking fright at the peril to itself, may insist on this martyrdom of the horse being put an end to in the west of France, and it would be well if the vile speculators who thus trade on torture could receive some condign punishment from the law, and expiate in prison the misery they have caused. I fear these accounts have escaped the sight of the English public writers, for I have never seen any English relation of this frightful cruelty, nor have I seen it noticed by the Paris press.

I often think that the treatment of the horse all the world over is one of the most degrading instances of the ingratitude and the meanness of man. Despite all the enjoyment that they give us and all we owe to them, I sometimes wish that horses had never been tamed to servitude, and that we had been left to our own puny and contemptible powers of locomotion. This generous and loyal animal has become at its best a mere die for men to cast in gambling, at its worst a victim on which they can wreak their most brutal violence. With the exception of the few people who really love the horse for itself, the vast majority treat the animal precisely as though it were a mere machine without nerves or brain. The horse has enough in all conscience to endure from the servitudes inevitable to his preparation for his life of servitude, without having his subsequent career subject to the countless, and often quite wanton, tortures that are inflicted on him. A great deal of the suffering of the horse, such sufferings for instance as those endured in the leech swamps of Bordeaux, would be spared to them if it were not for the avarice of men. If those whose horses fall incurably lame, or become too slow from increasing years for the labour that is required of them, would only kill them mercifully, and as instantaneously as possible, instead of making small sums of money by selling them to livery stable keepers, cabmen, or carters, the gain to the horse would be immense, and the gain to the public no less, for if these cabmen and carters could not buy weak carriage horses and riding-hacks they would be obliged to buy stout roadsters, and horse dealers would find it profitable to breed strong, stout-limbed beasts with the *Pretcheron* or the Flemish strain in them. As it is now, the career of the horse is a *descentus Averni* from no fault of his own; he is broken in too early, harnessed too early; he becomes a carriage horse (luxuriously housed and fed), only at the first approach of age or weakness to be dismissed to the hard work of the livery stable, thence to the bitter exposure and ceaseless toll of the cabstand, thence to the carter's shafts in hideous night-work, where his wounds are unseen and the blows unheard that are rained on him, thence to the long drawn out death of the knacker's yard, or to the still greater agony of the vivisectioner's torture-chamber. Remembering all that the world owes to the horse—the world of pleasure and the world of business alike—nothing ever so utterly condemned the egotism and the brutality of human nature as this destiny that it allots to its faithful servant and companion. Men and women do not think about it because they are so used to it; but none the less is it one of the vilest spectacles of a false civilisation.

Much of this anguish would be spared if owners of horses would not sell them when in a feeble or aged state. Innumerable sprains and strains would be cured if the owner would have the patience and the liberality to keep the animal out of work for awhile. Instead, the master says that he "can't keep an animal eating its head off;" and it goes to the first buyer who will take it for omnibus or tramway, cart or wagon. Quantities of horses are thus sold by men to whom the few pounds thus gained are no object, or ought to be none. Rest would cure half the accidents that horses receive, but people will not give it them because it costs money. A pet horse of mine had a very bad strain consequent on a groom's disobedience; his leg was almost as useless as though it were broken; I was advised to sell him or kill him: I did neither; I had his plates taken off, put him into the largest loose box I have—one 18 ft. by 13 ft.—with straw up to his knees, and then, giving him no treat-

ment except cold water bandages, kept him doing nothing for a year; gently walked about on the soft paths of my woods when it was fine weather. He recovered entirely after twelve months' rest; and now he is ready to jump over the moon, and the only hard task is—to make him not gallop. Now I am aware that what is possible with one favourite horse is not possible with many; but there are thousands of people to whom a horse's keep for a year would be no very great burden, and it is only his keep that costs anything when you have other horses in your stable and men to attend on them. I wish men and women would think of this and not sell their horses to cabmen and carters that they may have guineas to blazon their names with on the books of public charities. If they will not spend time and money in curing the maladies incurred in their own service they might at least relinquish the small gain to be obtained by the sale of an infirm horse and, as I say, give him the last and mercy of a swift death. To shoot a horse is cruel work; nine times out of ten the best shot fails of immediate effect; the much-vaunted bag of chloroform is a still more terrible torture. There is only one merciful way—that of the tube inserted in the vein behind the ear and blown into, when the horse drops instantly. But this is little understood, and as little practised; though an English hunting-man devoted to horses told me he had never known it fail when properly done by a competent person. Even the old-fashioned method of bandaging his eyes and shooting him would be kindness itself compared with the long drawn out torments of a carriage horse or a park-hack when sold to fall into the piteous state of a galled and spavined cabhorse. But the majority of horse-owners—I mean among gentry—have a sort of mock emotion, which allows them to sell the horse into a slavery that they do not see and have not imagination enough to conjecture, and makes them shrink from the real mercy of giving the animal, which they can no longer keep, a death warrant which shall save him from servitude. Even the kindest people are apt to be (to me quite unaccountably) indifferent to the fate of horses they no longer want. They say, "Oh, he has gone to a very good master," and dismiss his subsequent career from their minds, forgetful that even the change of locality and owner is an extreme pain to the animal. Horses grow ardently attached to their stables; they are like cats in their affection for places. Not long ago I took my carriage horses by easy stages to the Ligurian Riviera; they fretted at their new stables and were not in either their usual health or spirits while we were there. When they returned and got, on the fourth day of their homeward journey, on to a well-known bridge about three miles from their home they snorted, tossed their heads, and were with difficulty kept from taking their bits between their teeth and rushing headlong to their beloved habitation. They were really homesick whilst they were away. What, then, must be the pain endured by the poor animals who constantly, through their owner's caprice or avarice, change hands twenty times in a dozen years?

In nothing I think does the cynical selfishness of human nature display itself more cruelly than in the manner in which horses are tossed about from buyer to buyer all the world over, as if the creatures were sacks of wool or blocks of wood. I have heard a French horse-breeder say that it paid him to breed horses rapidly, work them at one year old, and use them up in four years; he avowed that you got more labour out of them so; and so it is the cheapest way in the long run. When one thinks of the beautiful, alert, spirited, yet docile, creature that a *happy* horse is, one could say that no more odiously cynical cruelty ever issued from the lips of man. But horses were this dealer's stock-in-trade, just as negroes used to be a slave dealer's, and they were nothing to him, except articles in which he traded. If it were only dealers that felt in this manner it could be understood; but what is worse, it fairly represents the view of horses that nine out of ten horse-owners take. Here and there a man flatters himself vastly on his benevolence, because he turns out a faithful horse to grass for the remainder of its years—*i.e.*, exposes it to heat, cold, rain, sun, hunger, and the gadfly, without mercy. That a horse thoroughly enjoys straying loose about a field in fine weather is certain; it is equally certain that being turned into a field to live, to get its food off short, weedy grass, to be without corn and hay, grooming and shelter, and to be abandoned to an empty stomach and a sun-scorched or rain-drenched coat, is exceeding misery to an animal that has been accustomed to have all its wants supplied, and a warm stall or a cool one provided for it according to the season. Let men fully realise all that this pet phrase "turn him out to grass for the rest of his days" really means, and they will see that shallow sentiment, that inconsiderate egotism has made it popular.

Another gross cruelty to horses, of which the remedy lies with the legislature and the public, is the way in which, if a horse fall through a fit, or an accident, he is left to lie in a dying state upon the stones or the road where he has dropped. All cities and all countries sin alike in this respect. It is the same in Paris and in London as in Florence and Rome, or Vienna and Madrid. The other day, in Paris, a horse had one leg cut literally off by the shock of an omnibus that it came in collision with, and it was left in a hopeless state, bathed in its own blood for hours; a similar thing is to be seen continually in all the finest cities of the world. Surely this would be easily remedied; there ought to be a hospital for horses (where no experiments should be allowed) in every town of note, and whenever an accident happens to an animal in cart or carriage the ambulance of the hospital ought to be obtainable for him at once, and a grievous spectacle of intolerable suffering thus spared the passers-by. It is exquisitely painful to see a horse lying bleeding to death with wounds made by the pole or the wheel of some other vehicle, and, after perhaps half a day's torture, tormented further by being hauled into the slaughterer's cart and jolted barbarously to some distant slaughter-house. Men and women are quite capable of inflicting an immense amount of pain who do not like to think about the infliction of it; and perhaps this sort of refined selfishness is more often productive of animal pain than the absolute hardness of temper which inflicts it ruthlessly. If

it were possible to induce a man or a woman who is of ordinary humanity to follow out seriously in thought the various stages of degradation and labour by which a horse, once the pride of a stable, drops down through age and infirmity to this last use as a living prey for the leeches or the vivisectioners. I believe that there are few who would have the heartlessness to consign a beast that had served them well to such a fate. But they do not think, chiefly because they wish not to think; people have grown into the way of keeping horses solely for convenience sake, and get rid of them as they get rid of a dinner-service when it is chipped and cracked, or a wall-hanging when it is no longer the fashion. The horse is a sensitive, affectionate, highly intelligent living creature, but he is very rarely treated as such; he is usually dealt with as though he were a piece of mechanism, and when the mechanism gets rusty with age or over-work none care how it is broken up and thrown away. To minister to the pleasures of a brilliant woman or a high spirited man, to be caressed, petted, admired, ridden down the tangle to show perfect paces, or depended on for matchless strength and unflinching courage in the hunting-field, and then in old age to toll in the shafts of the nightcab or the brick-cart, and die at length stretched out on a hospital table, while the nerves are laid bare and his muscles sawn and cut and burnt by medical students: this is a fate to make Manichæism seem the only logical religion. In nothing that the world holds does man's ingratitude show in more vivid colours than in this treatment of the companion of his happiest hours. And it is all preventable enough. The hack speculators of Bordeaux could not drive their unholy trade unless there were thousands of horse-owners bad enough to sell their animals for such a purpose when they have reached the extremity of old age, of weakness, or of disease. So if the millions of people all the world over who own horses for their amusement would refuse to sell them when they become invalided or are aged, and would have them mercifully slain, the knackers' yards would be robbed of half their horrors, and thorough-breds all akin and bone, galled and bleeding, in the shafts of public vehicles and loaded waggon, would no longer be the scandalous picture of misery they are now in the streets of all cities and towns. It is one of the lopsided equities of law when the carter is fined or imprisoned for overloading his horse and the gentleman who originally owned the horse in its youth cannot be touched or even known, though his own greed and callousness first sent it into that piteous servitude. We execrate the wretched traders who throw the live horses to the bloodsuckers of the swamps; but as guilty as they are all the owners who sell them to the torture. We owe a duty to our horses not less than to our fellow-men—nay, *pace* the philanthropists, perhaps we owe a greater, because our horses have done us nothing but good, given us nothing but honest services. Yet how do we deal with them for the most part? Let the millions of martyrs of tramway and omnibus work, of dissecting-boards and slaughter-yards, answer that question with the eloquence of an unspit agony.

I should like to see the words of Condorcet graven on the minds of men:

"Ne rends point malheureux les animaux qui t'appartiennent; ne dédaigne point de t'occuper de leur bien-être; ne sois pas insensible à leur mal et sinistre reconnaissance; ne cause à aucun des douleurs inutiles; c'est une véritable injustice; c'est un outrage à la nature, dont elle punit par la dureté du cœur que l'habitude de cette cruauté ne peut manquer de produire."

The horse is a slave; the most innocent, the most forgiving, the most useful, and the most generous slave that earth has ever seen. In the vast clamour for liberty that is thundering through the various tribunes of Europe at this epoch I wish that mankind would remember the thralldom of this noblest of all serfs.—"*Ouida*" in *Whitehall Review*.

Nevertheless Yoshitsune ordered the boats to be immediately prepared for sea, declaring his determination to embark without an hour's delay. If their first misfortune had seemed an evil omen this was a more than compensatory occasion, since it enabled the troops to cross at a moment when their coming would be least of all expected.

But the sailors one and all refused to put out. It was impossible for the boats to live in such a sea, they said, while the storm was so violent that to hoist a sail was out of the question. Were it even daylight some effort might be made to avoid the weight of the waves, but at midnight with a starless sky, not one craft in a hundred could hope to survive.

Yoshitsune overcame this difficulty very simply. He said that so far as others were concerned he would not attempt to enforce his orders, but that whatever peril the passage presented he himself would make the attempt, leaving the rest to follow or not as they pleased. The crew of his barge had therefore to choose between the chance of death by drowning and the certainty of immediate execution if they persisted in their refusal.

In this dilemma the unfortunate sailors had no alternative. In all their experience they had never encountered, nor even contemplated the possibility of encountering, such weather, but at the same time they showed by their compliance that they had more faith in the mercy of the waves than in the chance of Yoshitsune's relenting. Within the river's estuary there was a little cove sheltered by high banks, and giving no evidence of the tempest's tumult save in the disordered rocking of its deep waters. Here Yoshitsune's barge was prepared, and in it his own immediate followers, headed by Benkei and Saburo, took their places to the number of forty men. These with their horses, servitors and the sailors, though not by any means completely filling the galley, were yet a burden very much greater than prudence would have suggested under such circumstances.

The whole army had assembled to witness the embarkation, but in spite of their chiefs' example, these men who would have faced death in any other form without a semblance of hesitation, found something so terrible in the howling of the gale and the thunder of the surf at the river's mouth, that only four captains dared to share in the enterprise. They were however all knights of tried prowess, and though the five boats only transported a century and a half of warriors, they formed a band no host, however strong, could afford to despise.

Yoshitsune ordered that no light should be shown in any boat except in his own. This was done ostensibly with the object of keeping the garrison of the castle in ignorance of their assailants' force as well as of preventing, if possible, the separation of the little fleet, but it may also have been designed to hide the disasters too probably awaiting the transports from the eyes of the multitude congregated on the beach. The worst fate that could befall himself seemed a matter of less moment to Yoshitsune than the disheartening effect his death must have upon the troops he commanded.

Probably there was not one either of those actually engaged in this perilous adventure or of those that witnessed it, who credited the possibility of the boats making the offing safely, and as the light of the pine torches carried in the leading galley passed out into the darkness beyond the estuary, each mountain of water that hid it from the watchers on shore seemed to have achieved its inevitable destruction. But it happened by good fortune that the tide had begun to ebb just as the boats put off, otherwise the seas at the mouth of the river would have been more than any craft could have endured. As it was, however, the wind, current and tide, all acting in the same direction swept the boats out seaward with incredible velocity, and a voyage which under ordinary circumstances must have occupied fully two days was prosperously achieved before the following noon.

The landing was effected at a place called Amako some distance eastward of the point of attack. Incredible as it appeared, the whole five boats had escaped without injury, and when the little band of knights assembled on the beach, any dangers the future might have in store seemed utterly insignificant in comparison with those they had just encountered.

Nevertheless, their situation was well high desperate. Yoshitsune's hope in attempting the passage had been that the main part of his knights would have followed his example unhesitatingly, whereas he now found himself in the enemy's country with a mere handful of men and no reasonable prospect of receiving reinforcements before two days at soonest.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XXXIX.

#### THE SACRED FAN

The memory of this quarrel between Yoshitsune and Kajiwara scarcely survived until the following morning. Men's minds were entirely engrossed by the excitement of preparation, and the tumult of departure, while those who had leisure to think found a more interesting subject in the prospects of the expedition. The season was not propitious for a sea voyage, though at the same time the bitter chillness of the February winds was scarcely of so much moment as their propitious direction. If only the northerly breeze held, two or at most three days would suffice for the passage, and this reflection consoled the knights as they marched down to the seashore in the frosty twilight.

But the boats had scarcely reached the offing when the wind veered to the south, and gradually increasing to a hurricane drove the fleet back to Daimotsu with a loss of some seventy or eighty transports and not a few lives. For two days and nights, the gale seemed to grow if possible more violent, after which it fell suddenly calm and then went round to the north, becoming favorable indeed as far as direction was concerned, but scarcely showing any signs of abating.



Thus the extraordinary celerity of the voyage was after all a very questionable gain, since if it had brought them within striking distance of their foes at a moment the latter could never have anticipated, it had also made the arrival of aid a proportionately distant prospect.

Of these things, however, they either took no thought or refrained from discussing them through dread of discovering a cause of caution. To conceal their weakness by the vigour of their action seemed the only hopeful, as it certainly was the most congenial, course and so soon as they had fed their horses and buckled on their harness, they rode boldly forward choosing the routes that seemed to lead most directly westward.

A few furlongs inland they discovered the gleam of a red pennoncelle, and a hurried reconnaissance revealed what seemed to be a considerable force of Heike troops encamped at the base of a hill. They had not expected to encounter the enemy so soon, but they prepared immediately to attack, Yoshitsune addressing to his followers the only warning he deemed necessary under the circumstances; a caution against shooting a single shaft at random, or holding their hands to make a prisoner.

The Taira men were taken completely by surprise. An outlying picket of scarcely a hundred soldiers, they could not, in any case, have offered a serious resistance, but as it was, they were so bewildered by the mysterious appearance of an enemy they had fancied more than four-score leagues away, that their only idea was to make their escape as quickly as possibly. Their leader was taken alive by the victors, and from him Yoshitsune learned that no obstruction existed on the road to the castle of Yashima except an outpost of fifty men stationed a little further on.

This post was found equally unprepared. Its defenders fled without making almost any resistance, so that the Genji knights were able to be sure their real force was as yet undiscovered.

They knew now that they were within an hour's ride of the castle, yet they had formed no definite plan of action beyond that which was comprised in a resolution to advance at all hazards. To this course they were in a manner committed, since their presence in the island was now known to the garrison of the castle, or would presently be so, and it was certain that their only chance of success—a very infinitesimal chance at best—lay in taking the initiative.

For the moment they found nothing more embarrassing than their utter ignorance as to the nature of the castle defences. It was much more probable that, proceeding in this blind fashion, they would ultimately find themselves arrested by some impossible obstacle and exposed to an attack they could not hope to repel, than that fortune should lead them directly to the weak point of a fortress, reported for the rest to be everywhere impregnable. Chance is however sometimes not unkind to those that trust her implicitly, and Yoshitsune's experiences in the valley of Ichi were not calculated to make him diffident. Riding at the head of his little troop his keen eye took in every feature of the country through which they passed, and he never for a moment doubted that whether by stratagem or daring the knowledge they needed would be acquired before its want became fatal.

Hitherto they had purposely advanced by routes which, though leading in the right direction, were little more than by-paths, but about a mile beyond the place of their last encounter they emerged upon the main road, and were presently overtaken by a man riding at full speed and carrying a letter-box slung across his shoulders. Yoshitsune called to him as he was about to pass, and asked whence he came and whither he was bound, to which the other, never for a moment fancying that he had to do with a Minamoto knight, replied readily that he had come from Kiyoto and was on his way to Yashima.

"Surely he that sent you must have deemed the errand a very pressing one," remarked Yoshitsune, "else had he not commissioned you to cross the channel in such a tempest as we have just had."

"As for my errand, master," replied the other, "I neither know what it is nor might tell if I did, but I am very sure that I should never have lived to perform it, had I trusted myself to sea during the last three days."

"Yet if you crossed before the storm, you must have fared but slowly on your way since."

"The more reason why I should not loiter now," was the somewhat impatient reply. "I pray you let me pass on at once lest the cause of my delay be misjudged."

"In truth I have no desire to hinder you," said Yoshitsune, all the while however keeping his horse in such a position that it was impossible for the messenger to proceed. "I myself am bound for Yashima whither I am leading this handful of men to join Munemori's pennon, and I would fain have learned from you whether the rumours that reach us from beyond the water be true. 'Tis said here that Yoshitsune, the Genji leader, has assembled an army at the mouth of the Yodo, and that we may expect him to make a descent upon Yashima at any moment. If so, his preparations must have been in progress when you left the capital, and you cannot have failed to hear of them."

"The rumour is true enough master, for to be brief I am commissioned with a verbal message to that effect for my Lord, Munemori. Yoshitsune only awaits a quieter sea, and the very moment a boat can live he is sure to put off. He is, they say, a very fiend in the fight. Even Yoshinaka, the 'Morning Sun' could not withstand him for a moment, and those that sent me bade me warn the garrison of the fortress not to put their faith in any common defence."

"A warning from a friend is never to be despised," remarked Yoshitsune with a smile. "Yet methinks such a castle as Yashima can afford to despise even this Yoshitsune you speak of."

"There you err, master, with all due respect," returned the other. "Those that know the place best could tell you another story."

"Impossible!" cried Yoshitsune with assumed incredulity. "One need not have taken part in many assaults to know that a fortress with water on four faces has a stout ally in nature."

"That may be, master, but see you yonder pine trees whose tops are just visible at the head of the valley? They look insignificant enough from here, but for all that they stand on the margin of no mean forest, with a many roofed village at its northern extremity. If any man desired to reach the castle unopposed he need only set fire to the trees and the houses they shelter, and then following the line of the hill, ride boldly across the channel at ebb tide. The water would not wet his saddle-girths, nor the smoke suffer a man in the fortress to observe his approach. None have a better knowledge of the position's weakness than the garrison themselves, and in the event of an attack from this quarter, it is their intention immediately to embark the main part of the army, and only hold the castle so long as may be convenient to themselves and irksome to the enemy."

Quite persuaded that he was addressing an ally, the man had volunteered this information unhesitatingly, yet as he drew to the close of his explanation something in his questioner's demeanour made him falter in his speech and strike his stirrups against his horse's flanks with an instinctive anxiety to resume his way. Yoshitsune's bearing had indeed undergone a curious change. Turning towards Kiyoto a face radiant with strong joy, he joined his hands and earnestly thanked Hachiman, the God of Battles, for the guardianship to which alone this happy encounter could be referred. Almost at the same moment Benkei urged his horse to the messenger's side, and stretching out a hand crushed the man down upon his saddle as though he had been a bamboo sapling.

"Take his despatch-box from him," said Yoshitsune, "and bind him to a tree in the grove in such a fashion that he shall not be able to tell his story to every passer by. As for the letter, I charge myself with its delivery. It were a sin to entrust so important a document to such an untrustworthy carrier."

After this the hundred and fifty knights resumed their journey with a confidence that nothing could shake. It was scarcely strange that some of them should attribute an event so incredibly opportune to supernatural interference, or at any rate to their leader's limitless good fortune, for the times when the gods found a home not incomparable with their own paradise in this fair land of Japan, were not then so very many centuries old.

Turning away once more from the main road, they followed a somewhat devious path among the inland hills, taking as their guide the line of the sombre pine forest from which the rays of the setting sun were struggling vainly to disentangle themselves. Behind the tree tops in the distance they could see a thin column of smoke marking the position of the doomed village, and the northerly wind brought to their ears the dull thunder of the breakers now tumbling with their wonted

monotony against the base of the battlemented islet. The sea was once more calm and the moon being in her first quarter, everything was favourable for their enterprise with one important exception: the tide was just beginning to flow so that the passage of the channel might not be attempted until three or four hours after midnight.

Nothing remained therefore but to choose a convenient position and encamp for the night. It would of course have been much wiser as well as more in accordance with the wishes of the whole party to continue the advance without delay. Intelligence of their presence could scarcely fail to reach the garrison before daybreak, and unless the men of Hei were utterly pusillanimous, they would never let slip such an opportunity of crushing their foes before reinforcements came up. On the other hand, Yoshitsune's followers were wearied out by the hardships of their stormy voyage, no less than by the battles they had fought since landing. For the moment nothing seemed to them of such importance as a few hours' rest, and when they threw themselves down in their harness under the shadow of the pine trees, Yoshitsune found nobody capable of sharing his vigil except the never-tiring Saburo.

Meanwhile, as may be supposed, those in the fortress were not left in ignorance of their enemies' movements. Information of Yoshitsune's landing and of his successful attacks upon the two outposts reached Munemori before sunset, accompanied however by almost incredible exaggerations of the invader's force. Not only were the thirty thousand men Yoshitsune had actually assembled at the mouth of the Yodo multiplied to double that number, but the whole of this army was said to have accompanied its chief in his marvellous voyage through the storm. Still for all the alarm these statements excited there was nothing to justify the garrison in anticipating defeat. Their numbers were largely in excess even of the Genji's supposed force, and they possessed besides an immense fleet of galleys, by the aid of which they could at any moment retreat to the mainland or change the front of the battle at pleasure.

Nevertheless the knowledge of a vulnerable point in his armour cramped the stoutest warrior's action. What the letter-bearer had told Yoshitsune was in all respects accurately true. At low water the fortress might not only be reached by wading at a particular point, but also rendered well nigh untenable by the smoke of the village on its northerly face. It is difficult to conceive why the Taira chiefs neglected to provide against either of these contingencies, except on the supposition that they deemed it wiser to trust their enemy's ignorance than their own ability to hold him at bay. At any rate they seem to have been so constantly harassed by the consciousness of their weakness, that no sooner was the morning twilight illumined by the flames of the burning forest and of the homesteads on its verge, than they determined at once to embark their main army and leave in the fortress a force only just sufficient to prevent the Genji from seizing it unopposed.

This manoeuvre was carried out with such celerity that as Yoshitsune and his knights rode cautiously across the channel they could see the Heike galleys creeping out in long divisions from the shadow of the hill. Naturally it did not occur to them to suppose that the enemy had commenced to retreat without even crossing blades. It seemed much more probable that he contemplated a flank attack, or possibly that having gained intelligence of his assailants' weakness the object of his movement was to cut off their retreat, and thus it happened that their very timidity was for a time useful to the Taira knights, for they obliged Yoshitsune to detach a portion of his small force to watch the proceedings of the galleys.

The battle began as was usual with an interchange of arrows. Yoshitsune's original design had been to storm the fortress at once, but at sunrise the wind veered round to the north-west and blew with such violence that the conflagration threatened to spread every moment from the mainland to the castle. If this happened the garrison would be compelled to evacuate the place, and any attempt to anticipate so probable a contingency seemed unnecessarily rash. The defenders of the fortress understood all this themselves, but it did not in any degree disturb their aim, for they fought within arms' length of the galleys that were lying ready to take them off.

So for a time the shafts hurtled to and fro, now ringing on mail or shield, now biting into flesh and bone, until at

last that which Yoshitsune had foreseen took place. A little column of smoke began to curl along the roof of the western barbican, and a ringing cheer rose from the assailants as the light of the flames shone through the oaken crenelle. In a few moments the fire spread from the outworks to the main building, and as the smoke rolled seaward in dense clouds, the last of the Taira boats rowed out to join the fleet in the bay.

This however represented, after all, but a small gain to Yoshitsune and his party. So far, the loss they had inflicted on their enemies was very trifling—scarcely more indeed than they had suffered themselves—and they were now obliged to carry on a desultory sort of warfare particularly ill-suited to their small numbers. For no sooner had the flames subsided a little, than the Heike galleys began to row in one by one and engage the knights upon the island. The occupants of the boats did not attempt to disembark or come within sword's length of their foes, but lying half a bow-shot of the shore, kept up an incessant flight of arrows to which the Genji were constrained to reply, though weariness had already begun to tell on their aim and their quivers were well-nigh exhausted. In vain the stoutest of Yoshitsune's followers forced their horses into the water till the waves washed their saddle-trees, and with shouts of invective or derision challenged their cautious opponents to try conclusions on the shore. The Taira men for once seemed to appreciate their advantage, and only answered their enemies' defiance by showers of arrows often too well aimed.

This had gone on for some time with varying results, when the Genji Knights became conscious of a novel movement among the galleys, which has hitherto taken no part in the combat. One of them, a large and handsomely decorated barge, separated itself from its comrades, and rowed slowly shoreward, pausing at a distance of about fifteen fathoms from the island. For a moment Yoshitsune hoped that this portended a challenge to some single combat, for such things were common in the times of which we write, but looking more closely he saw that the barge belonged to the Imperial household, and that beside its crew, it was occupied only by women. One of these, a girl whose singular beauty was unmistakable even at that distance, rose from her place so soon as the boat's motion had ceased, and fastened a fan to the top of the mast-rest in the stern. On the face of this fan the Imperial arms of Japan,—a lurid sun just climbing above the horizon—were emblazoned among a mass of rich embroidery, and as it swayed to and fro in the breeze, it glittered so brightly that one might scarcely endure to gaze upon it without winking.

Yoshitsune watched this performance with unbounded astonishment. It was not difficult to understand that the fan was offered as a mark for the Genji archers, but to what end? Was it a mere mockery, or had the enemy some subtle design in proposing so strange a trial of skill?

"Can any man read me this riddle?" he turned to his followers. "It can scarcely be that the Taira men deem our shafts worthy of no better mark."

"The thing is soon explained," replied one of the knights, a man who in point of size and thwars might have compared not unfavourably with even Benkei himself. "The girl with the fan is Tamamushi, the Empress Dowager's chief lady in waiting, and as comely a lass as ever wore a kirtle. The fan is one that was presented many a year ago by the Emperor Takakura to the shrine of Itakushima from whose abbot Munemori received it when he left the capital. Those that carry it are, they say, better guarded from their enemies' arrows than they were though all the pavises in Japan were set up around them, and if any shoot at it, the shaft will turn and pierce his own body."

"Is it then to test its virtue that the Heike men have set it up before us?" asked Yoshitsune.

"Even so," Hatakeyama answered ruefully. "And if we fail to bring it down, we shall have strengthened their hands more, I trow, than any victory they are likely to gain themselves."

The Genji knights looked at each other in consternation. There were among their number archers as skilful as any in the empire, but not a man could trust himself to hit such a mark as a fan swaying in the wind at thirty paces.

"If that be so, Hatakeyama," said Yoshitsune after a pause, "surely none here has any right to draw a bow before yourself in this case. Let us see whether the sacred fan is proof against one of those long shafts of yours."

"Right glad were I to try my skill," returned the knight. "but an unlucky strain I have given my left hand prevents me from holding a bow steadily. I doubt not however there are others here who will outdo anything I might have done."

Now Hatakeyama was counted not only the strongest man in the army next to Benkei, but also the most expert bow-man in Japan. His refusal to make this essay was therefore regarded as an indisputable proof of its impossibility, and for the moment it seemed as though the virtue of the Heike talisman was destined to remain undisputed.

But Yoshitsune had no intention of suffering this. Whatever his own opinion may have been about the fan and its supernatural attributes, he knew that if it was permitted to remain suspended in the Imperial barge, every man in the Heike host would be inspired with that confidence which is the certain precursor of victory.

"Since Hatakeyama's hand is unsteady," he said with a laugh as he unlaced his casque, "I must even try what I can do myself. The credit of our cause might easily be in better keeping, but if there be a god that guards the fan, there is another, I trow, that watches over the white flag."

So saying, he chose a straight, well-feathered shaft from his quiver and turning his horse's head seaward, rode out some three fathoms into the tide. Up to that time his unrivalled fame of fence had so eclipsed all his other feats of arms that he had scarcely thought of him as an archer, yet was there something so prophetic of invincibility in his graceful bearing and in the quiet confidence of his comely face, that as he advanced towards the boat with the sunlight sparkling on his gold-damasked armour or making rainbows in the foam his horse's hoofs scattered about, not one of the knights watching him from the shore doubted his ability to achieve what he had undertaken. The ladies in the barge too, taught either by instinct or by the descriptions they had heard of the hero's appearance, at once recognized the horseman in the gorgeous harness, and forgetting everything but their curiosity, crowded to the boat's side and scanned all his movements with dilated eyes.

When, however, Yoshitsune, seeing that he might not advance any further, drew bridle and would have adjusted his arrow, he found the task he had set himself so beset with difficulties that for one instant he was overwhelmed with despair. For not only was the fan tossed hither and thither by the breeze and rocked to and fro by the motion of the barge as it rose and fell with the waves, but the sunshine reflected from its golden woof made it almost impossible to regard it steadily, and at the same time his horse, frightened by the breakers that rolled in about his feet, grew more and more restless and showed a disposition to swerve round the moment his rider slackened the reins.

Yoshitsune therefore, feeling that he had need of more than common aid, closed his eyes and prayed as he had never before done in his life: "Nasu Daimiyojin, God of bowmen and the bow, guide my shaft but this once truly to the mark, and if the favour of heaven is no longer with my cause, grant that the waves may flow over my head before I fit my arrow to the string."

He had scarcely uttered these words in his heart when his horse stood perfectly still under him, and opening his eyes he saw that the wind had flattened the fan against the stanchion of the mast-rest so that its fluttering motion was for the moment stayed. Quick as thought his arrow was adjusted, poised, drawn up to the barb and discharged. In the moment of aiming he had been seized with an irresistible repugnance to shoot directly at the Imperial coat of arms, and had therefore raised his hand so that the golden sun was just hidden as he loosed the string. Even to this little difference of direction the arrow was implicitly obedient. Striking the frail framework of the fan, it shattered the ribs just below the point of suspension, and the rising sun with its embroidered environment was carried tenderly away by the breeze and dropped into the sea almost at Yoshitsune's feet amid an uproar of applause in which the Heike soldiers themselves could not refrain from joining.

(To be continued.)

#### YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.50, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.15, 1.30, and 4 P.M.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—7.0 and 9.45 A.M. and 12 noon; 1.30 and 4 P.M.

#### DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

My first's as free, as free as air,  
Though foolish, it be reckon'd;  
Your gay costume, I'll boldly swear,  
Can help you with my second:  
My whole's a magic pow'r, you'll see,  
A wondrous transformation,—  
That changes dukes to beggars free,  
And raises men of low degree  
To lords of lofty station.

1.  
Here's a whimsical crotchet:—'tis past all belief  
How it oft brings a person to trouble and grief.

2.  
Though applied to both sexes, I'll plainly affirm  
That this light is a most unprofessional term.

3.  
I can not hit this light:—what a bore! what a sell!  
What a fraud! what a — something, but that I can't tell.

4.  
We are dear to the 'globe-trotter' (fortunate man!)  
With the time and the dollars to spend in Japan.

5.  
What a kind little word this, and how sweet to the ear,  
Of the swain who is wooing his lady-love dear.

HOODLUM.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF FEB. 28TH, BY "HOODLUM."

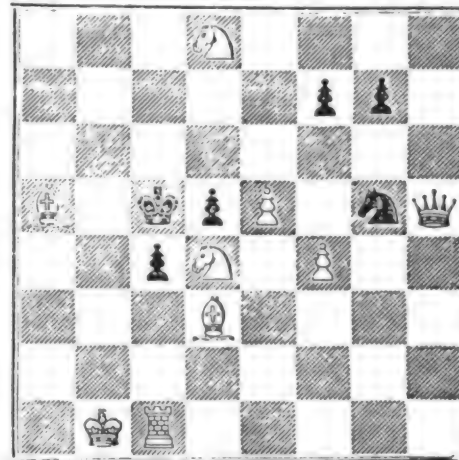
Briny		Ocean.
B	ilb	O
R	o	C
I	r	E
N	ar	A
Y	ar	N

Correct answers received from Zulu, Nap, and Ellis. Others incorrect.

#### CHESS PROBLEM,

By J. A. CAMPBELL.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF FEB. 28TH, BY S. A. HARRISON.

White.	Black.
1—R. to Q. sq.	1—P. moves:
2—Q. to Q. 5.	2—Any.
3—Q. moves.	1—Kt. takes Kt.
2—B. takes Kt.	1—Kt. takes B.
3—B. to Q., 8 mate.	1—Kt. to K. 4.
2—K. to Q. 6 ch.	
3—Q. to B. 5 mate.	
2—Q. takes Kt.	
3—mate.	

V.d.P. and Q. have sent the following answers:  
 1—Kt. to Q. B. 8. 1—Kt. K. 2.  
 2 (K. Q. B. 4 ch. 2—Kt. takes R.  
 or B. takes Kt.  
 3—mate.

This position appeared in the *Field* some years ago, and the following was the author's solution:

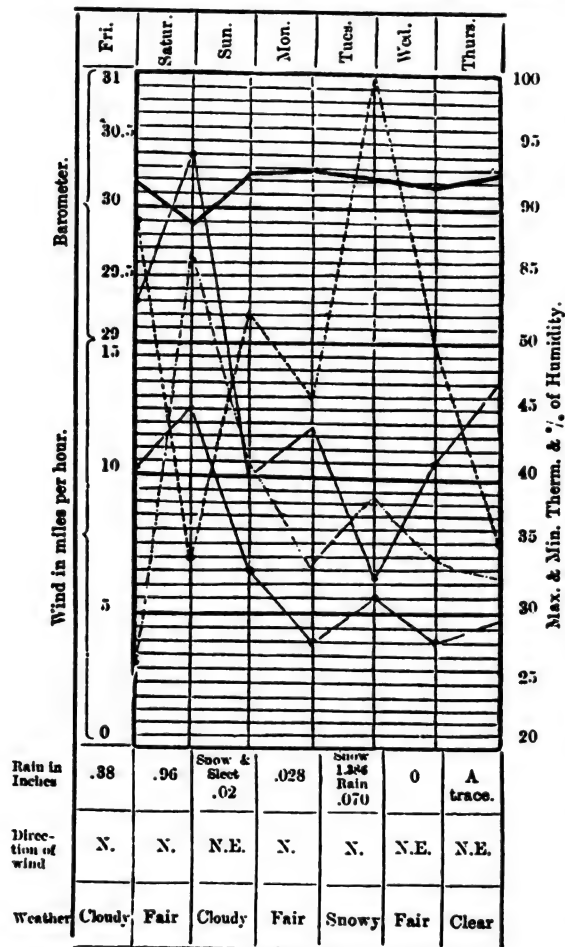
1—R. to Q. sq.	1—P. moves.
2—Q. to Q. 5.	2—Any.
3—mate.	



## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH, 1880.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujimicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. &amp; min. thermometers.

-----represents velocity of wind

.....percentage of humidity

Max. velocity of wind 37 miles per hour on Saturday, at 5 a.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer was 30.385 inches on Friday, at 7 a.m., and the lowest was 29.649 inches on Saturday, at 7 a.m. This sudden fall in the barometer was followed by a sudden rise on Sunday, which was also accompanied by a marked fall in the temperature. This was succeeded by the heavy fall of snow on Monday night and Tuesday. The amount of snow—melted—was 1.386 inches, and the depth on a land surface was near 12 inches. The total amount of snow and rain for the week was 2.85 inches, some having fallen on everyday of the week, except Thursday.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Feb. 29, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Kilgour, 908, from Kobe, General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 1, British steamer *China*, Alderton, 1,030, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.  
 Mar. 1, American steamer *City of Peking*, Morse, 5,079, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to P. M. Co.  
 Mar. 2, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 4, Japanese steamer *Tanawara Maru*, Carrew, 558, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 4, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,200, from Shanghai and way ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 4, British steamer *Castello*, Anderson, 1,482, from Shanghai, General, to Hudson & Co.  
 Mar. 4, British steamer *Cairnsmuir*, Castle, 1,123, from London via Hongkong, General, W. M. Strachan & Co.  
 Mar. 4, Japanese steamer *Shirao Maru*, Thompson, 524, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 5, Japanese barque *Kanagawa Maru*, Eckstrand, 1,184, from Nagasaki, Coal, to M. B. Co.

Mar. 6, Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, Pyne, 295, from Yokkaichi, General, M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* from San Francisco:—For Yokohama, Messrs. C. P. Blethen, G. W. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fischer, Mrs. Unger, Mr. S. P. Stratton, Rev. J. McKim and wife, Mr. J. Mendelson, wife and child, Messrs. W. B. Russel, J. G. Fair, Junr, J. M. Scott, Della Costa, A. F. Thompson, S. Strauss, Mrs. Austin, Mrs. F. W. Reade, Messrs. J. Kinnear, Whitney, Prof L. U. Mason, J. G. Fair and R. V. Day. For Hongkong, M. de Lay-graye, Miss Stein, M. Lorb, Revd E. Simms and wife, W. H. Daland, and 105 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *China* from Hongkong:—Mrs. Schraub, child, and amah, Mrs. Watt and 3 children, Messrs. Teen Sien, Lo Chang, and 1 Chinese on deck.

Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. T. D. C. Parker, J. A. Thomson, L. Davis, Nabeshima, Hiyakuba, Tanaka and Captain Conner in cabin; 2 Europeans and 118½ Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tanawara Maru* from Hakodate:—Captain Blackstone Mr. Riddle, and 100 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and way ports:—Judge and Mrs. Caton and maid, Mr. & Mrs. A. Caton, Revd O. H. Gulick and wife, Messrs. Th. Walsh, Aspland, Imai, Matsui, Matsuda, Wyeda, Ishi, Mitani, Nakahara, Sakai, Takata, Motogi, Nakayama, Okazaki, Horinchi, Tani, Nakaya and Yamagata in cabin; 2 Europeans, 1 Chinese, and 197 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—200 Japanese in steerage.

## OUTWARDS.

Mar. 1, American ship *Hagerstown*, Whitmore, 1,903, for Kobe, despatched by C. & J. Trading Co.

Mar. 1, Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, Pyne, 295, for Yokkaichi, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 1, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlelsen, 1,133, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 1, Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru*, Peters, 1,010, for cruise, despatched by Lighthouse Department.

Mar. 3, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,260, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 3, Russian corvette, *Crysaer* Nazimoff, 1,334, 8 guns, for Vladivostock.

Mar. 3, Japanese barque *Sakurajima Maru*, Cheetham, 581, for Nagasaki, General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 3, Japanese steamer *Ilingo Maru*, Moore, 896, for Kobe, General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 4, American steamer *City of Peking*, Berry, 5,079, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.

Mar. 4, British barque *Glenhnutly*, Bidwell, 546, for Kobe, General, despatched by J. D. Carroll & Co.

Mar. 4, French corvette *Champlain*, Captain Michaud, 1,901, 10 guns for Kobe.

Mar. 5, Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, Nye, 1,407, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 6, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* from Kobe:—2 Europeans and 100 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—For Kobe: Messrs. C. P. Hall, Tada, Noguchi, Funakoshi, W. D. Townsend, Ishibashi, Shimidzu, T. O. S. Jenkins, Okamoto, Nishikawa, Iwasaki, Kajiro, Shimomoto, J. W. Beauchamp, and 2 Chinese in the steerage. For Shimonoeki: Mrs. Fukamidzu, Misses Hosokawa (2), Messrs. Hayaashi, Shiroy, Nagase, Yamada and Uyemura. For Nagasaki: Mr. Kojima. For Shanghai: Mr. A. T. Thompson, 260 Japanese in steerage for all ports.

Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Mrs. F. W. Reade, Col. Kaidz, Messrs. Verschuur, Uchida, Iwasaki, R. M. St. John, and F. Brewer.

## CARGOES.

Per British steamer *China* from Hongkong:—

Sugar	...	...	...	...	3,127 pkgs.
Iron	...	...	...	...	3,127 "
Sundries	...	...	...	...	1,121 "

Total... 7,870 pkgs.

Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—

Treasure	...	...	...	...	Gold and Silver Yen 43,100.00
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Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai, and ports:—

Treasure	...	...	...	...	\$ 4,000.00
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Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure	...	...	...	...	\$ 35,600.00
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"	...	...	...	...	Yen 27,100.00
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## REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking* from San Francisco: Left San Francisco February 7th at 2.40 p.m. First three days strong northerly gales, thence to Long. 165 E. fine weather, thence strong winds from S.E. to West; 29th strong gales from N.N.E. with high sea.

The Japanese steamer *Tamawra Maru* from Hakodate: Left Hakodate 29th Feb. at 8.20 p.m. First part of passage fine weather, off Cape Izuoya very heavy N. gales with high sea. Thence to port fine clear weather and Northerly winds. Arrived at port 7 p.m., 3rd February.

The Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* reports: Left Kobe 26th Feb. at 7 p.m. Experienced to Momosaki fine weather, thence to port strong E.S.S. winds and squally weather. Arrived 5 a.m. 29th Feb.

The Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru* from Yokkaichi: Experienced light S.E. winds first part of passage; thence to port light N. winds; fine weather throughout.

### NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 22nd
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Mar. 11th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 16th
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 15th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 7th†
SHANGHAI, HIogo & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 11th

\* Left San Francisco, 28th February, *Gaelic*.

† Left Hongkong, 1st March, *Belgic*.

### NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 9th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 13th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Mar. 7th
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 20th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIogo & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 10th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

### NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 6th March, 1880.)

Yen Sat.							
				Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
A.M.	Noon.	Clos- ing.					
1880.							
Monday .....	1	569	568	568	374	326	113
Tuesday .....	2	568½	569	568	—	—	—
Wednesday .....	3	569½	568	570	—	—	—
Thursday .....	4	569	568	568½	—	—	—
Friday .....	5	568	566½	566	—	—	—
Saturday .....	6	564	566	566	—	—	—

### YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

#### DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

#### UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.00	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

### LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial vessels, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

### VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

#### SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charwood	LONDON	Yokohama
Nov. 3	Crossfield	"	"
" 5	Bundaleer	"	"
Jan. 10	Meath (s.s.)	"	"
" 14	Ullock	"	"
Nov. 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
July 2	Floerwing	NEW YORK	"
Sept. 3	Mervia	"	"
" 8	Clydesdale	"	"
" 8	Larnaca	"	"
" 25	Merom	"	"
" 26	Clydesdale	"	"
Oct. 3	Lucille	"	"
" 10	Columbia	"	"
" 25	L. J. Morse	"	"
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 7	Centennial	"	"
" 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
" 21	Manuel Laguno	"	"
Dec. 1	Paul Revere	"	"
" 20	Susan Gilmore	"	"
Jan. 9	Alice Buck	"	Hiogo
Nov. 5	Hesperia	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Dec. 18	Lydia (s.s.)	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Nov. —	West Glen	"	"
Oct. 26	Sea King	PHILADELPHIA	Hiogo
Nov. 10	H. H. McSilvery	"	Nagasaki
Dec. 20	Laertes (s.s.)	GREENOCK	"
Dec. 13	Bonaera	SAN FRANCISCO	Hiogo

#### LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Jan. 16	Flintshire (s.s.)	LONDON	Yokohama
" 16	Glencagles (s.s.)	"	"
" 16	Matchless	"	"
" 16	Sestos (s.s.)	"	"
" 16	Sunbeam (s.s.)	"	"
" 30	Ophelia	NEW YORK	"
" 10	River Logan	HAMBURG	"
" 10	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 10	Vale of Nith	"	"
" 16	Scottish Fairy	GLASGOW	"
" 16	Montgomeryshire (s.s.)	"	"

## KEROSENE OIL.

### STORAGE and FIRE INSURANCE.

For terms, apply to

EDWARD FISCHER & CO.

Yokohama, 3rd March, 1880.

### FOR SALE.

GILBEYS CHAMPAGNE,  
" SPARKLING SAUMUR,  
" SHERRY, CLARET, PORT,  
" &c., &c., &c.

EDWARD FISCHER & Co.,  
No. 14.

Yokohama, 31st January, 1880.

Geo. H. Allcock,  
PUBLIC SILK INSPECTOR,

Office, No. 33, Water Street.

Yokohama, July 26, 1877.

tf.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND RIG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Cairnsmuir	Castle	British steamer	1,122	London via Hongkong	Mar. 4	W. M. Strachan & Co.
Castello	Anderson	British steamer	1,482	London via Shanghai	Mar. 4	Hudson & Co.
China	Alderton	British steamer	1,030	Hongkong	Mar. 1	P. & O. Co.
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16/79	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Hiroshima Maru	Haswell	Japanese steamer	1,200	Shanghai & ports	Mar. 4	M. B. Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru		Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13/78	M. B. Co.
Tanis	De la Marcelle	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Feb. 12	M. M. Co.
Volga	Guiraud	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Feb. 26	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Anna Bertha	Krause	German barque	462	Takao	Feb. 27	Chinese
Coldstream	Morgan	British barque	545	Antwerp	Feb. 25	Simon Evers & Co.
Gustav	Johannsen	German brig	240	Takao	Feb. 28	Mitsui Bussan Kuwaisha
Johann Heinrich	Oestmann	German schooner	411	Takao	Feb. 23	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm		German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Lenard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	Walsh, Hall & Co.
North Star		Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Otome	Jensen	Russian schooner	55	Nemuro	Feb. 9	Russian Authorities
Otsego	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Bouin Islands	Jan. 27	H. Cook
Peter	Holm	German brig	241	Takao	Feb. 28	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Vivid	Peterson	British barque	238	Melbourne	Feb. 26	Okura & Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH.—Pegasus ... ..	6	1,124	900	Sloop	Nagasaki	Com. Hon. H. N. S. Hood
AMERICAN.—Alert ... ..	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ... ..	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostock	Captain Schance
„ Djight ... ..	8	1,334	250	Corvette	Kobe	Captain de Livron

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ... ..	Tanis	M. M. Co.	Mar. 7th, at 7 a.m.
Hongkong via Kobe ... ..	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	Mar. 20th, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco ... ..	Belgie	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 9th.
Shanghai and way-ports ... ..	Hiroshima Maru	M. B. Co.	Mar. 10th, at 4 p.m.





## MISCELLANEOUS

# J. & E. ATKINSON'S PERFUMERY,

CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained the following

## EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA, 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876. VIENNA, 1878.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY,"  
PARIS, 1878.

## Atkinson's Choice Perfumes for the Handkerchief,

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang Ylang, Stephanotis, Opopanax,  
Jockey Club, Ess. Bouquet, Trevo, Magnolia, Jasmín,  
Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,  
And all other odours, of the finest quality only.

## Atkinson's Florida Water,

A most fragrant Perfume, distilled from the choicest Exotics.

## Atkinson's Quinine Hair Lotion,

A very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

## ATKINSON'S

### Ethereal Essence of Lavender,

A powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

## ATKINSON'S

Quinine Tooth Powder, Violet Powder, Macassar Oil, Glycerine Cream,

And other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the Manufacturers.

**J. & E. ATKINSON,**  
24, Old Bond Street, London, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

**CAUTION.**—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, "a White Rose on a Golden Lyre;" printed in seven colours.

ESTABLISHED 1799.

July 26, 1879.

12m. 26in.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.

Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,  
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,  
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED CHEESE,  
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,  
YORKSHIRE GAME AND FOK PIES,  
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,  
PLUM PUDDINGS,  
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.

## CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars they should invariably be destroyed when empty. Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.

All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles, Jars and Tins.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL,**  
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,  
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

52 ins.

**H. MacARTHUR.,**  
No. 179.

LANDS, <sup>AND</sup>OR SHIPS, & CLEARS  
CARGO,  
AT MODERATE RATES.

Yokohama, January 12th, 1880.

tf

## THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

**CAMOMILE PILLS** are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach." "Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years. Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

## CAUTION.

Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**E. P. & W. BALDWIN,**  
WILDEN WORKS.  
STOURPORT, ENGLAND.

**SHEET IRON,**  
BRANDED  
"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."  
**TIN PLATES,**  
BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"  
"ARLEY," "STOUR."

*Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,  
and Close Annealed.*

## Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane. London, E.C.  
April 6, 1878.

**KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES,**  
COUGHS,  
ASTHMA,  
BRONCHITIS,  
ACCUMULATION OF PHLEGM.

Composed of the purest articles. These Lozenges contain no opium nor any deleterious drug, therefore the most delicate can take them with perfect confidence. Their beneficial effect is speedy and certain. The old unfailing family remedy is daily recommended by the most eminent Physicians. (In use nearly 60 years).

## MEDICAL TESTIMONY.

July 25th, 1877. 23, Cold Harbour Lane, London.

Sir,—Your Lozenges are excellent, and their beneficial effects most reliable. I strongly recommend them in cases of Cough and Asthma. You are at liberty to state this as my opinion, formed from many years experience.

J. BRINGLOE, M.R.C.S.L., L.S.A., L.M.

Mr. T. KEATING, Indian Medical Service.  
Dear Sir,—Having tried your Lozenges in India, I have much pleasure in testifying to their beneficial effects in cases of Incipient Consumption, Asthma and Bronchial Affections. I have prescribed them largely, with the best results.

W. B. G.—, Apothecary. H.M.S.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are sold by all Chemists, in bottles, of various sizes, each having the words "KEATING'S Cough Lozenges" engraved on the government stamp.

**KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,**

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS.** It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.—SOLD IN BOTTLES BY ALL CHEMISTS

Proprietor, THOMAS KEATING, London,  
Export Chemist and Druggist.

April, 1879.

**ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,**  
5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,  
MANCHESTER,  
ENGLAND.  
**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND  
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

**MACHINERY.**

May 4, 1878.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## THE GREATEST

**WONDER OF MODERN TIMES  
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakay that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

**SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!  
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.**

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in eradicating and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock"

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World  
May 17th, 1873. tf.

## The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,  
ESTABLISHED, 1865.

## TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art:—Per annum, \$24: Six months, \$13: Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY EDITION, being a Summary of the foregoing, is published for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays excepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community. Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for circulating local advertisements. It has a large and constantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within the means of all classes of the community. It therefore affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.

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HIogo & OSAKA.....	F. Walsh & Co.
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Who are authorized to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements for these papers.

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# THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF  
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. IV. No. 11.]

Yokohama, March 13, 1880.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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## JAPANESE CARVING.

A WRITER in a recent number of *The World*, says:—  
“Carving is little better than a dead art; compared with painting or even with sculpture it finds few patrons; it has no place of exhibition, and no academical status. It has, however, some brilliant, if ill-appreciated, votaries; and among the number I hear of a common artisan who, in a slum near to the Euston Station, has done wonderful things in wood. He was discovered through the medium of a working-man's exhibition—a satisfactory sign that these institutions are fulfilling their legitimate aim. The excellence of a specimen of his handiwork obtained for him a commission for a huge oaken sideboard, containing twenty carved panels, from Landseer's and other appropriate pictures. This work, which is nearly as large as the room in which it has been almost carried to completion, is of remarkable merit; and arrangements are likely to be made for its public exhibition.” Reading this one naturally calls to mind the exceptional position that Japan must hold outside such a generalism. In this land, carving is one of the principal forms in which the artists of the country have always embodied their thoughts and talents. The fastidious niceness of the people in little things of use and adornment, as well as the delicate skill and patient industry of the artisan, has given miniature carving a high place among their objects of *virtu*. Statuary, as the term is generally understood by us, can be scarcely said to exist, its only type being the roughly hewn Buddhist images that sit and sue for a passing prayer from the peasant as he plods along the country roadside. Bronze images, some of fine execution, abound, but these are castings, and

belong to the trade of the metal-worker. Numerous cleverly worked images in wood are enshrined reverently in the temples, some being of extreme age and of surpassing merit. Idols—some western fanatics would call them, but the native priest, a man often of profound learning, holding a creed and moral code which, however, it may be transgressed by the laity, is of striking purity and sublimity, calls them commemorators and reminders of the pious lives and examples of the deceased. They, in fact, as nearly as possible correspond with the effigies in stone and bronze that adorn the tombs of the illustrious dead in our own Cathedrals; there, recumbent with hands in prayer; here, seated like the author of their salvation, absorbed in profound peace and with hands palm upwards. They are exhibited at long intervals for popular edification. As instances, may be mentioned three notable images at Nikko; namely, representations of Nobunaga, Hideyoshi, and Iyeyasu; one life-like image of great antiquity in the shrine of the second Shogun at Shiba, only to be seen as a special favour; and an image of Shinran Shonin, the founder of Shinshin, at the temple of Nishi Honganji at Saikio, said to have been carved by himself. There are also effigies of the founders of sects, and their disciples, in many other temples. At the Seido temple, at Surugadai, are wooden statuettes of Confucius and his ten principle followers, for with this belief they are revered, though a story runs that, though brought from Corea as simblances of these illustrious teachers, they have since been discovered to be images of Corean dignitaries of no religious importance. What's in a name? In this case, if our story be true, to a name and even a misnomer are due the erection of a unique temple and one of the loveliest temple groves on a fine spot in Yedo, perhaps the soothing of numberless troubled souls through several centuries, and certainly the pleasures of many a gay holiday crowd in feast-day attire. In the temple enclosure of Sengakuji at Takanawa, where the forty-seven ronins sacrificed their lives, are preserved striking images of each one of the heroes. To foreigners perhaps such things may have merely the sensational attractions of the redoubtable Chamber of Horrors of Madame Tussand; but to the Japanese pilgrim and sightseer they impart patriotic thrills of admiration and reverence for acts of true fidelity, undaunted perseverance, and self-sacrifice in working out a just retribution.

In addition to this perpetuation of the form of heroes in sanctified wooden images, there are many other places in which carvings in wood and ivory or even lacquer have become noteworthy in the country. The wooden buildings naturally depend for much of their enrichment upon carvings of various kinds. The Japanese worker in wood recognises three general divisions of the art, namely, shallow, deep and pierced carving. It is not our intention to dilate upon the exquisite effect and execution of the wood carving to fences, gateways, walls and ceilings of many important erections. Among the Arabs we find,

carried to perfection in geometrical forms, what in Japan we have in natural forms; namely, the rich effect and display of pierced panels and screens, cut so as to be seen alternately against the light and the deep shade of space. As examples of this pierced work may be noted the representations of birds in flight amidst clouds and tree tops, often adorning the *ramma*, or ventilating spaces left at the top of the walls dividing one room from another, in the larger dwellings and monasteries. In all there is that careful truth to nature, combined with a knowledge of material and results in light and shade, which distinguishes an artist's carving from that of mere wood cutting. Last, but not least, is the employment of the art upon little objects of every day use, in which some of their most *naïve* and original ideas and their greatest delicacy and skill are shown. The millions of little bone, ivory, and wooden carvings that find a choice place among the collections of the wealthy in all countries, owe their existence to the necessity of a knob or counterpoise to balance the tobacco-pouch when threaded through the belt. Oh! ravers against the vices of the smoker, how many *what-nots*, well furnished with quaint ivories, do you owe to the prevalence of this deadly drug! Among these *netsukes* still to be purchased the inferior ones have been made chiefly to supply the demands of the poorer classes or the undiscriminating foreign lounge.

The number of such trinkets adorning the person of a gentleman were few, and the wearer gave full value to good workmanship and originality of design in each, whether it were his sword hilt, his pipe case, or his *netsuke*. Mary-Jane, too, out for a holiday at Sydenham, with her buckles and bracelets, her necklaces, earrings and brooches, showing it is true, good weight of metal for the money, might take a lesson or two, well enough, from Miss Wave-of-the-sea or Miss Cherry-blossom in her pleasure attire with her two modest hair pins and comb, simple and artistic. If the last named young lady will condescend to lend you her hair trinket, which serves two other uses besides its display in the head gear, you may hunt all Yokohama round before you will find another of exactly the same design in its knob or tinkling pendants, though its form be simple in its prettiness.

Carving is essentially an industrial art, and one which has not attained in modern times academical exaltation, because it is not independent enough to stand alone. It is an art of the creeper type, and must have its support to cling to; and so it must be content to be the ally of such industries as that of the jeweller and cabinet-maker. Sculpture, its prouder brother, hewn first in the marble of the monuments whose proportions its duty was to embellish, now boasts its portable freedom, and ends in finding homes amidst the incongruous proportions of loudly furnished mansions. There is no merit in a miniature for the reason that it is a miniature. We would not regret to see the yearly exhibits of finely stippled copies in enamel of larger pictures which fill one room at Burlington House, swept out from the Academy forever. Feeble finicking copying, without idea or motive, that any slave could do! Japanese miniature carving has excelled because it has been applied with a view to render pleasing, objects of necessity or comfort, and because its workers have laboured fondly and well for new thoughts and expressions in their touch.

#### THE WORK OF THE CENTRAL SANITARY BOARD.

WE have received from Mr. Nagayo Sensai, Director of the Central Sanitary Bureau, two pamphlets, one being the first and second annual reports of the work

of the Board, embracing the period between July 1875 and June 1877: the other a report by the director, on choleraic diseases in Japan, during the year 1877.

The annual reports are prefaced by a brief sketch of the history of the Bureau. In the spring of 1873 a Board of Medical Affairs was established in connection with the Educational Department. Its first duty was to draw up a preliminary sanitary code, which was almost identical with such regulations in Europe and America. At the time, it was rightly decided that it was difficult if not impracticable, in the then condition of medical practitioners in the country districts, to apply the new provisions in their full rigour; but that only such measures as were applicable to the large cities, and such of the other rules as were urgently needed, should be enforced at once, and that the entire scheme should in other respects be gradually introduced throughout the whole country, as the advancing civilization and altering circumstances of the nation should permit or render desirable. This course has been generally followed and with good results; and the Bureau has apparently lost no opportunity of improving the sanitation of the various parts of the empire. Foreign directors have been appointed to newly founded Government laboratories. In June, 1874, a central office for collecting and keeping pure and effective vaccine lymph was established in Tokio, whence the matter is distributed to all the local authorities in the cities and provinces and to any medical practitioner who may ask for it. Schools of medicine are now in existence, and candidates for professional diplomas have to pass a strict examination. In 1875 the control of the office was transferred from the Educational to the Home department. The work of reform was still continued. Regulations for the importation, manufacture, and sale of medicines were prepared and put into operation; information on the western practice of medicine and surgery was widely and liberally diffused; and now in sanitary arrangements this nation is, at least in the chief centres of population, not far behind the nations from which it has derived its knowledge. The writer of the report before us, however, evidently thinks that still more might have been effected. He seems to complain that western science has not made greater way in medical matters; and, while deprecating undue legislative interference, he deplores that out of the whole number of physicians throughout the empire, at the period when he wrote, only about twenty-one per cent followed the European system for the treatment of diseases; and, even among this small number, those who had received a regular medical education were only two or three out of ten, while all the rest were still adhering to the old-Chinese and Japanese systems. He remarks also that, with the apothecaries, "the situation is even less favorable. They buy drugs and chemicals from foreign and native wholesale stores, and retail them to native physicians and others. They are ignorant of the science of pharmacy, and sometimes even of the art of formulary, leaving the dispensing of prescriptions entirely to the physicians themselves. In such a state of affairs would it have been possible to follow the proper course and rigidly enforce complete restrictive legislation? No other means could be adopted than to prescribe a proper course of professional study and make examination compulsory in the future, in order to induce physicians to free themselves from the trammels of the old obsolete system, and acquire true scientific and practical knowledge; and also to make apothecaries renounce their old associations as mere shop-keepers and enter the ranks of educated scientific men." We trust that the past three years have effected some improvement in this respect, and that Mr. Nagayo has reason to be content with the progress made.

The ultimate result that he desires, however, can only be the work of time, as the experience of centuries in other countries will demonstrate.

We have on a previous occasion alluded to the almost entire disappearance of small-pox, owing to the favor with which vaccination is now regarded, and the efficient means adopted by the authorities to enforce its practice, and render it universal. The wonderful preventive of a dire and disfiguring scourge does not appear to have met with full respect in the early days of its introduction, Japanese in this respect evincing a prejudice which they have shared with Europeans. A Dutch practitioner at Nagasaki was the first to make the method known in this country, and we are told that, afterwards, the Tokugawa Shogun and many daimios established vaccinating offices in their respective jurisdictions, and actively promoted this important work in the most praiseworthy manner. "Unhappily the results of those early efforts were not very satisfactory, either in consequence of the want of a regular supply of pure lymph, and its deterioration or through the imperfect manner in which the operation was performed." In June, 1874, the Bureau established a central office for the purpose of collecting pure fresh vaccine lymph from vaccinated calves, and of distributing it to the different local authorities, regularly, in the Spring and Autumn, and whenever small-pox should be prevalent, or a further supply of the pus be required. In December, regulations were established and promulgated respecting compulsory vaccination, the form of the certificates of vaccination to be used, and of the statistical returns to be rendered, stating the number of successful and unsuccessful vaccinations and number of revaccinations. Here, again, we have reason to know that marked advance has been made in the time which has elapsed since 1877. We believe that the course which is now adopted is steadily tending towards that final disappearance of small-pox which the Director hopes for; or rather that the disease may only be known in rarely sporadic cases. The pamphlet contains very full and valuable tables, and a great deal of other matter of interest; and is another and permanent tribute to the remarkable and praiseworthy advance which Japan has made in the higher paths of civilization. Thus, the first hospital erected in the empire was founded in 1861; but was for long more of a medical boarding house than a refuge. It did not provide for the accommodation of the poor. Many physicians, who were practising medicine according to the western system, went there for improvement, and a large number of patients, especially of the higher classes residing in the neighbourhood, resorted there for advice and treatment. What a contrast the present condition of affairs offers to the past. "The total number of hospitals in 1877, was 106, of which 64 were public, 7 General Government Institutions, and 35 private. If we added the branch hospitals, lock hospitals, charitable hospitals for the poor, &c., the grand total would amount to 159."

Mr. Nagoya's other pamphlet is instructive as giving the history of the epidemic in 1877. There is no doubt that that disease was the parent of the comparatively mild one of the following year, which again left those germs that fructified in the wide-spread and terrible disaster of last summer and autumn. The records of earlier epidemics is briefly summarized, from the outbreak of 1822, when the pestilence which had already ravaged the main land of Asia, crossed to these islands, over which they rapidly spread with largely fatal effects. The next great visitation did not occur until 1858; but the recollection of the two disasters was still vivid three years ago, and prompted the initiation of those measures of precaution which were

thwarted by the action of the foreign representatives.

The author thus refers to that event:—

"These regulations were solely aimed at the prevention of the ingress of the plague into this country, and were therefore desirable and necessary both for Japanese and foreigners alike; it was not expected that, after the agreement of the 6th year of Meiji (1872) upon this matter, there would be any impediment in the way of enforcing these regulations, only for a certain time, upon all vessels coming from China to our ports. Nevertheless, on the 31st of July, 1877, the following reply was received from the Foreign Office:—'It is not necessary to establish, at present, quarantine hospitals at Yokohama and other open ports of Japan, for a telegram from H.E. the Governor of Hongkong, sent in reply to the inquiry of H. E. the British Minister at Tokio, says, that there seems to be no fear of a further spread of the disease at Amoy, according to the latest despatch received here from that port. Accordingly the establishment of medical inspection or quarantine is not needed in Japan, under the present circumstances.' When this letter was received, the Central Sanitary Bureau was obliged to issue immediately an order to the Governors of the three *ken* of Kanagawa, Hiogo and Nagasaki, to *postpone* the execution of the regulations for the medical inspection of ships, coming from Chinese ports."

In the first year of its arrival the calamity was sufficiently disastrous, and the extent of its descendant in 1879 resulted in the death of about one hundred thousand persons. The perusal of Mr. Nagoya's contribution to the literature of the subject certainly tends to harden the impression that the invasion might have been prevented by the adoption of precautions which were denied to Japan by foreign interference. If quarantine had been established and enforced, it is more than possible that cholera would have been kept away from the country. Thus, a momentous responsibility rests with those who may have been indirectly responsible for the inroad. There is a point to be derived from the stern lesson. No earthly consideration should cause the Government of this country to hesitate as to the proper course to pursue, in future, with regard to communication with epidemically infected districts.

#### PUBLISHING IN JAPAN.

THE forms of procedure in book-publishing seem to be nearly the same in Japan as in most other countries. Before putting a work into the bookseller's hands, the author must send in an application to the department of the Interior, through the local authorities, for permission to publish. The petition must contain a statement of the number of volumes, the name of the work and the proposed price: it must also be accompanied by two copies of the work for examination. On permission being granted, the book can be placed on the market. Occasionally copyright is granted for a period of ten years, and, in the case of government publications, a further period of twenty years may be allowed. The published price of a book must be clearly stated; but, as in other countries, this is merely the highest nominal price, it being usually sold for much less. The price is frequently much reduced by the rivalry of booksellers. The ordinary trade discount—that is the discount given to booksellers—varies from twenty to thirty per cent, but it often attains a much higher rate. The retail price is usually from ten to twenty per cent above the wholesale price. Thus, a book, the published price of which is one *yen*, would be sold to the bookseller for from sixty to eighty *sen*, and he in his turn would sell it for between seventy and ninety *sen*, except to those who being unacquainted with the tricks of the trade, would be forced to pay the full published price.



A well-known publisher and bookseller in the capital, has furnished us with the following figures, which may be of interest to some readers. The expenses of publishing a small book of eighty Japanese pages, rather smaller than 32 mo, are as follows:—

	Yen.
Copying manuscript for the press ... ..	4.00
Cost of copper plates ... ..	14.00
„ „ cutting copper plates ... ..	30.00
Fee to scholar for writing preface ... ..	5.00
Cost of wrapper ... ..	0.90
Total ... Yen	53.90

All that remains is the printing and binding. The cost of these items, including the price of paper, was seven yen for every hundred copies of the work. Five hundred copies were printed at first, and the total cost was thus brought up to yen 88.90, or nearly eighteen sen per copy. The published price was thirty yen, and the book was put on the market at twenty-three and a half sen, thus giving the author a profit of about six sen for each volume. As a matter of fact, on a sale of one thousand copies, the author, we were informed, received eighty yen—by no means an encouragement to him to re-enter the thorny paths of literature. One noticeable item in the foregoing account is that of payment to a scholar for writing the preface. It is almost a universal custom in Japan to employ some person of reputation, generally as a scholar, to commend a work to readers; and with some scholars, this has become a regular trade. It is not always, nor even generally, necessary that the writer of the preface should have any special knowledge of the subject of the volume which he praises. When we find Shimadzu Saburo writing a few prefatory remarks to a book against Christianity, we feel quite sure that his name was selected for some reason other than the Satsuma chieftain's possession of theological knowledge.

A few more items of information from the same source may not be devoid of interest. Ten thousand copies is considered an excellent circulation for an ordinary work, but some elementary school books have a sale of a quarter of a million. Certain books, such as the *Nihon Gwaishi* and the *Jinkashiraku*—both histories—are always in demand, for they are classical works. Books on style, as well as translations or abridgments of foreign works, sell best at present, though the demand for the latter is said to have decreased greatly during the last two years. The property in some works is very valuable. Thus, the right to issue a single edition of the *Nihon Gwaishi* costs three thousand yen, and this does not give the purchaser the exclusive right in the book even for a limited period. In recent years, the work having the largest circulation has been one by the well-known scholar Fukusawa. It is a kind of encyclopædia of foreign countries, and was published in the early years of the present reign. The reason for its popularity is that thirst for knowledge of foreign countries which was, and is, potent among the reading classes. The introduction of moveable type and paper of foreign manufacture is gradually working a revolution in the printing establishments of old Japan. The vast majority of new books are now printed on foreign paper,—on both sides of the page,—and bound in boards; but it is doubtful whether the old system can ever be entirely displaced by its modern rival.

Modern changes have not been in all respects advantageous to the literary classes—or rather to the purveyors of literature. In old days, daimios and other wealthy or influential men in Japan contributed munificently to the support of men of arts and letters, as well as to the issue

of their works; but we fear there are few Mæcenas of this description now remaining. It is, therefore, to be wished that the facilities and encouragements to literary men to publish their researches could be rendered greater by better chances of emolument. There are numbers of learned men of the old school whom modern advance and changes have put on the shelf, who would be doing the country a service, and supporting becomingly their former positions, by recording their personal and traditional experiences of the arts and events of the past. Men of this class are employed on a small pittance by the few foreigners who attempt to acquire even a moderate knowledge of the Japanese language. Certain trades and arts being hereditary, and there being hitherto no treatises on many interesting skilled employments, which are now fast passing away, there is still plenty of work for those old scholars to do in transmitting to future generations exact records of the arts, sciences, sports, &c., of an ancient and erudite civilization.

To take an instance to illustrate our meaning: it is well known that on the occasion of the revival of the *Jaw-omono* before General Grant, the ancient etiquette and form of the sport was so transgressed, that a request was made by a distinguished Japanese to be permitted to show the Emperor the proper style. Attempts to ascertain dramatic and elocutionary principles, as well as other forms and rules of the stage, are baffled by the reply that such things are hereditary, and are mysteries not generally known. The same is the case with the ancient arts of architecture, gold lacquering, and several other employments of a similar kind, the secrets of which are jealously guarded by the initiated and their successors. Labourers in this field could doubtless be found, if the prospect of a fair reward were a good one. It will be some time before the older men, who under the former régime would have found patrons to support and encourage them in their labours as students, but who take small interest in current politics or in the learning which is now the rage, can be wholly displaced by the ardent students of western arts and sciences. In fact, for the old *littérateurs* of Japan, literature is in the same position now that it was in England when Dr. Johnson first went to London. The days of individual patrons have passed away, that of the public as patrons, so far as the literary wares of Japan are concerned, has not yet come.

THE recent appointments to Japanese diplomatic missions abroad have doubtless been made with a view to the pending revision of the treaties with foreign powers. Although it is, we believe, arranged that this revision is to take place in Tokio, yet the necessity of having agents on the spot, who can ascertain and report the feelings of the various Governments on this important question, is obvious. Mr. Yanagisawa, who succeeds Mr. Enomoto at the Court of Russia, is an ex-Kugé, and a relation of the Emperor. He was the colleague of Okubo in that embassy to China which settled the Formosan difficulty, and, at the outbreak of the Satsuma rebellion, was sent as Imperial messenger to Shimadzu, to detach that powerful irreconcilable from the insurgents, and succeeded in so doing. He is, therefore, no tyro in state affairs; and probably in this, more than in any of the other appointments, ability and merit were sought for. Nagaoka, the envoy to Holland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, is a noble, and brother of the ex-Daimio of Higo. He succeeds Mr. Same-shima also at Brussels. He has resided for many years in England, and is a Barrister-at-law, as well as a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. The ex-prince of Hizen, Nabeshima, who goes to Rome, has also resided for five

or six years in England, and his appointment is probably due to the fact that he was the entertainer of the Duke of Genoa. He is well known to be very wealthy, and to have deeply at heart the welfare of his former retainers. General Ida, the new minister to Vienna, served as Consul at Foochow during the Formosan expedition, his military knowledge being doubtless considered valuable at that particular time and place.

**I**N the course of the discussion by the friends of the Yokohama General Hospital, at their recent meeting, Mr. Wilkin called attention to the fact that though English and other sailors, serving on board American vessels, could be discharged without provision for their maintenance, yet no applicant was ever refused admission. Mr. Wilkin's statement is so far correct, that any man shipped on a United States craft in a port other than one pertaining to the territory possessed by the republic, may be discharged in this or any other harbour with the consent of the master. In that case he has no subsequent claim upon his consular officers, but is in the same civil position as any other citizen of his nationality, and, if he becomes an inmate of the General Hospital, does so under the same conditions as any other patient. As it happens, however, this circumstance makes no perceptible difference in the expenses of the hospital. The Consul General is particularly careful to avoid involving the community in unnecessary outlay, and never authorizes the "discharge" of a sailor, who at the time needs hospital care.

**I**F we understand aright the tenor of Mr. Dunlop's remarks at the meeting of subscribers to, and friends of, the General Hospital, he desired the demise of the institution. Common sailors could be provided for in the Japanese Refuge at Nogé. Now, although we have personal knowledge of the admirable manner in which the latter establishment has been arranged, and is conducted, we are also aware that it has no accommodation for persons other than Japanese. A "common" foreign sailor would no doubt meet with every possible attention and kindness there. He would be waited on and tended at least as assiduously at Nogé as he would be in the foreign hospice on the Bluff. But a "common" European or American seaman, especially if injured or sick, might find the style of accommodation of even the best conducted Japanese tea-house a trifle inconvenient in view of his ignorant prejudices in favour of bedsteads—of some kind or other—and such inconsiderable articles of furniture as an occasional table and chair. We think, with all deference to Mr. Dunlop and his possible benevolence, that his cynical proposal met with the contempt it merited.

**I**T is possible that even "the better class" of English, French, American, Swedish, Danish, and Dutch patients in Yokohama might prefer to be lodged in a "general" or cosmopolitan hospital rather than in one of a distinctly national, not to say nationally naval, or navally national, character. The German, British, and American Naval Hospitals in this port are, no doubt, admirably efficient and necessary institutions in their way; but it is decidedly better and more creditable for the community to maintain an international "general" hospital, than to call upon the resources of establishments,—which are primarily and principally, if not solely, intended for service purposes—for the care of even "the better class" of promiscuous patients. "Mr. Dunlop had heard that the German residents intended to withhold their subscriptions to the General Hospital this year." Mr. Wilkin briefly said that this "was not the case." We have a great respect for the exemplary German community in this settlement; and have not the slightest hesitancy in believing Mr.

Wilkin. In fact, we should be grieved if we thought that there was any necessity to attach credence to Mr. Dunlop's assertion.

**Q**UERY: "Is the General Hospital in a 'bad financial position'?" It has a credit balance of over six hundred dollars; and no appeal is ever made in vain on its behalf to the sympathy and pockets of the foreign community. It is also probable that, with a little less occasional favour shown in its management, it would be even more self-supporting than it is. What, for instance, has to be said about the item, \$1,098.59 considered not recoverable from patients on outstanding accounts? If an inmate of the hospital is a charity patient, by all means let him be included in that class, and obtain the tenderest service, the best attention, and the most suitable diet, that the resources of the establishment can supply; but let us not have supercilious hypochondriacs, with fastidious and frivolously expensive tastes, and absurdly exigent notions about attendance, housed for months as first-class patients in the first-class apartments, putting the charitable commonwealth to an expense of three or four dollars per day, without hope or intention of paying anything. Mr. Macpherson goes too far in saying that there should be no charity patients at all. Let the hospital continue its happy and benevolent tradition of refusing admission to none; but let the patients, and if necessary the public, understand the conditions under which shelter, and attendance, and nourishment are obtained.

**A**N excellent idea is that of Mr. Macpherson's that residents should, as far as lies in their power, make gifts of books, periodicals and newspapers to the hospital. Donations of still serviceable cast off clothing would no doubt also be thankfully received by the management for bestowal upon necessitous patients on their discharge.

**W**HAT appears to be really required to maintain the Yokohama General Hospital is, at the outside, a subscription fund of about three thousand dollars per annum. We have sufficient faith in the liberality of the foreign community to believe that this sum may always be depended upon for so good a purpose as that which is now once again before the public. As Mr. Bingham well remarked:—"For over ten years this child of Christianity, the General Hospital, has been in existence, affording relief alike to rich and poor, the stranger and the needy; and what appears to me the most remarkable feature is, that during all this period of ten years, the organization has been supported by the voluntary subscriptions of a community, not exceeding two thousand persons." The same public or the successors of those who at present constitute it, are likely to act up to former traditions in this respect at least. It is even immaterial whether or not the authorities of the Kencho reconsider their decision as to the remission of the ground rent.

**A**LONDON newspaper scoffs at what it terms the "intolerable folly" of the British Government in lending its officers and men to the Governments of China and Japan to assist in organizing their navies, and in training the natives of these countries in the direction and use of their young fleets. It complains that the result of this policy has been that the Japanese certainly, and the Chinese probably, now have navies which could give England plenty of trouble if they pleased. This seems a very narrow view to take of the question. Apart from the fact that the strength and stability of both these countries would be the pledge of peaceful progress, and assimilation with western civilization in the Far East, the practice of permitting British officers

and subjects to serve, either temporarily or permanently, under foreign governments has been almost universal, and it is hard to see why Japan or China should be made an exception. Sir de Lacy Evans was permitted to organize an army corps in Spain. Mr. Reed builds vessels for many foreign powers; and the services of Turkey, Egypt, Austria and even of Germany herself, contain British subjects, many of whom still bear, or have borne, Her Majesty's commission. To extend the principle invoked, we might ask: Is it not "intolerable folly" to permit Russian, Turkish, Brazilian and Chilean vessels of war to be designed, built, launched and equipped in English ports, as they "may be able to give us plenty of trouble if it should please them?" The proposition that the weakness of other powers constitutes England's strength is one that has never been maintained; least of all will it find favour at the present time, or with respect to China and Japan.

ON last Thursday, the 11th instant, was inaugurated at Tokio, the nucleus of a society for the study of earthquake phenomena, taking to itself the name of the Seismological Society of Japan. General Van Buren, who shewed his interest in this branch of science by his attendance from Yokohama, presided at the meeting, and through the aid of his businesslike tact the forms were gone through and dry matters of routine quickly disposed of. Some discussion ensued as to the kind of President that should be elected for the Society. There were those who thought that the patronage and name of a Diplomatic Minister or some gentleman of eminent social position should be obtained, regardless of his scientific bent, whilst others were in favour of some active leader in scientific work, whether he be influential or not, outside the pale of seismology. The election declared His Excellency Yamao Yoso, Minister of Public Works, President, subject to his acceptance of the position, and of Mr. John Milne, as Vice-President. The other offices received the appointments of several gentlemen engaged in scientific researches in Tokio and one builder. It remains to be seen what the Society will accomplish. It has now a habitation and a name, and we are sure that we wish it every success in the results of its labours. We hear that many papers upon different subjects connected with earthquakes and volcanoes are already promised; and if the various investigations, records and reasoning can be reduced at all to harmony and lead to definite and indisputable conclusions, no doubt much good may be done.

WRITING to the Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, Mr. H. L. Dalrymple, a member of the body, draws attention to the desirability of the English community in the Far East being directly represented in London. He says that the want of a representative body of merchants connected with and interested in the China and Japan trade in London has made itself much felt of late, and the formation of a "China and Japan Association" started for a specific purpose last autumn, "opens the way, in the opinion of some of the Chambers of Commerce in the east, to attain this end." The idea is that by enlisting the services of an influential body in London, a status, and power of appeal in case of need to the Home Government, and Colonial or Foreign Office, and in fact in any quarter which they are not in a position at present to approach direct, will be given to foreign merchants in these regions. With this object it is suggested that the Hongkong Chamber shall at once place itself in communication with the Chambers of Commerce at the treaty ports of China and Japan, and in conjunction with them address the Chairman of the China and Japan Association,

at the same time placing the services of the Chambers at the disposal of that Association with regard to furnishing any information in connection with the China trade at the disposal of any of such bodies. We shall be glad of any information as to the *personnel* of the "China and Japan Association."

REFERRING to the accident which has recently happened, and been attended with considerable loss of life and personal injury, to a small Japanese steamer plying between Niigata and Nagaoka, we are reminded that the formation of the company, to which the vessel belongs and which is a very profitable and in the main nationally beneficial concern, was due to Mr. Kusamoto, now a member of the Senate, but formerly the Governor of Niigata Ken. He is said to have in a measure compelled some of the more influential merchants living under his jurisdiction to float the enterprise, which is now said to bring to the investors an annual profit of ten thousand yen. The recent calamity is ascribed, by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, to culpable carelessness on the part of the engineer in charge, who is reported to have worked the vessel when he knew that the boilers and machinery urgently needed repair. The vernacular writer compares him to the ignorant driver of impotent horses, and suggests that it should be made imperative on the owners of coasting craft to submit them to competent inspection, under, say, the direction of the Post Office, as it is remarked is the practice on Lake Biwa. We trust that the matter will receive the consideration which it merits at the hands of the Government.

THE *Indépendant de Saigon*, comments on the alleged schemes of French annexation in Cochin China. It says:—

We avow that, as far as we are concerned, and though we desire the development of the country, we can scarcely understand a policy which would consist, while we are at peace with the empire of Annam, in invading its provinces without pretext or reason. It would perhaps be very clever to do so; but, although some people might call it a transcendental stroke of policy, we think that in private life it would be called armed robbery: in public law it would be deemed a violation of the rights of nations; and in any case it appears to us a proceeding of doubtful honesty. It is true that there are many examples of such a course of action; and in frequent instances civilized nations have taken advantage, in regard to less progressive peoples, of the motto "might is right;" but if there is one nation which should be the last to apply the maxim it is France, which is yet bleeding from its application to herself. To invade Tonquin in a time of perfect peace . . . . . would be to legitimize and justify the atrocities perpetrated by Germany in Alsace and Lorraine. Would we oppose an honorable struggle, entered into with sufficient motive? Certainly not; but, in our way of thinking, the mission of the *Thémis* to Hué can only be of a diplomatic character. France may bring remonstrances, make demands, and support them by demonstrations; but it is impossible to commence a causeless aggression. We are told that the Annamite government, and its representative in Saigon, are troubled by rumours of invasion . . . . . and that they have asked our Governor for explanations. They may compose themselves, believe us. France will not now falsify the loyal policy which has characterised her for centuries. She will state her grievances, and formulate her wishes; but if the Annamite authorities will be as reasonable with her as they were with Spain, the whole affair will be settled without a blow being struck, an invasion made, or territory transferred. This is what we hope and what events will shortly demonstrate."

WE propose to publish a series of memoirs of prominent Japanese personages. The first number appears in our issue of this week, and is devoted to a short sketch of Prince Higashi Fushimi.



## JAPANESE PERSONAGES.

## I.

## PRINCE HIGASHI FUSHIMI.

**H**IS Imperial Highness, Prince Higashi Fushimi Yoshi-aki, is the third son of His Imperial Highness, Prince Fushimi Kuni-ye. He was made Prince Imperial by Emperor Ninko, and became a priest\* in 1858 when he adopted the name of Ninnaji-no-Miya. The subject of this memoir is gifted with great energy, a high order of intellect and an equable temperament. He was one of the prime movers in the restoration of the Imperial authority to its original and legitimate preëminence, and at the time of the last war of the restoration, abandoned the priesthood by imperial command, and was appointed a member of the Legislative Council of the Empire. Shortly afterwards Prince Higashi was placed in command of the expedition against the rebels in the eastern provinces. At the same time he was presented by the Emperor with an imperial standard and a sword of honour.

Hearing that the royal forces had been severely handled by their opponents at Yodo and Toba, the Prince-Marshal at once proceeded to the scene of operations, and restored the fortune of the war by inflicting a decisive defeat upon the rebels. He then marched to Osaka, and using it as a base of operations, sent columns to Yamato, the central provinces and Shikoku, reducing these localities to subordination.

In March, 1868, Prince Hiyashi was appointed Minister of War, and three months afterwards commander-in-chief at Yechigo. He then invaded Aizu, capturing the daimio of that district, after which he returned to Tokio in November of the same year, when his important services to the imperial cause were rewarded by the grant of a pension of one thousand five hundred koku of rice.

His Highness now resigned all his appointments and turned his attention to the study of moral science and art. He applied for and obtained permission to visit Europe, and in the winter of 1870 went to England, where he remained for three years, ardently devoting himself to the study of western civilization. Shortly after his return to Japan he applied for permission to revisit Europe with the object of acquiring a further knowledge of military science, but the rising of Eto Shimpei, at Saga, occurring, His Royal Highness was placed in command of the army operating against the rebels. Before his arrival at Saga the outbreak was crushed and he then, in conjunction with the late Okubo Toshimichi, at that time Home Minister, tranquillized the disturbed districts, rewarding the loyal and punishing the disaffected. On his return from this service His Highness was appointed a Lieutenant-General in the imperial army.

In 1877 the rebellion in the south-west broke out, and Prince Hiyashi was placed in command of the troops armed and disciplined on the western model. The deeds performed in this rebellion belong to the history of Japan; and His Highness greatly distinguished himself both by his wise counsels and bravery in the field, receiving, on the suppression of this formidable rising, as recognition of his brilliant services, the Order of the Rising Sun of the first-class.

The recent change in the Ministry has again brought His Highness's name prominently before the public as he has been appointed a General and intrusted with the command of the Imperial Guard, the *corps d'élite* of the Japanese army.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

SIR,—I have had my attention called to a leading article (?) in your contemporary the *Herald*, giving an account of a meteor which appeared "above the new swamp," on the evening of Thursday last;—but why the new swamp, wherever that may be, should alone have been distinguished by the appearance in question is left an unexplained mystery by your energetic

\* Until the restoration it was customary in Japan for all the sons of the reigning Emperor, with the exception of the heir apparent, to become priests. This was done to avoid the possibility of any disputes arising about the succession to the throne after the death of the occupant.

friend. We shall soon be having an account of the moon appearing above No. 73, Bluff; or of several stars honoring the locality known as 28, Water street.

Your obediently,  
JUPITER.

Tokio, 12th March, 1880.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, March 8th, 1880.

The Nihilists again threaten the life of the Czar unless he abdicates.

LONDON, 11th March, 1880.

A Commission has been appointed by the Great Powers to determine the Greek frontier.

The Imperial Prince of Austro-Hungary has been affianced to the daughter of the King of the Belgians.

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 13TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 3RD MONTH, 13TH DAY,  
DO-YO-BI.

## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The M.M. steamer *Tanis* left for Hongkong with home despatches on Monday morning last. During the afternoon of the same day, the O. & O. steamer *Belgie* arrived from the south, and left on Wednesday afternoon for San Francisco. The M.M. steamer *Tibre* steamed into harbour to-day, at two o'clock, with European dates to the 25th of January last.

We publish in our present issue the first of a series of Japanese parables. These short sketches form excellent guides to the peculiar humour of the quick-witted people of this empire. We may mention that these parables have been translated into English by a native gentleman, without the slightest assistance.

On Thursday evening, about half-past seven o'clock, a meteor of singular brilliancy was visible in the heavens. Its course was from north east to south west.

A local amateur, Mr. Smedley, has opened an exhibition of oil paintings and water colours, in a room at No. 78, Main Street. Some of the pictures are for sale and are interesting as *souvenirs* and objects of interest more than as works of high art.

H.M.S. *Vigilant*, with Admiral Coote on board, left Singapore for Borneo and Hongkong on the 17th of February.

The U.S. flagship *Ticonderoga*, which is on a commercial and scientific tour, was to leave Singapore for Labuan and Borneo, on the 23rd of February and subsequently visit Hongkong and probably Japan.

The French Post Master, Mr. Degron, has issued a notice stating that, from the 31st instant, the establishment under his charge will be closed and the duties assumed by the Imperial Japanese postal authorities. When this change is effected, all the correspondence, &c., to and from this country, will be under the control of the Imperial Post Office, whose action will doubtless be closely and jealously scrutinised. We may remark that the delivery of letters is one of the most important duties attaching to a postal department, and any failure is sure to evoke much unfavourable comment. We trust, therefore, that in future the monthly list of unclaimed correspondence will be free from the names of well-known residents, whose addresses the slightest inquiry would disclose.

The O. & O. Company's fine steamer, the *Oceanic*, will probably leave London to-day, to resume her place on the

line where the vessel has been so great and well-deserved a favourite. We understand that extensive alterations have been made in the interior arrangements of the steamer, the size of the saloon being reduced, and the space allotted to cargo largely increased. In all other respects the vessel is the same *Oceanic* which has made the fastest passages on record across the Pacific.

The Italian Consul having noticed in the Nagasaki paper, a statement that several cases of cholera had recently occurred in that locality, telegraphed to the Italian Consul at that port on the subject, who replied under date of half-past twelve of the 8th instant, that there have been no cases of cholera or other epidemic disease in Nagasaki.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. Plichon, French Consul at Hongkong, who formerly occupied the position of student-Consul in Yokohama. During his residence in Japan Mr. Plichon's amiability won for him the esteem and affection of all who enjoyed the pleasure of his acquaintance. At Hongkong, also, he numbered numerous friends. France has lost in Mr. Plichon a devoted servant, who rendered his country many important services in the Far East, with which he was intimately acquainted.

The *Courrier* states that the lamented gentleman's death was caused by an overdose of chlorodyne which he was taking medicinally.

The dead body of a half-caste child was recovered from the creek near the Mayedabashi, yesterday morning. It is supposed that the deceased—a girl of about four years of age—fell from the unprotected portion of the temporary bridge and was thus drowned. It would be interesting to know how long the rickety structures across the creek are likely to remain where they are, because we might then be able to form some opinion as to the probability of a "Tay bridge" accident, on a small scale, occurring among us. Why light iron bridges are not thrown across the creek to replace the unsightly and dangerous wooden wonders of engineering formerly used, is a mystery to everyone who bestows a thought on the subject.

We are informed that the *Sarah Scott*, Captain Estall, on her passage from Kobe to Nagasaki, met with a typhoon the day after leaving, the 19th ultimo. The vessel was at one time in considerable danger as the ballast on board shifted, luckily however, she escaped with the loss of one boat, davit, and gear.

Sunday, the 14th instant, being the birth-day of King Humbert, of Italy, the royal standard will be hoisted at the Italian Consulate.

The annual departure of the otter hunting fleet is evidently approaching, to judge from the signs of activity on board the schooners.

The very reprehensible practice of shooting gulls from the bund, was indulged in yesterday forenoon by some person who, if he knew no better, certainly deserved to be taught. A severe penalty should be incurred by anyone firing in the harbour, and in all cases be strictly enforced.

On the evening of the 11th instant, Mr. D. H. Marshall gave a lecture before the Tokio Christian Association. The subject was the conduction of heat. He commenced by stating that conduction is one of the two distinct ways in which heat is diffused, the other being radiation. Conduction may be divided into conduction proper and convection. The lecture explained by illustrative examples that, whilst solid bodies are heated by conduction proper, fluids are principally heated by convection. He then explained a delicate way of showing the conduction of heat through substances by means of a thermopile and reflecting galvanometer, and showed therewith how different substances differed in their powers of conducting heat: that silver conducts better than tin; that quartz conducts better in the direction of the principal axis than in any direction at right angles thereto; that wood acts like most crystals in conducting differently in different directions. He then demonstrated that mercury conducts heat very well, whilst water, which ranks next to mercury amongst liquids, conducts very badly. After saying a few words on the conductivity of gases he concluded by a few practical applications of our knowledge of the subject lectured upon: to

the construction of the Davy lamp: the use of the Norwegian cooking-box (which he suggested would be a useful companion to travellers in the interior): and finally as to the best kind of clothing and building material. The lecturer regretted that time would not permit him to give a few of the grand examples of convection which are presented in the ocean currents and in winds.

The *Hiogo News* states the second officer of the *St. Charles* was murdered on the morning of the 3rd instant while in bed in the "Kobe Hotel," situated between Main-street and Sakaya-machi and kept by a Japanese. The crew of the *St. Charles* have been quartered there, and it appears there were high words last night between a sailor named O'Neill and the deceased. This morning the sailor entered the room occupied by the murdered man and stabbed him three or four times in the neck. Death must have been almost instantaneous. O'Neill is in charge of the police, and the body of deceased remains at the hotel. Both are U.S. citizens, and an inquest will be held, at the U.S. Consulate.

The man O'Neil, alias James Rodgers, was removed in custody of the Municipal police immediately after the verdict was given in the inquest held yesterday, and is now lying in the Municipal gaol. The usual warrant has been issued by the U. S. Consul, and the prisoner will shortly have to stand his trial for wilful murder. The prisoner has since been tried, convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment in the Consular gaol at Yokohama.

The *St. Charles* continued burning all day on the 3rd instant as vigorously as ever. The scuttling operations were apparently performed very indifferently, and although there was a stiffish breeze yesterday, and the ship was awash in places, she showed no signs of settling down. The burning wreck and cargo were sold yesterday evening by Mr. J. J. Cann. The hull was first submitted to competition, and after some spirited bidding was knocked down to Mr. E. C. Kirby for Mex. \$3,700. The cargo was then offered, the first bid being \$2,500; it finally fell to the same buyer for \$4,000. There was a large attendance of foreigners and Japanese.

The Italian corvette *Vettor Pisani*, Captain H.R.H. the Duke of Genoa, left Kobe for Nagasaki, via the Inland Sea, on the morning of the 4th, after a stay of a little over a fortnight during which time H.R.H. has visited Osaka, Kyoto, Nara, and other places of interest in the neighbourhood. The *Vettor Pisani* will call at several places on the way, touching first at the port of Kasukabe, Shodoshima. She will then proceed to Mihara, Bingo, calling at Mitarai-shima on the way. Then on to Shimonoseki, and thence to Hirado. She will then proceed to her destination by way of Spex Straits. She will be in charge of the same pilot who took the *Prinz Adalbert* a somewhat similar course at the end of last year.

The *Hiogo News* contains a horrible account of the killing (under circumstances of exceptional barbarity) and eating of a young girl by a party of woodcutters. A native paper is our contemporary's only authority, and native papers often abound in those sort of stories, none of which have the slightest foundation in fact. If the *Hiogo News* wishes its readers "to sup full of horrors" the inferior class of native journals, supplemented by the *Newgate Calendar*, will furnish an unfailing supply.

The *Nagasaki Express* of March 6th states that what proved to be the most serious conflagration that has occurred in Nagasaki since the memorable one of March last, broke out about three o'clock on Saturday morning last in one of the most thriving business quarters of the native town known as Yedo-machi (at the rear of Decima). The fire is reported to have originated in the house of Yoshimiya, from which, owing to the strong breeze prevailing at the time, it rapidly spread in both directions, and to the houses situated opposite. Fire brigades were quickly on the spot, but as is always the case with fires in the native town, little could be done to stay its progress so long as the wind lasted. Fortunately the wind quickly subsided, but not before thirty-one houses (principally stores stocked with foreign goods) had been entirely devoured by the flames. Although

the space devastated was not extensive, still the loss was considerable. Very little was really saved, except what happened to be stored in the godowns, of which two or three remained standing. Most of what was snatched from the fire was, in the hurry and excitement of the moment, thrown into the creek. The office of the Mitsui Bussan Co. was amongst the unfortunate ones. Six other houses were either partially burnt or demolished in the endeavours to overcome the fire. Two policemen and two firemen were seriously injured, but fortunately no lives were lost. The progress of the fire was stayed about half-past five, but the fire engines continued their labours until evening.

Ship-building at the Patent Slip is probably brisker now than it has ever been at any previous period. There are no less than four vessels on the stocks, and one on the slip. The vessels building are one large steamer and one small ditto, one large launch and one small ditto. The vessel repairing is H.M.S. *Scinger*, and is the first instance of a British man-of-war being taken on the slip. The repairs to the *Asajishima Maru* being completed, she was launched from the slip on Monday.

At the auction of the British barque *Clifton*, on Monday last, the attendance was not so good as might have been expected, considering the fine vessel that was offered: consequently competition did not run very high. She was purchased by Captain Mason, for \$9,000.

The wreck of the British schooner *Mary* was put up for public auction on Wednesday morning last before a good assemblage of European, Chinese, and Japanese speculators, amongst the latter of whom she attracted considerable attention and competition. The hull, with masts and one unit of sails and rigging complete, was first brought under the hammer; the bidding commenced with a speculating offer of \$500, and rapidly advanced to the extraordinarily high figure of \$3,800, for which sum she was eventually knocked down to Mr. F. Ringer. The spare sails, anchors, chains, and hawsers realised similar high prices: two anchors, and 165 fathoms of chain alone were sold for \$510. The aggregate amount realised was about \$4,500. We hear that Mr. Ringer was acting for Captain Cubbins, in which case she reverts to her former owner.

From the *Indpendant de Saigon*, we learn that the suicide of Mr. de Rangoume, the treasurer of Mytbo, was caused through the impossibility of his being able longer to conceal a deficiency of \$8,000 in his accounts.

The *Thémis* with Admiral Duperré on board arrived at Saigon on the 11th of February. The Admiral's action with regard to Tonquin is anxiously looked forward to.

A Colonial Council, consisting of six European and six native members (elective), two delegates from the Chamber of Commerce and two members nominated by the Government, has been established. The local journals are very jubilant over the termination of the military régime, but express dissatisfaction with the composition of the Council, and entertain some doubts as to the possibility of finding six natives competent to fulfil the important functions devolving upon members of the new governing body.

The Spanish Ambassador to the Annamite Court has returned to Hué, having succeeded in arranged a treaty of friendship and commerce. Special provision has been made in this compact for the emigration of Annamite subjects to the Spanish colonies, Cuba in particular, and also for the introduction of the products of the Philippines into Annam.

#### YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the subscribers and friends of the Yokohama General Hospital, was held on Thursday afternoon, at half-past two o'clock, in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce.

About thirty gentlemen attended, and the Hon. J. A. Bingham presided.

The Honorary Secretary, Mr. Wilkin, read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved.

The Honorary Secretary then read the following report of the committee for the last year:—

The committee of the Yokohama General Hospital have the pleasure to present to the subscribers and friends of the institution, their annual report for the year 1879: and attached thereto, the surgeons' report, and the statement of accounts.

From this latter it will be seen that the cash balance to credit of the hospital in the Hongkong Bank is only \$598.97, as against \$1,833.94 last year on the previous December; and that allowing for bills due, and amounts owing by patients, the assets are only \$633.93, as against \$2,320.49, or a difference in the wrong direction of nearly \$1,700.

In analysing further the returns, it will be observed that the number of patients who passed through the hospital, i.e. calculated by days,—shows a considerable falling off, viz.—4,894 days against 6,266: the reduction being most in 1st, 2nd and 4th class and charity patients.

The subscriptions and donations are only \$2,566.63 as against \$3,905.70.

On the other hand, more than \$2,900 has been expended upon repairs to the General Hospital, and completion of the infectious wards at Nakamura: and besides the surgeons' fees have been at the increased rate which was commenced only in September, 1878.

There is then, at least, some matter for congratulation that with reduced resources and increased extraordinary expenditure, the financial standing is not worse than it is, and your committee think that this testifies somewhat to care in the ordinary expenditure. The cost per head per diem has been \$1.73 as against \$1.61 in 1878, and \$1.97 in 1877.

Among the receipts must be noticed the handsome sum of \$339.55 being proceeds of an excellent entertainment given by the Vernon troupe in August, for which the hospital is largely indebted to Mr. Griffin, and to the success of which also several amateurs and the band of the U. S. S. *Richmond* greatly contributed.

An amount of \$51.50 was further received from the passengers of S. S. *City of Peking*, proceeds of a performance given on board.

Acknowledgments are also due to the Ladies' Benevolent Society, for sundry articles of night clothing and wraps provided by them.

Your committee cannot, however, let this subject pass without appealing urgently to their townsmen, to make the subscription list more like what it has been heretofore; and at the same time they would put in a word for the monthly collection of small amounts made by Mr. Townley.

The large hut for the infectious wards was duly completed early in the year.

It is to be regretted that no progress has been made in the matter of approaches to those buildings, and the subject has again been brought to the notice of the consular board. Happily, thus far, this class of hospital accommodation has not been much needed, but it is necessary to be ready for any emergency which may arise.

At the General Hospital, the kitchens and servants' quarters have been thoroughly remodelled. It must be added that the main buildings have suffered a good deal by the earthquake of the 22nd ultimo.

Dr. Wheeler was elected on the 1st of July to the post of surgeon (in conjunction with Dr. Eldridge) in place of Dr. Goerts, who had left the country.

The hospital lost by death in June Mr. Nicolayson, who for many years has filled the office of steward ably and faithfully.

Mr. J. L. Thompson has been appointed in his place.

The application made to the prefect of Kanagawa for a remission of the ground rent on the hospital lots, was by him referred to the central government, and a reply has recently been received to the effect that the request cannot be entertained.

The diet sheets in use have been somewhat changed, and some reductions made so as to bring them more into accord with those of military and naval hospitals.

The committee have had under their consideration a suggestion to receive Japanese patients at a reduced rate, providing them mainly with native food and accommodation, but as yet no decision has been come to.

In thanking the proprietors of some of our newspapers and the local committee of the Religious Tract Society, for their papers and magazines, the opportunity is again taken to remind residents that spare papers and periodicals will be gratefully received.

It remains only for the committee to tender their resignation, and to express a hope that the report of the year's work will be satisfactory to subscribers.

March 8th, 1880.

#### YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

##### STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1879.

###### RECEIPTS.

1 Jan.	Cash on hand .....	\$ 1,833.94
1 July	Interest from H. & S. Bank on daily balances ...	3.85
1 Jan to 31 Dec.	From patients .....	7,070.81
"	Donations .....	2,566.63
"	Exchange, for balance of differences, dollars and yen .....	326.51
Total receipts .....		\$11,801.74
Balance .....		502.91
Owing to creditors, 31st Dec. ....		\$1,101.88
Less, cash on hand 31st Dec. ....		598.97

\$12,304.65



EXPENDITURE.	
1st Jan. to 31st Dec. Paid creditors from 1878 .....	\$ 950.70
" " " " " Erection of buildings &c. at Ishikawa.....	1,295.80
1st Jan. to 31st Dec.	
Establishment expenses :	
Repairs, &c., to building.....	1,606.53
Ground rent.....	176.70
Fire Insurance premiums.....	112.00
Furniture, &c., .....	72.90
Wages, (stewards and natives).....	2,287.63
Fuel and lighting.....	384.94
Petties .....	90.37
	4,731.07
1st Jan. to 31st Dec.	
Medical expenses :	
Surgeons .....	1,196.67
Dispenser's wages.....	180.00
Medicines, &c., .....	806.34
	2,183.01
1st Jan. to 31st Dec.	
Victualling expenses :	
Butcher .....	643.79
Baker .....	422.46
Marketing .....	494.95
Stores .....	456.20
Milk .....	511.20
Aerated waters.....	13.99
Wines, beer and spirits .....	201.78
	2,744.37
1st Jan. to 31st Dec.	
Office expenses :	
Accountant .....	360.00
Expenses on collecting accounts.....	9.60
Stationary .....	30.10
	399.70
Total expenditure.....	\$12,304.65
DEPENDENCIES, 1st JANUARY, 1880.	
Cash on hand .....	\$ 598.97
Amounts recoverable from patients on outstanding accounts	
—exclusive of \$1,098.69 considered not recoverable ....	1,136.84
	\$1,735.81
Deduct for sums due to creditors.....	1,101.88
Credit balance.....	\$ 633.93
E. & O. E.	
For the Yokohama General Hospital,	
(Signed) G. K. DINSDALE,	
For Hon. Treasurer.	
21st February, 1880.	

## YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

## PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL FROM JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER

## 31st, 1879, WERE AS FOLLOWS :

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Charity	Total.
Remained from 1878.....	—	2	29	—	4	35
Admitted during 1879 .....	7	12	82	7	16	124
	7	14	111	7	20	159
Number of days of 1st class.....						212 days.
" " 2nd do. ....						370 "
" " 3rd do. ....						3,324 "
" " 4th do. ....						105 "
" " Charity .....						883 "
" " Total .....						4,894 "

YOKOHAMA, March 10th, 1880.

## TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

GENTLEMEN :—We have the honour to submit herewith the usual statistical report of the medical supervision of the General Hospital, for the year ending December 31st, 1879.

The number of patients of the several classes under treatment during this time was as follows :

	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	Charity.	Total.
Remaining Jan. 1, 1879.....	0	2	29	0	4	35
Admitted during 1879.....	7	12	82	7	16	124
Total treated 1879.....	7	14	111	7	20	159
Remaining Jan. 1, 1880.....	0	0	4	0	2	6

It will be noticed that the total admissions number less than any year since 1873, while the mortality, which amounts to but 7.25 per cent of all admitted, though greater than in 1878, when the death rate was 4.50 per cent is still far below the average of the seven years anterior to 1875, and less even than that of 1875, 1876 and 1877.

The cholera epidemic of 1879 did not seriously affect the foreign community, but one admission for this disease was recorded and the malady in this case was of the mildest type. The small-pox cases noted were without exception derived from abroad ; in fact,

it is probable that not a single case of this disease originated in Yokohama during the past two years, even among the natives with whom it is, very erroneously, supposed to be a constant guest.

The present affords a proper opportunity for the medical officers of the hospital to offer a tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. Nicolayson, for so long a time the active, efficient and courteous steward of the institution. Whatever of success has been attained in the internal administration of the hospital is largely due to his intelligent and devoted labour, a labour continued, despite of suffering and infirmity, almost to the hour of his death.

In concluding we beg to reiterate the recommendation made in the report of the surgeons of the hospital for 1878, that some place for the assemblage of the lower classes of patients be provided at the earliest opportunity. It is certainly an unnecessary and injudicious addition to the sufferings of those convalescent or but slightly ill, to be confined through 24 hours to the same room with the bedridden or those afflicted with loathsome diseases. We must also call attention to the fact that no practicable approach to the new pest house as yet exists, although the expense of constructing a sufficient road could not be very great.

We are, gentlemen, very respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M.D.

EDWIN WHEELER, M.D.

Surgeons to the General Hospital.

## OCCURRENCE OF CERTAIN IMPORTANT DISEASES WITH REFERENCE TO RESIDENCE OR NON-RESIDENCE.

	Resident.	Non-Resident.	Total.
Small Pox.....	—	3	3
Typhus Fever .....	1	1	2
Typho-Malarial Fever .....	1	—	1
Remittent Fever .....	1	2	3
Intermittent Fever.....	1	1	2
Malarial Cachexia .....	1	—	1
Rheumatism.....	1	2	3
Phthisis .....	2	4	6
Valvular Disease of Heart.....	1	2	3
Aneurism .....	1	—	1
Bronchitis.....	—	2	2
Pneumonitis.....	2	1	3
Nephritis .....	—	1	1

## NATIONALITIES OF PATIENTS ADMITTED.

## January 1st, 1879, to December 31st, 1879.

Austrians .....	4
British, including British East Indians.....	43
Chinese .....	3
Danes.....	1
Dutch.....	1
French.....	25
German .....	1
Japanese .....	5
Portuguese .....	1
Peruvians .....	1
Russians.....	21
Swedes and Norwegians.....	9
United States .....	9

Residents of Yokohama admitted .....	33
Non-Residents " " .....	92
	124

We have not space to give in full the elaborate tables of diseases treated during the year 1879, prepared by the surgeons in charge and forming part of their report. This following is an abstract :

	Admitted.	Died.
General diseases .....	56	4
Diseases of nervous system .....	8	1
" " circulatory " .....	5	2
" " absorbent " .....	1	—
" " respiratory " .....	8	1
" " digestive " .....	12	—
" " urinary " .....	12	—
" " organs of motion .....	3	—
Alcoholism .....	8	—
Injuries .....	11	1
Total.....	124	9

The Chairman said:—You have now heard the report and balance sheet read and it is open to the meeting to adopt, amend or reject. This hospital charity belongs to our modern civilization and accompanies it wherever it goes to all parts of the world. The report we have just heard read, gives evidence of great care and attention on the part of the outgoing committee, who may be said in this matter to have been standing between the living and the dead. There appears to me only one thing to find fault with in the report, and that is no fault of the committee, viz—that the institution is \$1,700 in a worse position than last year.

Mr. Wilkin mentioned that the revenue was \$1,700 less. The report and balance sheet were then unanimously adopted on the motion of Mr. Rickott seconded by Mr. Kirkwood.

Mr. Dunlop asked if the German hospital was not open to receive general patients; and whether, as the general hospital was getting into a bad financial state, it would not be desirable to effect an amalgamation with the Japanese hospital?

Mr. Wilkin explained that the only way the question had come before the committee was with reference to charging Japanese patients less than Europeans.

Mr. Dunlop thought seamen could be well enough attended to in the Noge hospital, while the better class of patients could go to the German hospital.

Mr. Wilkin remarked that most people liked to be among their own countrymen.

Mr. Dunlop had heard that the German residents intended to withhold their subscriptions to the general hospital this year.

Mr. Wilkin said such was not the case.

Mr. Keswick moved "that the members of the outgoing committee who had not intimated their intention of withdrawing, be re-elected for the current year." Seconded and carried.

Mr. Macpherson wished to know what probability there was of the hospital being self-supporting; that is, the receipts from patients equalling the expenditure on patients?

Mr. Wilkin thought that this could not occur unless there were as many patients as formerly.

Mr. Macpherson asked what the deficiency to be made up by donations would amount to?

Mr. Wilkin.—About \$3,000, which will include the cost of repairs, &c.

Mr. Macpherson asked for information on the subject of charity patients, remarking that in a place like Yokohama it seemed to him there ought to be no charity patients at all, as the towns-people, could pay and no seamen were discharged without some provision being made for them.

Mr. Wilkin mentioned that English and other sailors on board American vessels could be discharged without any provision and no person was ever refused admission to the hospital, which drew from the chairman the remark,—“that is the best feature of the whole affair.”

Mr. Wilkin drew attention to the great benefit of donations of papers and periodicals to the inmates of the hospital and urged that gifts of the kind be liberally made.

Mr. Macpherson suggested that a box be erected at the gate of the hospital into which papers could be dropped.

There being no further business before the meeting, a vote of thanks was tendered to the chairman for his kindness in coming from Tokio to preside.

In acknowledging the vote of thanks Mr. Bingham said:—Before adjourning this meeting I desire to tender my sincere thanks to the gentlemen composing this association, its patrons and friends, for the honour they have done me in asking me to preside over this meeting to-day. You are all of you probably well aware that during my sojourn in Japan I have not often mingled in public matters, in fact my instructions from the officials who guide my conduct and whom I am obliged to defer to may be summed up in one word given me for my control—"mum," so as not to give cause of offence to anyone. I am sure that during the time I have been in Japan nothing has seemed to me more satisfactory or given me more cause for self-congratulation than to sit here to-day and listen to the report and returns of this association. For over ten years this child of Christianity, the general hospital, has been in existence, affording relief alike to rich and poor, the stranger and the needy; and what appears to me the most remarkable feature is, that during all this period of ten years, the organization has been supported by the voluntary subscriptions of a community, not exceeding two thousand persons. This hospital is the offspring of the same feeling of charity which established similar institutions in Constantinople, eleven centuries ago; in Rome, nine centuries ago; in Great Britain under the elder branch of the English speaking people, and in France, and which we now find represented here as well as elsewhere, nobly and faithfully, receiving men of every country and creed. This outcome of our civilization is the latest and brightest example of the brotherhood of man. Here in this hospital, English, French, Americans, Russians, all receive succour, relief and shelter at the expense of the whole

community. I thank you for the opportunity you have afforded me to hear and know what I did not know before; and I can conscientiously say that you are to be complimented in having appointed a committee who have shown themselves so faithful and capable in the discharge of their onerous duties. (Applause).

Mr. Kirkwood moved a vote of thanks to the outgoing committee, which was carried by acclamation, and the meeting then terminated.

#### THE YOKOHAMA CRICKET CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Yokohama Cricket Club, was held at the Grand Hotel on Thursday evening at five o'clock.

Mr. Barlow occupied the chair and the following gentlemen were also present:—Messrs. Hamilton, Dodds, Cope, A. Milne, Stevens, Wood, C. D. Moss, Hearne, Hutchison, Litchfield, Maxwell, Herbert and Sutter.

The Honorary Secretary and Treasurer (Mr. Milne), read the minutes of the last annual meeting, and commented upon the various subjects mentioned therein. He also stated that all the scrip had been paid off and as the area of the ground was now greater, a increased expenditure would be incurred for rent.

Mr. Moss proposed "that the minutes as read be adopted." Seconded by Mr. Dodds and carried.

The Honorary Secretary and Treasurer then read the following statement of accounts:—

THE YOKOHAMA CRICKET CLUB, in account with ALEXANDER MILNE, Treasurer.

#### RECEIPTS:—

Balance from last account...	215.79
Subscriptions, 1879 ... ..	493.00
Entrance fees ... ..	130.00
Base Ball Club for use of ground ... ..	75.00
Foot Ball Association " " ... ..	45.00
Interest from Bank ... ..	5.00

#### DISBURSEMENTS:—

Mouban, coolies, new turf, match expenses, &c., &c. ... ..	266.60
Advertising and printing ... ..	5.60
New fence ... ..	220.00
Ground rent to 31st December, 1880... ..	230.66
Old indebtedness on turf scrip ... ..	139.00
Remittance for gear, £30 @ 5/9½ ... ..	159.11
Insurance on pavilion ... ..	12.00
Balance ... ..	12.18
	\$992.97 992.97

1880.

March 11th. To balance due Hon. Treasurer \$29.18

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 11th March, 1880,

(Signed) ALEX. MILNE,  
Hon. Treasurer.

Examined and found correct.

(Signed) G. C. WOOD.  
" E. D. MURRAY.

The Chairman mentioned that the expenses of the New Pavilion that had been erected on the ground, had not gone into the General Accounts as they had been met by private subscription. The accounts were now in a very flourishing condition, and the subscriptions shewed an increase over the previous year.

Mr. Cope proposed "that the accounts be approved and passed." Seconded by Mr. Dodds and carried.

A desultory discussion followed in reference to the Amateur Athletic Association joining, and contributing to the expenses of the ground.

The Chairman deprecated joint occupation, as it had already failed; hence the giving up of the ground on two days in the week to the Base Ball Club.

Mr. Cope said the Amateur Athletic Association would only require a few feet for a running path along the railing, and that most of their members would train in the early morning.

The Chairman recommended that the question of joint occupation be left to the new committee, and in reply to Mr. Hamilton said there was nothing to prevent members of the Amateur Athletic Association joining the Cricket Club.

Mr. Dodds proposed that a committee be now elected, which resulted in Messrs. Milne, Barlow, Wheeler, Hutchison and Cope, being chosen by the meeting.

Mr. Hamilton proposed "that the Committee be empowered, provided the funds of the Club admit, to form a running path round the Cricket Ground, either by taking in extra space or by taking up a portion of the present ground next the rails." Seconded by Mr. Wood.

Mr. Dodds proposed as an amendment, "that the words 'If the committee deem it expedient' be inserted after the word 'admit' in the original motion." Seconded by Mr. Hutchison.

The amendment was carried.

Mr. Litchfield proposed and Mr. Dodds seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring committee, and Mr. Hamilton proposed and Mr. Hutchison seconded a vote of thanks to the chairman; both propositions were carried by acclamation and the meeting terminated.

#### PARIS LETTER.

(On Scientific Subjects.)

JANUARY 17TH, 1880.

The intensely severe winter which reigns, naturally draws attention to the bearing of cold on health, and the subject is extremely interesting, and not the less so, because eminently personal. Inert bodies acquire, very easily, the temperature which surrounds them; becoming warm, if it be warm, and cold, if it be cold. A bar of iron when exposed a long time to the sun in summer, burns the hand when touched; in glacial climates, the same metal will become as cold as the surrounding atmosphere, producing veritable burns when touched by the hand. Thus the iron passes through all the variations of temperature, from extreme cold to extreme heat. But it is not the same for man, in good health, and the superior animals; if a thermometer bulb be placed in the mouth of a man, no matter in what part of the world, it will mark invariably about 100 degrees, blood heat; even in the most glacial regions or in the most tropical zones there will not be more than some three degrees in the oscillations of vital heat one way or the other. The heat or caloric that the external cold carries off from our system, is produced in our body, which may roughly be viewed as a fire manufacturing machine. Lavoisier was the first to rationally explain the theory of animal heat, and to compare its source to that of a furnace. The air penetrating our body, burns our tissues as fuel is burned in a grate; giving from this veritable combustion the same products, carbonic acid and watery vapor, and when we employ the phrase "life is extinct," it is not a poetical truth, so much as a scientific fact, that is expressed.

The only modification that time has wrought in Lavoisier's theory is, that the seat of the combustion or fire-place, that he limited to the lungs, is now proven to take place in all the body, and especially in the tiny blood or capillary vessels, spread profusely in the layer of the skin, where they form such a net work, that no part of the skin can be pricked with the finest pointed needle, without the blood commencing at once to flow. It is in these little vessels that the blood, driven from the heart through the arteries, brings the oxygen of the air which it has received from the lungs, and with which the globules are impregnated like so many sponges. It is in these capillary vessels that the globules abandon the oxygen so necessary for combustion, taking up in exchange the carbonic acid, the product of that combustion, to carry it to the lung-organs charged to get rid of that useless and noxious gas, as the smoke of fire passes away through the chimney. The lungs are then as it were a chimney, by which air enters and smoke goes away.

But if our body be a fire-making machine it is more perfect by far than any inanimate apparatus, because it uses up, destroys itself, consumes its own substance, as well as the fuel supplied. However, it has the property of being able to repair what is destroyed, if supplied with the necessary materials for doing so. The good working of the machine depends on this, and the more its functions are vigorous, the more ought the materials for repair to be considerable. When the weather is very cold, the machine constantly loses an enormous quantity of caloric, and is forced to fabricate from its own substance the necessary provision to maintain the normal animal warmth, for when the latter diminishes, life is compromised. Hence in winter, alimentation must be more abundant than in summer, which explains why in warm countries people have proverbially moderate appetites, while in cold climates they are remarkable for their voracity. In Greenland an inhabitant will consume from ten to fifteen lbs. of seal's flesh daily: two Esquimaux will devour between them, during a morning, the hind-quarter of a musk ox, cutting the flesh in eel-like morsels, introducing as much of the strip into the mouth as can be contained, then severing it and passing it on to a companion. Occasionally

these northerners allow the ribbons of flesh to trail along the ground, devouring them somewhat after the manner of a boar-constrictor. It has thus been remarked, that before his meal, an Esquimaux is thin, but after it fat. But the meal often lasts an entire day.

More civilised people proceed differently, but have to conform to the same end—keeping up the heat of the system by a large consumption of food; the Hudson's Bay Company, allows each employé 8 lbs. of meat or 12 lbs. of fish daily; the Greenlander has his seal flesh the Esquimaux his rancid train oil: the Cossack his legendary candle. We have fatty matters of a different nature; the fat of beef and veal is palatable, so is that of mutton if eaten hot; the fluid fat of the horse melted down with goose grease, enters enormously into the food of the French, and few but have a weakness for a well-cooked and savoury goose; the flesh, the fat, and the lard of the pig, are essentials not only in rural, but in urban dietaries; the cow supplies butter, an article of food in universal demand. Alcohol is not bad if used with discretion; travellers, sportsmen, and soldiers testify to the benefits of an occasional "nip," when the weather bites, but it is not the less true, that repeated doses of spirits engender not heat, but cold. Alcohol is not food, but a stimulant, hence why it acts best when taken after a meal; then it augments the sensation of warmth by stimulating the circulation. Alcohol is more efficacious when taken as a warm, than a cold preparation; hence the advantage of adding it to tea, coffee, &c. These drinks pass rapidly into the blood, and the caloric they contain arriving at the surface of the body check the cold air which surrounds the skin. Heat can be generated from exercise as well as food, and movement is one of the best means for resisting cold; to remain exposed to the latter without stirring, may result in death, and this explains why ordinary travellers on the roof of busses frequently die *en route*. An eminent physician was in the habit of recommending his patients not to pass the day in putting wood on the fire, but to devote a few hours to sawing and splitting it. It is above all in the layer of the skin, that combustion, or the production of heat, chiefly takes place. Now, Foucault has shown, by his experiments on dogs, rabbits, sheep and horses, that in stopping this combustion by coating the skin with varnish, cold ensued and the animal perished after seven hours. The organic combinations were stopped; the venous blood was red from the presence of oxygen, instead of black from carbonic acid; the air entered by the lungs, but the tissues ceased to burn, the fire was out, and life extinct. Hence the importance of frictions of the skin, to combat the effects of cold. The Russians after a hot bath take a cold douche or rub themselves for a few minutes with snow, to be followed by a friction to provoke reaction. Often when hands and feet are numb from cold, rubbing them for a second with ice or snow, then friction, and next exercise, will enable these members to be kept warm for the whole day.

Attention is being directed to the physical degeneracy of civilised man, and the increased desire of nations for enormous armies—*militarisme* in a word—is set down as the chief cause. To augment the permanent army, the healthiest and most robust young men are selected for conscripts: the more a man is vigorous and well-formed, the better he is suited for the effects of improved fire-arms; in a word, his normal excellencies increase his chances of being killed. On the other hand, the weak, sickly, and otioled, or those suffering from deformed organs, can live peaceably during war, marry and found a family. The consequence is, as Haeckel has laid down, that corporal and intellectual debility, which are inseparable, increase and multiply. It is no secret that the number of hereditary infirmities are on the increase. Medical science, advanced though it be, cannot radically cure many affections; but it can retard, that is to say, prolong, their inevitable issue. This favors their extension. The Spartans, like the Red Indians, made a selection among the new-born infants: only those physically sound were allowed to live; we cannot keep up the vigor of the human race in this manner, but we could materially do so by not killing off the picked specimens of manhood. Luxury and licence also enervate the rich, while misery and privation deteriorate the poor; in the middle classes the custom is extending of men only marrying when disgusted with a dissolute life—they are old without being aged, and the progeny reflects the worn out system of the parent. It is at the same time curious, that, while the human race is physically degenerating, it progresses intellectually. Strength and physical beauty, as justly remarked by Clémence Royer, tend more and more to be ranked as only secondary advantages in modern society, whilst intelligence, tact, activity, the spirit of enterprise, industry and commerce are of the highest importance. Why? Because the struggle for life is more and more one of intellect; the ideal man of the period is he whose brain is the most active—for it is he who produces most.

Surgeons Gosselin and Bergeron have studied the action of antiseptics—carbolic acid, camphorated brandy, &c., on blood and pus. The former, no matter how the external air may be imperfectly excluded, decomposes after three or six days, according to the temperature; whereas pus will not be affected before thirteen or eighteen days. It is by their action on the blood



flowing from the vessel, that antiseptics act usefully in the case of operations, by suppressing the principal agent of suppuration, lessening its effects, while favoring the *réunion*, either in whole or part, of the wounds: thus reducing the chances of fever.

Dr. Cuzenlure has conducted a series of experiments upon the dog and cat, to test the toxic effects of phosphorus. Doses of the latter have, for effect, to augment the urea, sulphuric and phosphoric acids, nitrogen and iron. It is the abnormal excretion of these substances that provokes the destruction of the blood globules, so peculiar to phosphoric poisonings.

The Messrs. Becquerel have taken advantage of the recent weather to determine the effects of snow on the soil as a protection against cold; the layer of earth tested, was some two inches. Before and ponding the snow, grassland never, though varying in temperature, descended below zero—hence, the vegetation acted like a felt carpet; in the case of naked soil, the cold penetrated very markedly before the snow, but when the latter arrived, it acted as a screen. But if the external air prevented fluctuations of temperature, these were felt on the immediate surface of the soil in contact with the snow, but not in the mass of the soil. Also the efficacy of a sheet of snow and its relation with the soil, depend not on the exclusion of the external cold, but to preventing the radiation of the soil's own warmth.

Mr. Edison's reported triumph is followed with the keenest interest by scientists here. I tried to see Mr. Jablockhoff a few days ago to ascertain his opinion, but he is out of town. The impression is, that Mr. Edison has practically failed to solve the problem of illumination by electricity, and he is now expected to turn his genius to electricity as a motive power. Gas can not become a superfluity; it will always have a large field before it as a heating agent, and in this sense its use is rapidly extending in France. Mr. Edison has been invited to test his discovery alongside the rival electric lighting companies of this capital, and the ameliorated system of gas illumination.

#### SYLVAN SOUNDS. (From the Japanese.)

##### I.

##### THE WATERFALL.

Downward from the dripping rock,  
Comes with sudden leap and shock,  
By its distant roaring tracked,  
White with foam, the cataract,—  
Into sinuous rapid sliding,  
Swiftly darting, smoothly gliding  
On its way,  
With the spray  
Tangled, curled,  
Tossed and whirled  
Into coils of snowy thread.  
Ah! I'd steal these airy treasures  
By the seething torrent shed,  
And I'd weave them gracefully  
In a mountain-robe for me!

F. B. H.

Tokio, 6th March, 1880.

#### JAPANESE PARABLES.

##### I.

A few evenings since, I visited a "Yosé" in Tokio, when one of the *raconteurs* entertained us with the following short story, which may be of some interest to you foreign readers:—

The *Kabayaki* (or fried cel) is, as your know, one of the daintiest dishes of Japan and has a strong and most delicious smell. Now there lived, in the neighbourhood of a shop where this article of food was cooked and sold, a poor tradesman whose income was only just sufficient to furnish his livelihood and he could not, of course, afford to constantly buy such a luxury. Nevertheless, he was so fond of the *Kabayaki* that he could not refrain for any length of time from enjoying it. So, one day, he took his rice in a small bowl, and, coming to the front of the cel shop, took his meal while inhaling the delicious *noir* of the *Kabayaki* that was being cooked inside. Finding this to be the best way of satisfying his craving for the delicacy without expense, he continued the practice day after day, but on the expiry of about a month, a bill was brought to him, charging him—30 cents for smelling the *Kabayaki* for a month." Nothing could have been a greater surprise to him than the receipt of the bill, for he had fully

appreciated his economical mode of living. He therefore promptly refused to pay, on the ground that his "smelling" could not have cost the shopkeeper anything. Not satisfied with this, the proprietor of the establishment brought an action against the tradesman in a Court of Law to recover the amount of the bill. After hearing the contentions of both parties, the presiding Judge addressing the plaintiff said:—"You claim, then, remuneration from this tradesman for 'smelling' your *Kabayaki*? However, as the defendant appears to be very poor and unable to satisfy your demand the Court will make the necessary payment."

Then the learned Judge ordered thirty cents to be brought to him, and putting the coins into a box, he shook it before the plaintiff saying:—"Here is the money you claim. You must give me a receipt;" and he then sent the box away.

Wondering what the Judge meant, the plaintiff asked:—"But, where is the money Your Honour?"

Then the Judge answered:—"Why, you have charged the defendant for 'smelling.' You ought therefore to be content with the 'sound' only of the money you claim."

M.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

##### TELEGRAMS.

London, 7th February.

The House of Commons last night resumed the debate on the Address in reply to the Royal Speech. Mr. Redmond, "Home Rule," member for Wexford, brought forward an amendment condemning the neglect by Government of the present distress in Ireland. Other Home Rule members during the debate which followed, urged that Government should make advances to tenants. Sir Stafford Northcote detailed the measures which have been adopted and stated the future intentions of Government in respect to relieving distress. The debate was then adjourned.

The electoral address of Sir Richard Temple to the East Worcestershire electors has been issued.

London, 7th February.

The Secretary of State for India, in reply to a deputation from the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, said the Government has no information confirming the rumour that it is intended to re-impose the cotton import duties in India. He was of opinion that such a course would be most unjust and gave assurances that the Viceroy and Sir John Strachey were both very favourable to the abolition of the duties.

London, 9th February.

Sir Stafford Northcote, in replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that Government propose a renewal of the Ballot Act for a year only, leaving the decision to the new Parliament.

London, 10th February.

In the House of Commons this evening, Sir Stafford Northcote, in reply to the question respecting a statement made by the *Times* that England had released Persia from her Treaty engagements of 1857, said that Persia's communications on the subject of Herat were still under the consideration of the Government, and that as we had not yet come to an understanding in the matter it was inexpedient to make any statement to the House.

Lord Beaconsfield in the House of Lords, replying to a question on the same subject, said there was no foundation for the assertion that England had released Persia from her Treaty Engagements of 1857. His Lordship said negotiations with Persia still continue, that nothing was yet concluded, and he promised to produce papers when completed.

London, 12th February.

In the House of Commons last night, Sir Stafford Northcote, replying to Mr. Fawcett, pledged himself to submit to the House any decision as to whether the renewed Afghan war expenses are to be borne by India. The South African House of Assembly has been prorogued. The Colonial Secretary announced a series of resolutions in connection with the establishment of a new Confederation.

London, 12th February.

The House of Commons have negatived Mr. O'Donnell's amendment to the address, censuring the Government for neglect of Irish affairs, by 127 against 12 votes.

The House of Commons read for the second time the Bill for the relief of the distress in Ireland.

It is stated that Colonel Colthurst, member for Cork and a Home Ruler, has been refused admission to the Reform Club.

Reuter's Special Correspondent at Teheran telegraphed reporting that it is generally current there that the Persian Government proposes a European Commission to define the frontiers of Persia in the North and East. The policy of the action contemplated in the spring is that the Persian troops occupy Seistan and eventually Herat. These rumours require confirmation. The British Government, however, has been informed of the intentions of the Persian Government, whose proposals, it is believed, have been assented to.

Lord Lymington, Liberal candidate for Barnstaple, has defeated Sir Robert Carden, Conservative.

Paris, 12th February.

The French Chamber of Deputies has refused to discuss the amnesty proposition.

Aden, 13th February.

The *Venetia* with the mails of 30th ultimo left here this morning at 4, and the *Khedive* for Galle and Calcutta at midnight last night.

Berlin, 12th February.

Emperor William opened the German Parliament to-day. His Majesty in a speech from the throne referred to the proposed increase in the German army, which he stated was justified by the armaments in neighbouring countries, and was no indication of a departure from a pacific policy.

London, 14th February.

In the Commons the Under Secretary of State for India, read a letter from General Roberts in which he denies that Afghan prisoners were treated with undue severity. Mr. Wedderburn's motion came on for discussion, he urged that natives should be represented in the Legislative Council. The Under Secretary for India said he was afraid it would be impossible for a long time to extend the representative system to India. The Indian authorities endeavoured as far as possible to elicit native opinion on the different Bills.

The House of Commons have negatived by 75 against 6 votes, a motion brought forward by Mr. Weelhouse member for Leeds, for a Select Committee to enquire into the effects of Free Trade.

London, 14th February.

Colonel Clarke, the Conservative candidate, has been elected member for Southwark in room of the deceased member, by a majority of 853, defeating Dunn, Liberal, and Shipton, Radical, candidates.

London, 16th February.

Major Wood of the 4th battalion Rifle Brigade, succeeds Major Clerk of the 3rd battalion, same regiment.

#### JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

#### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

His Majesty the Emperor, will shortly visit the Woollen Manufactory at Senji.

The two Privy Councillors, General Saigo, and Admiral Kawamura, proceeded to the Atami hot springs on Saturday last, by the *Nisshin Kan*.

A meeting of the Senate was held on Friday, the 5th instant, and presided over by Mr. Yanagiwara, the Kanji, owing to the absence of President Oki. The subject under debate was the first resolutions passed in the recent Local Governors' Assembly.

The Minister for the Interior requested the Minister of Finance, on Friday the 5th instant, to appropriate the sum of 292,400 yen to defray the expense of the local police in the different cities and prefectures, from April until June this year.

General Yamagata, a member of the Privy Council, entertained Governor Sekiguchi of Yamaguchi, and the *Shizoku* of that prefecture (who are now the *Choku-nin* and *Sonin* officers) on Friday last week, at his private residence in Fujimicho, Tokio.

Mr. Sakai, the Chief Secretary of Shiga *Ken*, received telegraphic instructions on the 5th instant, to come up to Tokio. It is probable he will be transferred to some other office.

His Excellency Matsukata, Minister for the Interior, is to leave Tokio for Osaka about the 20th instant, to take part in

the distribution of medals to the successful exhibitors at the Cotton and Sugar Competitive Exhibition. He will return to Tokio overland, along the Tokaido.

The new Cabinet is, for administrative purposes, divided into six sections namely:—the foreign section composed of Their Excellencies Okuma, Admiral Kawamura, and Inouye; Home Affairs, Their Excellencies Ito, Generals Kuroda and Saigo; War, Generals Yamagata, Saigo, and Admiral Kawamura; Finance, Their Excellencies Okuma, Terashima, and Ito; Legislative, Their Excellencies Oki, and General Yamada; and Justice, Their Excellencies Terashima, and General Yamada.

Mr. Kondo, the Consul for Fusan, Corea, has left for his post.

The native papers state that "the Japanese Consulate and Consular Court will be established in Gensan, Corea, in very magnificent style."

His Majesty the Emperor will shortly entertain the new members of the Cabinet, and the newly appointed Ministers and Assistant Ministers of the different Departments.

A sum of money has been handed over to the prefecture of Yamaguchi by the Finance Department, to be expended in road-making.

Mr. Matauda, the new Governor of Tokio, entertained the Foreign Representatives and their ladies at the Shiba palace on the 8th instant.

His Excellency Shiungawa, Assistant Vice-Minister of the Interior, has been appointed Acting Superintendent of the Bureau of Woods and Forests.

It is said that the budget of the Department of Foreign Affairs, which is now 600,000 yen, is to be increased to one million yen.

On the 8th instant, Prince Yanagiwara, the *Kanji* of the Senate, and the Princes Nabeshima and Nagaoka, attachés of the Foreign Department, and Lieut-General Ida, were appointed Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary. Mr. Hosokawa, a Senator, was appointed *Kanji*; Governor Shibahara of the prefecture of Chiba, and Governor Yasuba of Aichi, were nominated Senators. Mr. Funakoshi, Secretary of the Interior, was appointed Governor of Chiba and Judge Seki, Governor of Aichi. Governor Iwamura of Ehime, was nominated Chief Secretary of the Interior, and Governor K. Nomura of Ibaraki, *Kanji* (Judge of the Criminal Court.)

Governors Osaka of Shizuoka, and Makimura of Kioto, and Secretaries Yoshida of Sakai, Iwano of Chiba, and Fujikawa of Tochigi, all left Tokio on the 8th instant for their respective offices.

Mr. Under Secretary Ikeda, of the Finance Department, has been appointed Superintendent of the Nagasaki Custom House, and left for that port on the 12th instant.

The Representatives who attended the recent Local Governors' Assembly, have inspected the Quarantine ground of Nagura in the prefecture of Kanagawa and were accompanied by the *Kenrei*.

Mr. Iwamura, Chief Secretary of the Home Department, has been appointed Chief Superintendent of the Statistical Bureau.

Information has been received that the Sydney Exhibition will close on the 16th instant, and that Mr. Sakata, the Japanese Commissioner, will leave on the 14th of next month.

Mr. Hanabusa, *Chargé d'Affaires*, will again shortly proceed to Coren.

His Excellency Yanagiwara, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. Petersburg, will leave for his post at the beginning of next month.

Of the Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary lately appointed, Prince Nabeshima was ordered to the Court of Rome, Lieutenant-General Ida to that of Vienna, and Prince Nagaoka to that of Holland.

We (*Mainichi Shinbun*) are in receipt of information that at one of the recent meetings of the Senate, President Oki attended in person and addressed the members to the following effect, "I am a new President, and as I am not altogether conversant with the rules of this Senate, I feel much difficulty in deciding the various questions that arise in the course of your debates. I trust therefore that you will excuse me." This speech, as may be imagined, excited much surprise and the audience remarked to each other:—"indeed Mr. Oki is a newly appointed President, and it may be very difficult for him to get

thoroughly acquainted with the duties of his office all at once, but if the President says these things to the meeting, it is like a judge stating to the plaintiff and defendant in an action 'I am ignorant of the principles of law, and therefore it is very difficult for me to pass a proper judgment.' We are therefore greatly perplexed to ascertain the meaning of the President's speech."

Two letters have lately been addressed to His Excellency Kawano, the new Minister of Education, by some unknown persons. One is as follows:—"You are known to be an able statesman, but you are appointed Minister of Education. The reason why you received this appointment, may be owing to the Government wishing to keep you from actively interfering in affairs of state. If this is so, I advise you not to yearn after official employment, but resign office at once, &c., &c." The other is to a somewhat similar effect and concludes thus:—"If you loiter in your position, and do not resign, you show yourself one of the Government party; then you must not be surprised if a sharp sword falls upon your head."

Governor Takasaki of the prefecture of Okayama, and Governor Yamayoshi of Fukushima, returned to their respective posts on Tuesday, the 9th instant.

The Government Museum, situated inside the Yamashita gate, is to be opened to the public, from the 15th instant.

The sum of 8,733 yen is shortly to be handed over to the prefecture of Kumamoto, to furnish funds for improving the harbours, rivers, roads, bridges, and embankments in that district.

Her Majesty the Empress Dowager is said to be about to visit the provinces of Ise and Yamato.

His Imperial Highness, Field Marshal Prince Arisugawa, entertained the Prime Ministers, the Privy Councillors, and the newly appointed Ministers and Assistant Ministers of the different Departments yesterday, at his private mansion, to celebrate his appointment to the office of *Sadaijin* (Assistant Prime Minister). His Excellency Oki, the Privy Councillor, entertained the members of the Senate yesterday, in honour of his appointment to the office of President of the Senate.

His Excellency Awoki, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Berlin, left for Europe on the 10th instant in the *Hiroshima Maru*.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* gives it as a rumour that the Department of the Colonization Commission at Sapporo, Yesso, will shortly be abolished, and that Hakodate will be made into a prefecture.

It is also rumoured that an alteration will be made in the salaries of the Government officials in every prefecture throughout the empire.

Since the recent changes of the ministry, His Majesty the Emperor frequently attends the *Daijo Kwan* (Council of State), in addition to his regular days for attendance.

Mr. Yoshiwara, the new Assistant Vice-Minister of Finance, who visited Kyoto, Osaka, and several prefectures on a tour of inspection, returned to Tokio the day before yesterday.

Mr. Seki Shimpei, the new Governor of the prefecture of Ehime, starts for his post on the 17th instant.

Mr. Tomioka, the Governor of Kumamoto, and Mr. Narasaki, the Governor of Nagano, returned to their respective jurisdictions yesterday.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

His Majesty the Emperor will shortly visit the Military College, to witness a review of the cadets whose term in the institution will be completed during the current month.

His Majesty the Emperor will attend an exhibition of *yabumame* and *inu-o-mono* (shooting at a target and dogs from horseback, with bow and arrows) on the 22nd instant in the gardens connected with the Palace. This representation will take place in compliance with an application made by Ogawara Kiyochika, and others. Okusa Takijiro and several other renowned archers and horsemen are coming to Tokio from the province of Sun-shiu to take part in the proceedings. Prince Matsura is also to give a similar entertainment in the Fukiage Park in the presence of His Majesty the Emperor at an early date.

The *Tsukuba Kan* which is now undergoing repairs at the Yokosuka dockyard, will sail for Hawaii about the middle of next May.

Vice-Admiral Ito has been relieved from the appointment of commander of the Eastern Admiralty, and replaced by Rear-Admiral Hayashi. Admiral Ito has been ordered to be in attendance at the Naval Department in Tokio, and as Rear-Admiral Nirei, the Director of the Naval College, is unwell, Mr. Under Secretary Kawano, was appointed Acting-Director.

General Yamagata, Chief of the Staff, visited the Navy Department on the 8th instant, and had an interview with His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, the newly appointed Naval Minister.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* mentions a rumour that "Lieutenant-General Takashima, who is now on the way back from France, will be appointed Chief of Police on his return."

The man-of-war *Kaimon Kan*, which is now in course of construction in the Yokosuka Dockyard, will be launched early next month in the presence of His Excellency Iwakura, *Udaijin*, and Admiral Enomoto, Minister of the Navy.

Another large dock is to be constructed at Yokosuka.

The Staff Office despatched three officers to China a few days ago.

A meeting of the commanding officers in the army is to be held about the 25th instant.

Rear Admiral Hayashi, the new commander of the Eastern Admiralty, inspected the *Kongo Kan*, on the 10th instant, and the *Itegi kan*, *Moshun kan*, *Hosko kan*, and *Teibo kan*, now in harbour, the day before yesterday.

The following is the composition of the reserve force which is to be called out for inspection in Tokio on the 28th instant:—for the first brigade of infantry of the Tokio garrison, 162 men from Tokio *Fu*, 273 from Kanagawa *Ken*, 63 from Saitama *Ken*, 162 from Shizuoka *Ken*, and 163 from Yamanaishi *Ken*; for the second brigade of infantry in the Sakura barracks, 191 men from Chiba *Ken*, and 315 from Ibaraki *Ken*; for the second brigade of infantry in Utsu-no-Miya, 70 men from Saitama *Ken*, 13 from Ibaraki *Ken*, and 190 from Tochigi *Ken*; for the third brigade of infantry in the Takasaki barracks, 152 men from Saitama *Ken*, 109 from Gamba *Ken*, 172 from Nagano *Ken*, and 99 from Niigata *Ken*; for the first regiment of cavalry, 182 men; for the first battery of field artillery 116 men; for the mountain artillery, 118 men, for the first battalion of the sappers, 118 men, and for the commissariat, 80 men are to be called from the *Fu*s and various *Ken*s.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is responsible for the following:—As the pay of officers in the supernumerary class is not to be raised, the War Department made application to the authorities that those officers who received ten yen or less per month should be paid in specie, (either in gold or silver) because they would derive a benefit from the difference between *satsu* and specie."

#### INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

A native paper states:—"An enormous quantity of kerosene oil is to be exported from America, and the foreign merchants in Yokohama, who are the importers, are in difficulties to find out places to store the oil when it arrives. They wanted to hire the kerosene godowns at Ishikawa and Nakamura, but those buildings are already filled with 300,000 cases of kerosene, and are therefore not available. We hear the importers are going to apply to the *Kencho* authorities to spare them some places for putting the expected kerosene. Now the reason why such enormous quantities of oil are to be imported is this, that when the revision of the treaty between our country and the United States is completely negotiated, the duties on oil are to be raised, therefore the Americans wanted to import a large stock of kerosene before the negotiation should take place; thus from September until December last, 991,445 cases were exported from New York to Japan, and in the same proportion, large quantities were exported from other ports. The *St. Charles* that was burnt in Kobe on the 29th ultimo, was one of the ships loaded with the kerosene."

The following is a return of exports and imports at all the open ports of Japan for the month of January last:—

Imports	...	...	...	...	...	Yen	3,089,875.04
Exports	...	...	...	...	...	"	2,071,274.14
Excess of imports	...	...	...	...	...	Yen	1,018,600.90
Duties on exports and imports, and godown rent, harbour dues, &c. &c.	...	...	...	...	...	Yen	226,571.88
Export of bullion	...	...	...	...	...	Yen	1,314,083.54
Import	...	...	...	...	...	"	23,642.20
Excess of export	...	...	...	...	...	Yen	290,441.34



A mercantile firm in Yokohama, being desirous of entering into a direct rice trade with Corea, has obtained samples from that country.

A Chamber of Commerce was opened on the 8th instant, at Takamatsu.

Application has been made to the local Fucho, by several residents in Tokio, for permission to establish a fire and life insurance company.

A native paper states that Mr. Barry, the United States Consul in Shanghai, writing to a resident of Yokohama, mentions that "the cotton crop in the districts surrounding Shanghai is very poor this year, and will not amount to over half that of ordinary years, therefore during this year, China will require a very large supply of cotton from Japan."

An officer of the Agricultural Bureau is about to visit Uji and instruct the local tea-growers in the art of making black tea.

A special meeting was held on the 10th instant by the Chamber of Commerce, in Tokio.

On the 9th instant the *Hiogo Maru* brought from Osaka the sum of 8,000 yen in gold five yen pieces.

The *Chingai Bukka Shimpō* says: "Japanese silk twist has recently greatly improved in value abroad. Tomioka now fetches more than French and Italian silk; and we trust the silk manufacturers will be encouraged by these glad tidings, and toil diligently to preserve their present superiority for all time to come."

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

A native paper states that Mr. Furusawa, the Chief Secretary of the Legislative Bureau, will shortly resign his official position, and take editorial charge of the *Osaka Nippo*.

A meeting of the Aikokusha, or Patriotic Society, is to be held at Osaka to-day, the 13th instant, presided over by Mr. Kataoka Kenkiichi.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* contains a telegram which announces that, on the morning of the 7th instant, the boiler of a steamboat running between Niigata and Nagaoka exploded. About thirty of the passengers were killed, and forty injured.

The leading merchants of Maibashi, in the province of Joshu, have applied for permission to construct a line of railway between Tokio and Maibashi.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa left Kobe for Nagasaki, in the *Vettor Pisani*, on the 4th instant.

The *Akebono Shimbun* states that Chinese robbers, disguised in Japanese clothing, have been plundering the houses of several people in Kobe. Seven of these thieves were caught on the 21st ultimo, having committed a robbery the previous night. This practice of Chinese marauders of adopting Japanese clothing may, perhaps, account for the robberies in the Chinese exchange shops remaining undiscovered.

The *Choya Shimbun* states that after the recent heavy rains at Kugamura, in Chiba ken, a landslip occurred and discovered two caverns, one three, and the other nine ken (fathoms), in diameter, with a number of smaller caves leading from them. Skeletons and ancient weapons and implements have been found in the caves.

Prince Shimadzu left Tokio for Kagoshima, on the 10th instant.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* contains a statistical report made up to the 1st of January last, which gives the total population of Yokohama at 41,556 persons, of whom 21,546 are males and 20,010 females.

The people of Fukushima ken are highly pleased at having purchased the *Takao Maru* from the Navy Department. It is expected that, now the inhabitants of Fukushima having secured the advantage of steam communication, a great increase will take place in the production of that locality.

The *Doraku Sutan*, which was suspended together with the *Choya Shimbun* and the *Akebono Shimbun*, was permitted to resume publication on the 11th instant.

The first meeting of the *Ko-I-Kiei* (Society recently established for the encouragement of the Asiatic community) was held in the Nobles' School at Nishiiki-cho, Kanto, on the afternoon of the 10th instant. Several prominent gentlemen were present.

The Hon. J. A. Bingham, the United States Minister, visited the Shiba palace, by special permission, the day before yesterday.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 7th March, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$8,245.95
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 997.20

Total.....\$9,243.15

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$6,060.31
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 746.97

Total.....\$6,807.28

Miles open 18.

##### KORE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 7th March, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$14,612.00
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,539.40

Total.....\$16,151.40

Miles open 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$10,338.59
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,163.85

Total.....\$11,502.44

Miles open 47.

#### LAW REPORTS.

##### IN H. B. M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before MARTIN DOHMEN, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge.

Thursday, 11th of March, 1880.

FRANCIS STILLFRIED v. W. H. WAGGOTT.

This action was brought to recover the sum of \$16.00 being the price of two dozen photographs taken by the plaintiff of the wife and child of defendant.

The defendant pleaded *never indebted*.

The parties appeared personally.

Baron Francis Stillfried, sworn stated: I am an Austrian subject, and a photographer residing in Yokohama. I am the plaintiff in this action. Defendant came and asked me to photograph his wife and child. I did so, the wife three times, and the child twice. When I sent defendant the proofs he said he was not satisfied with the colour. I offered to take the pictures over again, but he said he would not agree to this, he was not satisfied, and would go elsewhere and get them done. I produce the pictures, which are not only good photographs technically, but also good likenesses. Since I have been established people often come to try me. They get pictures taken, and then refuse to accept them, thus I lose my time, chemicals and material.

Defendant declined to ask plaintiff any questions.

By the Court: I did not send in any bill, because defendant refused to accept the pictures. I frequently take pictures two and even three times to please people.

Defendant, sworn stated: I am a British subject. My occupation in that of a bill collector. In December last I took the parties to have their portraits taken. Plaintiff said he could not take the pictures properly, as his place was not in order. He afterwards apologised for not taking the likenesses. I afterwards went in January, and he took the pictures. I first got a proof of the child's picture, and said it was not satisfactory in colour. Plaintiff wanted me to keep it for three or four weeks, and the colour would come all right. I refused to do so, and got the likenesses taken by Mr. Andersen. I offered to take half a dozen likenesses from plaintiff, as he had been put to trouble. He refused to supply them, and never sent me any account, until I got the summons in this action. I produce the likenesses taken by Mr. Andersen that your Honour may see their superiority, and the reasonableness of my refusal to accept those made by plaintiff. I produce Mr. Andersen's account to show that if a photograph is not approved of, no charge is made.

The plaintiff here interpolated that in all other places it was usual to pay a deposit before getting a likeness taken.

Defendant called John Douglas, who being sworn stated:

I am an American citizen and a photographer, residing in Yokohama. It is not usual to charge for likenesses which customers refuse. We submit a proof, and if it is accepted we get paid, but not otherwise.

Cross-examined by plaintiff: In all places in which I have been, both in England and America, no such custom has existed as paying for photographs in advance, either in whole or part.

By the Court: There is no charge under any circumstances if photographs are refused. That has always been the custom of our firm. I am not aware of the custom among Japanese. When proofs are submitted, no charge is made when they are not approved. It is otherwise when no proofs are to be submitted. I think the picture produced is objectionable. The "lighting" I do not consider judicious.

His Honour stated that the case hinged upon the question of custom, and as it had been proved that the custom in Yokohama is, that if proofs are rejected no charge is made, judgment would have to be for defendant, with costs.

### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

#### THE LIBERTY OF SILENCE.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

IN a country of free institutions men enjoy the utmost independence and the spirit of liberty pervades all things. Here in Japan, in former days, the nation was in a state of thralldom and remained so until enfranchised by the introduction of the principles dominant in Europe and America. Then indeed we tasted the sweets of freedom and everything became emancipated. Hence learned men and public writers, whenever they opened their mouths or put pen to paper, trumpeted forth the "liberty of speech," "freedom of publication," "unrestrained right of lecturing," "religious liberty," etc., and insisted that in all things the inhabitants of this empire were independent. Now all these ideas were imported from abroad and none of them originated in this country, in fact they were mere imitations. We are now informed that a peculiar sort of liberty has been discovered in Japan and this affords us much gratification because we are always pleased to hear of our countrymen inventing something new. Of late, Government officials have assembled from far and near, and held a meeting. During their anxious deliberations some of them strongly advocated the desirability of the "liberty of silence" which is the converse of, and perhaps greatly superior to, the much vaunted "liberty of speech." Now there are several descriptions of liberty, but this kind we never read or heard of before now. Both in Europe and America, many able writers have published volumes upon freedom and independence but none of them mention the "liberty of silence." Our Government officers, on the other hand, are so sagacious that they have made the discovery and consequently we cannot help regarding them with admiration, not unmingled with awe. We conscientiously believe that if the people of Europe and America only knew that this wonderful kind of freedom—the liberty of silence—obtained in Japan, they would at once adopt it and insert a new phrase in their dictionaries. Truly there are many diversities of freedom, but none so peculiar as the newly invented "liberty of silence," which quite passes our comprehension. How strange it would be if the public was to hear of further discoveries in the same promising direction, such as the "liberty of quietness," the "independence of slavery" and the "freedom of terror." The word liberty appears to be capable of many constructions, and as we were greatly struck with the new invention of the officials, we think it only right to direct attention to it.

#### A DEFINITE FOREIGN POLICY.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

AS this world is now constituted, the strong everywhere exercising dominion over the defenceless, it is almost impossible for a needy and helpless country, surrounded by powerful and unscrupulous states possessed of all the vicious instincts of blood-thirsty tigers and ravening wolves, to preserve its independence through the instrumentality of diplomacy, and avoid sinking into the despicable condition

of a mere tool for other nations to use in furtherance of their own schemes of self-aggrandizement. By skilful diplomacy this pitiful fate may possibly be avoided, and a comparatively weak country may preserve its independent existence. It has frequently happened that in consequence of foreign relations being improperly conducted, wealthy and powerful states have suffered defeat and disaster; how much more likely are similar misfortunes to overtake poor and helpless nations! This conclusively proves the vast influence exercised by diplomacy upon the well-being of every country.

There are no fixed laws regulating diplomatic action, and if a system of policy could only be framed to include every possible eventuality, many complications would be avoided. The nearest approach to this is when a country lays down a definite line of policy and steadfastly follows it out. Thus Prussia for example, adheres closely to the rules laid down by Frederick the Great, and the United States of America to those of Washington. The good results of this persistence in one course of action are seen in the extensive territory acquired by Prussia and her position as the head of Germany, and the vast wealth and influence enjoyed by the United States. If a country is continually altering its foreign policy, no harm may perhaps accrue as long as able ministers are at the head of affairs, but once an inferior man occupies the guiding position, then disaster inevitably follows. It therefore appears a necessity for every state to adopt, and strictly adhere to, some carefully considered scheme of national policy, suited to its particular requirements and capabilities.

We have read that George Washington, the first President of the United States of America, delivered a speech upon the foreign policy of the country, during the course of which he remarked that, "the most important object the citizens of the United States have to keep in view is the extension of commercial relations with other countries to the exclusion of political ties. Let us honestly observe the treaties already entered into but permit no further foreign interference." This advice of Washington has established the permanent policy of the United States, and clearly shews his preëminence as a statesman. His military genius was fully proved in the war of the revolution, but the sage counsel contained in the address we have quoted has been of far greater service to his country than his warlike achievements. The United States are separated by vast oceans from all other countries that could disturb their tranquillity, and have no reason to fear aggression, and consequently, have, no inducement to enter into competition with rival nations. All this the sagacious Washington perceived, and therefore counselled the adoption of a policy of non-interference abroad. Thus, wherever other countries have been embroiled in war, the United States have held aloof and enjoyed the blessings of peace.

General Grant visited this empire recently, and gave good and sound advice, although other foreigners endeavoured to thwart him by their cunning and artful devices. General Grant, however, put these evil councillors to confusion by adhering steadfastly to justice and impartiality. This was not owing alone to the inherent nobleness of the General's nature, but also to the position of his country, which left him wholly unfettered. Europe, for example, is made up of various rival states, all busily engaged in diplomatic struggles: they are therefore differently situated from America; and even if Prince Bismarck or Lord Beaconsfield desired to tender the same advice as General Grant, they would find themselves constrained to remain silent.

We are unaware whether any decided policy has been marked out by the Government of this Empire. It is true that only a short time has elapsed since our foreign intercourse commenced; but as our relations with other nations are rapidly increasing, if some fixed line of conduct is not now laid down, it is impossible to foretell what disasters the future may have in store for us. We feel justified in saying that the adoption of some definite foreign policy has become a positive necessity.

The position of Japan, a small group of islands in the Pacific ocean, is removed from the influences of other countries, Yesso alone being in somewhat close proximity to Russian territory. We have therefore no interest in the affairs of other nations, and can conveniently preserve a strict neutrality. Indeed, in respect of situation, Japan does not materially differ from the United States of America,

and our country can certainly never be placed in the same category as the continent of Europe, with its contiguous nations quarrelling and fighting like tigers or wolves. The rulers of Japan should never lose sight of the natural advantages of segregation enjoyed by this empire, and ought to adopt, in its entirety, the policy initiated and persevered in by the United States with such manifold excellent results. The objects which our national policy should keep steadily in view are, the increase of commercial relations abroad, the avoidance of foreign meddling with our domestic affairs, and the preservation of peace amid the perils of this wicked, warlike world.

The nations of Europe are all anxious to adopt a similar policy, but their natural position precludes them from accomplishing their design. They have become so mixed up in foreign matters that, notwithstanding the desire of their statesmen and Prime Ministers to act with justice and impartiality, it is found impossible to do so and every succeeding year finds the countries of Europe plunged in contention and strife.

Here in Japan we are fortunately circumstanced, and nature has granted us the advantages most conducive to the welfare of a nation. Shall we wantonly ignore these gifts, and blindly tread in the paths of European diplomacy? Surely it will be insanity on our part to discard the lessons taught us by the experience of other lands. Japan must cleave to the principle of non-intervention, and follow the example of the United States of America, a glorious country favoured by Providence with similar advantages to ourselves. Those who have been entrusted with the shaping of the high destinies of this empire should take as their guide the views of the great George Washington. Thus this nation will extend its commerce, avoid the possibility of being dragged into war with all its attendant miseries, and enjoy those blessings which are the fruits of peaceful prosperity.

#### RUSSIA AND CHINA.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

WHEN it became generally known that Chung How, the late Chinese Ambassador to St. Petersburg, had concluded a treaty of alliance with Russia, the public mind was thrown into a state of anxiety. Opinions were uttered in all directions, and great attention was directed toward the question, because the alliance concluded between Russia and China gave rise to an idea among the public that it must have resulted from the Eastern Question, or otherwise from the Loochoo controversy. However, according to various reports received from different directions, it appears that the Chinese Government do not approve of this treaty of alliance with Russia, and that consequently difficulties will arise regarding the Kuldja question, and war will, without fail, then break out between Russia and China. Ah! but a few months ago we much regretted that a secret treaty of friendship had been concluded between Russia and China, but at the present moment, we state war is about to break out between these two countries. How wonderful is it that the change, regarding the position of affairs, is so rapid.

When Chung How was ordered to Russia as Chinese Ambassador, what special powers and instructions were entrusted to him we cannot yet tell, but judging from the fact that he has absolutely concluded a very important treaty, it is then quite clear that the Chinese Government invested him with full powers for that purpose. Then, having once so authorized him, if the Chinese Government should now decline to affirm the treaty he has concluded, we should then feel perplexed at such a movement on the part of the Chinese Government. A report informs us, that Chung How being an influential character in China, is always envied by other dignitaries, and although by the treaty with Russia which he has recently concluded the district of Kuldja has been restored to the Chinese Government, a part of it still remains in possession of Russia. However, Chung How having consented to several treaty clauses regarding the recovery of the above mentioned district, which did not meet with the approval of Sa So To, the Governor General for the new territory, and Li Hung Chow; the majority

of Chinese dignitaries all shared in this opinion. Thus disapproval became the general opinion in the whole Government of China, and the young Emperor was compelled to pass a very heavy sentence upon his late Ambassador. The above reports are confirmed by the following decree which appeared in the *Peking Gazette* of the 2nd instant:—"Chung How, senior Vice-President of the Court of Censors, having been despatched on a mission, has taken upon himself to set forth on his return to the capital without awaiting the Imperial decree authorising his return. As a first step, let him be committed to the Board for the determination of a rigorous penalty, and let him vacate his post pending their decision. Let the Grand Secretaries, the Presidents of the Six Boards, and the nine chief Ministries of State, together with the Imperial Academy and Supervisorate of Instruction, take into careful consideration the Treaty and Regulations negotiated by him as well as the memorials on the subject presented by the Tsung-li Yamen on successive occasions. They will report the result to Us."

From other quarters we hear that Chung How was punished according to a long standing law in China, which holds that any public functionary, who shall lose any part of the district under his charge by war, flood, &c., &c., shall be degraded forthwith. Prince Kwang has been so reduced from his office on four occasions, but in every instance he was restored to his former state after the expiration of a few days. Under these circumstances it is therefore not unreasonable to expect that in Chung How's case the same rule will be followed, and that in a short time, he will be restored to his former rank.

Let us now, for the purposes of argument, take the above-mentioned report as true; then we find that the Chinese Government are now about to take warlike measures, and to decide the question as to Kuldja by a contest with Russia in Central Asia. On the other hand, Russia being a great and powerful nation, will not submit to be hoodwinked by the Chinese Government, and will certainly demand, under force of arms, that the treaty which their Ambassador has concluded should be followed out. Thus Russia is like a fierce tiger which will not recede,—and we opine that the Chinese Government are well aware of this fact—and knowing such, if they do not carry out the treaty, we then see that the members of the Government all insist upon war. Let us now suppose the latter opinion to be true, then it seems likely that the Chinese Government, after punishing Chung How, would approve the treaty, and if such should be the case, the relations between Russia and China, at the present day, are not critical.

However, as we have already said, the reports that are now current among the public are the only two which we have mentioned above, but in our point of view, we see that there is something more beside the above mentioned reports. What is it? It is the interference of England. Now, the treaty which Chung How concluded at St. Petersburg, being a treaty of alliance, it would afford a great advantage to Russia as far as political relations are concerned, but it is quite certain that England, always the opponent of Russia, would suffer damage from it.

Let us now judge the case from what has taken place in the past:—England and Russia, as regards Turkey or Afghanistan, have never been in such active rivalry as of late. Therefore, when the English Government succeeded in gaining the friendship of Turkey, Russia declared war against the latter, and when the Russian Ambassador 'stirred up' Afghanistan, England made war upon that country. Was such not the case? Therefore, the alliance between Russia and China would certainly be much more injurious to England than the fact of the Russian Ambassador having 'stirred up' Afghanistan. This being the case, how can it be possible for the wise Prime Minister of England, Lord Beaconsfield, to remain quietly putting his hands in his pockets without participating in these affairs? Judging then from these circumstances, it would not be entirely inconsistent to believe that the English Government might have instructed its Minister in China to persuade the Chinese Government to cancel the treaty of alliance concluded between Russia and China, and if so, we see the reason why the Chinese Government are punishing Chung How. We therefore cannot yet tell for certain whether the relations between Russia and China will be settled in peace, or result in war.



## MARRIAGE PROPOSALS.

## EVERY MAN HAS HIS OWN WAY OF ASKING THE IMPORTANT QUESTION.

Sir Arthur Helps believed that never since the world began did two lovers make love in exactly the same way as any other two lovers. Whether he was right is equally beyond proof or disproof. Certainly, no question has been put in such a variety of ways as the most momentous one a man can ask or a woman answer; how it is put depending upon time, place, circumstances, and the temperament of the individuals concerned.

A curious marriage proposal was made by a reverend bachelor who entered the matrimonial state on his death-bed. When in his seventy-third year the minister had a severe attack of paralysis, which left him so weak and helpless that, feeling his end was not far distant, he proceeded to set his worldly affairs in order. His parish being an exceedingly small one, and having been always a most liberal man, he had not much money to leave, which circumstance, had it not been for one reason, he would not have minded.

For the last twenty years he had had as housekeeper a steady, sensible woman, who had served him honestly, tended him like a daughter during his illness, and for whom he had quite a fatherly regard. It was on her account that he mourned his poverty. It would have been a matter for thankfulness could he have left her as much as would have supported her comfortably and respectably in her old age—she was now about forty-five. After weighing and considering the matter for some weeks in every possible light, a way out of the difficulty suddenly flashed upon him: and knowing the precarious state of his health, he resolved to execute his purpose at once. He called his housekeeper, and when she entered the room he made her sit down and after telling her how anxious and sorrowful he had been because he had no money to leave her, he continued.

"Of course you are aware that there is a Ministers' Widows' Fund, so that if the husband dies, his wife will have an annuity during her life. Now, supposing you marry me, although I am almost at death's door, you will be amply provided for in the future. Will you consent to this?"

"Master, dear, you must be doting! What would people say?" "I was never more serious in my life, Mary: and I am sure people will say we have both acted wisely in this matter. Take till the evening to think it over, and then bring me your answer."

In the evening, Mary told him she "would take him." So ten days after they were married, and three days later the good old man died; but his widow still enjoys her share of the "Widows' Fund."

A young officer was dancing a set of Lancers in a crowded drawing-room with an extremely pretty girl, to whom he made himself most agreeable. After the dance was over, he took her to a chair, and seating himself beside her, began to mourn his celibacy.

"It is exceedingly easy to remedy that," said she.

"I don't think so at all; in fact I do not know a girl who would marry me."

She laughed, and replied:

"Just go and ask some one here to-night, and I venture to say you will be accepted by the first."

"Ah! I am not so sure about that. But—will—you—take me?"

"With pleasure."

And a few months later they were married.

A big, good-natured doctor was desperately in love with, and had been twice refused by, a fair-haired little woman. But instead of the disappointment curing his love, it only made the passion grow more intense. After the last refusal, he told her that if over she changed her mind to let him know, as his love for her was unchangeable, and he would be proud to be her husband. Some months later he was driving home from seeing a patient, when he saw his lady-love riding in his direction. Supposing she would merely bow and pass on, as she had often done before, he did not pull up his horse. But the moment Miss Dixon came up to him, she reigned in her horse, stopped, and called out:

"Won't you stop, Dr. Hill?"

He raised his hat, and replied:

"I shall happy to do so," then waited for her to speak.

She was gazing at the ground and blushing deeply, but, quickly looking up, she filled the doctor's honest heart with surprise and gladness by saying:

"Dr. Hill, I have been closely watching you lately, and seeing nothing but goodness and noble-mindedness in your character, and believing you will make an excellent husband, I am willing to marry you."

Mr. Smith, coming all the way from Australia on the look-out for a wife, saw a young governess on board a Glasgow steamer, whom, from her kindness and attention to some children under her charge, he fancied would suit him. So he went and introduced himself, and, taking a seat beside her, said:

"I am fifty-three years of age; have an income of a thousand a year; am a total abstainer from intoxicating drinks; have a good house near Melbourne; and all I want is a good wife to complete my possessions; would you mind taking me?"

She quietly replied:

"I have no objections."

And a few weeks later they were made one.

A young man of about twenty-three years of age, with neither money nor the prospect of getting any, came to the conclusion that the best thing he could do would be to marry a "rich wife" and live on her money. Among his many acquaintances was a widow lady of about twice his age, with three children, but with a steady income of two thousand a year. Her he resolved to marry, and, in order to cultivate her friendship, he took her presents of flowers and fruit, and gave the children books and rides on his horse. The lady kindly received his attentions, gave him the liberty of her

house, and treated him like a younger brother in every respect. The young fellow interpreting her kindness to suit himself, and believing he had nothing to do but ask her, ventured one evening on the subject on the following manner:

"I wonder very much why you don't remarry, Mrs. L——?"

"Simply because no one wants a widow with three children."

"I know one who would be proud to have you and your dear children," said the wooer, feeling the worst well over.

"Indeed, you are most flattering this evening."

"No; I am not flattering, I love you, and would be proud to be your husband."

She looked coldly on him; then replied:

"You mean you would be proud to own my money. Sir I have been vastly deceived in you." Then pointing to the door, she continued: "Leave my house; and while I live, ever dare to re-enter it."

When Lord Strangford sat down to criticise a book of travels by Miss Beaufort, he little dreamed that before long he would write to the young authoress: "I was thinking the other day about a communication from the Emperor Akbar to the King of Portugal, which contained a request for copies of the holy books of the Christians, and in which the following sentence occurs: 'In the world of humanity, which is the mirror and reflection of the world of God, there is nothing equal to love or comparable to human affection.' For many years I have felt and known this, though I never said it till to-day to anyone. When you next write, please give me the possessive pronoun of the first person."

Surely never was a declaration made in quaint fashion, saving perhaps by the Scotch bandle who led the Manse housemaid to the churchyard, and pointing with his finger, stammered:

"My folk lie there, Mary; wad ye like to lie there?" Or the lugubriously humorous Irish lover who took his girl to see the family vault, and then and there asked her it she would like to lay her bones beside his bones!

Louise de Savole popped the question to Bourbon, but had to take "No" for her answer, the constable curtly declaring that the disparity of years between them, and his own feelings, rendered the union impossible.

If ladies sin against propriety in taking the initiative, they can hardly be blamed for bringing a shilly-shallying or over-bashful lover to the point, when a good opportunity presents itself. Such an opportunity sufficed to end what had been a somewhat tedious courtship. The young man paying his usual evening visit, asked his lady-love "how she got along with her cooking?"

"Nicely," replied she; "I'm improving wonderfully, and make splendid cake now."

"Can you?" said the young fellow, ignorantly rushing on his fate. "What kind do you like best?"

"I like one made with flour and sugar, with lots of raisins, currants, and citron, and beautifully frosted on the top," responded she.

"Why, that's a wedding-cake!" cried he.

"I meant wedding," said she; and there was nothing left for him but to say he meant wedding, too.

Equally cleverly cornered was the Western man whose girl told him she was a mind-reader; whereupon he naturally inquired if she could read what was in his mind, eliciting for reply:

"O yes! You have it in your mind to ask me to be your wife; but you are just a little scared at the idea."

It is plain the notion did not scare her, any more than it did the Galloway girl, who when Jock, coming into the kitchen while she was preparing breakfast, said: "I think I'll marry ye Jean!" answered: "I would be muckle obliged to ye if ye wud!" and so concluded the bargain; not even stipulating, like another ready lassie on accepting as sudden an offer:

"But ye maun gie me my dues o' courtin' for a' that, Jamie."

That right of courtship is one out of which no woman ought to allow herself to be defrauded.

Little as faint-heartedness in a lover may be to the liking of fair lady, it is sufficiently flattering to be condoned; but when any Caleb in search of a wife chooses to sue by delegate, he assuredly deserves to fail ignominiously. Love is not to be won by attorney; and oftentimes the attorney has thrown his client overboard, and carried off the prize himself; as happened when William Grimm went courting on his brother's behalf. Hooker escaped that risk by leaving everything, even the selection of the lady, to Mrs. Churchman, who found him a wife, and achieved a son-in-law herself at the same time.

Proposing by proxy is the rule, not the exception, in Greenland. Time was when the Greenlanders won their wives by capture; but since their conversion by Danish missionaries, they have become the tamest of wooers. Now a candidate for the holy state goes to a missionary, and tells him he wants a wife.

"Whom?" asks the missionary, and learns the woman's name.

Sometimes the man answers:

"Yes; she is not unwilling; but thou knowest womankind."

Usually the answer is "No."

"Why have you not asked her?" inquires the missionary.

"It is difficult; girls are prudish; thou must speak to her."

Accepting the office, the good man sends for the girl, and after a little conversation, says:

"I think it is time to have thee married."

The girl declares she has no mind to wed.

"That is a pity," says the missionary. "I had a suitor for thee."

Of course the damsel is curious enough to want to know who the suitor may be, and of course her curiosity is satisfied.

"He is good for nothing," she exclaims with a toss of the head, "I won't have him."

"But," the go-between urges, "he is a good provider; he throws his harpoon with skill, and moreover he loves thee."

Still pretending to be obdurate, the girl answers that she will not consent to the match.

"Well, well: I will not force thee; I shall soon find a wife for such a clever fellow," says the missionary, making believe there is an end of the matter.

The girl does not go; she stands silent for a little while, then in a low voice sighs out:

"Just as thou wilt have it."

"No; it is as thou wilt; I'll not persuade thee," replies the clergyman.

Then with a deep groan, the maiden says "Yes," and the matter is settled.

Tyrolean lassies are by old custom spared the necessity of giving tongue to their "Ay" or "No." The first time a young man pays a visit as an avowed suitor he brings with him a bottle of wine, of which he pours out a glass and offers it to the object of his affections. In any case she will not refuse it point-blank—that would be too gross an insult; but should the wooer not be agreeable to her, or his declaration come a little too prematurely, she declines the proffered wine, pleading that it looks sour, or that wine disagrees with her, or that the priest has forbidden her to touch it, or any other excuse feminine ingenuity may suggest. If she likes the lad and is equal to owning it, she empties the glass, taking especial care not to spill any of the wine, for if she does so, or the glass or bottle be broken, it is a most unhappy omen. "They have spilled the wine between them," say the peasants when a marriage turns out badly.

Dumb declarations are in vogue too among the Boers of South Africa. Mr. Anthony Trollope tells us that when a young Boer goes in quest of a wife he puts on his best clothes, sticks a feather in his cap, provides himself with a bottle of sugar plums and a candle—a wax one if possible—mounts his horse, rides to the house holding the young woman he would honor, hangs the reins on the gate, dismounts and enters. His smart gear, his feather, and his candle bespeak his errand. To make the point quite clear, however, he offers the candle to the daughter of the house. If she takes it, it is lighted; the mother sticks a pin in the candle to show how long the young couple may remain together without interruption, and she and everybody else retire. Mr. Trollope says a little salt is sometimes put in by somebody to make the wick burn slowly, but when the flame reaches the pin, mamma comes in, the "frying" is over, and a day or two afterward the pair are made one.

They manage these things differently in Texas. This is how a fond couple come to an understanding, according to one who pretends to know. He sits on one side of the room in a big white oak rocking chair; she on the other side, in a little white oak rocking chair. A long-eared deer-bound is by his side, a basket of sewing by hers. Both the young people rock incessantly. He sighs heavily, and looks out of the west window at a myrtle tree; she sighs lightly and gazes out of the east window at the turnip patch. At last he remarks:

"This is mighty good weather for cotton-picking."

"Tis that," the lady responds, "if we only had any to pick." The rocking continues. "What's your dog's name?" asks she.

"Coony." Another sigh-broken stillness.

"What's he good for?"

"What is who good for?" says he abstractedly.

"Your dog Coony."

"Fur ketching 'possums."

Silence for half an hour.

"He looks like a deer-hound."

"Who looks like a deer-hound?"

"Coony."

"He is; but he's sort o' bellowed an' gettin' old an' slow, he ain't no 'count on a cold trail."

In the quiet ten minutes that ensues she takes two stitches in her quilt, a gorgeous affair, made after the pattern called "Rose of Sharon."

"Your ma raisin' many chickings?"

"Forty odd."

Then more rocking, and somehow the big rocking-chair and the little rocking-chair are jammed side by side, and rocking is impossible.

"Makin' quilts?" he observes.

"Yes," she replies, brightening up, for she is great on quilts. "I've just finished a gorgeous 'Eagle of Brazil,' a 'Setting Sun,' and a 'Nation's Pride.' Have you even saw the 'Yellow Rose of the Paraiso'?"

"No."

More silence. Then he says:

"Do you love cabbage?"

"I do that."

Presently his hand is accidentally placed on hers, of which she does not seem to be at all aware. Then he suddenly says:

"I've a great mind to bite you."

"What have you a great mind to bite me for?"

"Kase you won't have me."

"Kase you ain't axed me."

"Well, now, I ax you."

"Then now I has you."

Coony dreams he hears a sound of kissing, and next day the young man goes after a marriage license.

Some of our readers may already have seen the following, but it is so good that we cannot resist giving it. A bashful young peasant was greatly captivated by the charms of a pretty girl in his own station in life; he was exceedingly anxious to ask her to marry him, and had often resolved to do so but so far his courage had always failed him when the opportunity arrived. However, one night he resolved to hear his fate in spite of his modesty, so he started off to spend the evening with her. When he arrived, to his joy her parents were from home, and she was seated knitting at the kitchen fire with a big gray cat lying at her feet. Jamie sat down beside her, but not a word could he say, till at the end of half an hour he

inwardly resolved to "finish this business;" so, acting on a "happy thought," he placed the cat upon his knee, and stammered forth:

"Pussy, ask Lizzie will she marry me?"

Lizzie blushed and smiled, but managed to say:

"Pussy, tell Jamie I'll take him."—*Chambers' Journal*.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XL.

#### THE LAST BATTLE.

When the Heike knights saw that their talisman had failed to avert Yoshitsune's arrow, they urged their boats forward with one accord, and advancing to within a cable's length of the shore, began to shoot with such rapidity that the cloud of shafts almost completely hid the combatants from one another. The Genji men on their side, riding out as far as they might into the sea, plied their bows with no less vigour and more precision, so that the occupants of the galleys were presently fain to drift out of range of their adversaries' missiles.

Yoshitsune, perceiving the first symptoms of this retrograde movement, was seized by an uncontrollable desire to strike a blow at close quarters. One of the larger galleys had approached much nearer than any of its fellows, and those on board, protected by a well adjusted bulwark of pavises, had worked grievous havoc among the little band of Genji knights. Neither did they now show any disposition to retire, but on the contrary crept gradually nearer and nearer, until at last aided by this advance as well as by the shoaling water of the ebb tide, Yoshitsune was able to aim a fatal sword-cut at the foremost man of the crew. Guided between the opening of the pavises, the never-erring blade clove its path through casque and skull, and sweeping back from its deadly errand scattered drops of gore into the face of a gigantic soldier seated in the stern of the boat. This man had hitherto remained an inactive spectator of the fray, but his inactivity was now suddenly exchanged for the most vigorous action. Springing to his feet he bent over the gunwale of the boat, and before Yoshitsune could either elude or parry the stroke, the iron fangs of a long grappler were fixed firmly in the curtain of his helmet.

Something more like a wail than a shout burst from the lips of the Genji knights as they surged forward to save their captain. They knew well that the stoutest soldier is powerless under such circumstances, and they scarcely dared to watch the issue, expecting to see Yoshitsune dragged from his saddle and cut into pieces before any might come within reach to save him. And indeed our hero's history would probably have ended here had the combat been on shore, but it so happened that at the moment the grappler fell on him, a sudden deepening of the water had obliged his horse to swim, so that instead of the rider and steed being separated, the two were drawn bodily to the side of the boat. The result can easily be guessed. Once more the unerring sword descended, and the holder of the grappler lurching forward, fell into the waves already dyed with his blood.

Yoshitsune's peril did not however end here. In the first struggle he had made to resist the grappler, his bow had fallen from his hand, and was now floating almost at the bows of the enemy's galley. The loss of the weapon would have been a small matter at any time, but under such circumstances, when it became apparent that Yoshitsune was seeking to recover it, friend and foe alike were astounded at his rashness—these seeing their lost opportunity restored again sought to drag him from his saddle, while those shouted to him to abandon the bow and make for the shallow water. But he was not to be either dissuaded or deterred. Parrying with his right hand the glaives and grapplers that threatened him, he gradually drew the bow towards him with his whip, which was tied to his left wrist, and raising the weapon at last from the water, rode leisurely shoreward just as a flight of well-directed arrows laid low half a score of his too eager adversaries.

The exploit was in truth a fine one, but there were not a few among the older knights who condemned its unnecessary recklessness in no measured terms, and Benkei himself took his master roundly to task, asking him whether it were well that his soldiers should adopt so profitless a precedent. "It were not only well but necessary," was Yoshitsune's answer.

"A bow is a small matter in itself, but to cast it away in the face of the foe is to leave him a trophy none might gainsay. To-day we have done little more than hold our own, and when the scale is evenly balanced a small thing will sway it in either direction."

After this the Genji knights drew off and took up their quarters for the night among the burned homesteads of Takamatsu, while the Heike on their side encamped on the site of the ruined castle. The paucity of Yoshitsune's following had now become unmistakable, and the Taira men could not fail to perceive that one vigorous stroke would rid them for ever of their worst enemy. They resolved to make a night attack. Everything seemed to be in their favour. The villagers, enraged at the loss of their houses, came to report that the Minamoto soldiers had doffed their harness and lain down to rest without even setting a watch, while some offered to guide the assaulting column by paths of whose existence the enemy had no suspicion, moreover the distance was barely two miles and of this a great part could be traversed by sea, so that there was no discernible difficulty in surrounding the Genji position with an overwhelming force, and slaying every man of the hundred and fifty where they stood.

In truth the thing was as facile as it looked. Scarcely a soldier of the century and a half mustered round the white pennon was capable of resistance, or if capable, had remembered to be prepared. Fighting from daybreak to darkness, without even that respite accorded by the enemy's momentary weariness, they were all, including even Yoshitsune himself, so completely worn out that they felt they must choose between the chance of destruction that night and the certainty of yielding on the morrow. It was not possible to avoid both, and so unbuckling their mail, they committed themselves to the care of Hachiman and lay down to sleep perhaps the sleep of death.

On the Heike side the order went out that two thousand men should hold themselves prepared to embark at midnight. They were chosen soldiers, all men of tried valour who had never known defeat, and had they marched that night, there can be very little doubt as to the issue. Yoshitsune's followers would surely have fought bravely, but that anything could have saved them from destruction seems altogether impossible. The very certainty of success, however, engendered a cause of failure. At the last moment two of the Heike nobles began to dispute the leadership of an expedition plainly destined to be so prosperous, and whether there were none wise or strong enough to decide their rival claims, daylight had appeared in the east before the question was set at rest.

The fighting during the next three days was very much of the nature we have just described. Both sides saw that no decisive advantage was to be gained immediately, and accordingly reserved their strength for the final struggle which could not now be much longer deferred. Little by little the Genji troops crossed over from the mainland and joined Yoshitsune's pennon, until at last he could count more than thirty thousand sabres and seven hundred galleys.

For some time it had been apparent that the last mellaï must take place upon the sea. The Heike captain had made two or three attempts to effect landings in favourable situations, but they had been dislodged either by Yoshitsune's troops or by those under Noriyori, who now guarded the coast line on the west and south, so that the enemy were in a manner surrounded. The forces on each side were about equal, but the Taira galleys were larger and better appointed than those of the Minamoto, whose boats were nothing more than transports originally procured with the one object of carrying the army over to Shikoku. This however was not a matter of much moment. The nature of the boats themselves mattered little provided they were capable of keeping afloat, and since the gale of which Yoshitsune had taken such daring advantage, gentle breezes and cloudless skies had been the weather's daily condition.

Never too had a fairer spring morning lit up the woody reaches and mountain-shadowed inlets of those beautiful shores than was that of the day destined to be for ever remembered by the descendants of those who fought the bloody fight of Dan no Ura. The Heike galleys moved out first to the onset. No special order of battle was adopted, for each division of boats was under the immediate orders of the noble whose contingent of troops had embarked therein, but over and above the purpose that all brave men hold on the eve of combat, one common aim had been suggested to their followers by the Taira captains and accepted by every soldier as

the immediate object of his efforts. This universal sentiment was reiterated and intensified by the Vice-Delegate, Tamomori, as the boats glided towards the enemy. Standing in the stern of his barge, he shouted out these words with a strength of utterance that carried their import even to the ears of the Minamoto knights. "Comrades, we must choose now between victory and death. There is no longer time to retreat, neither is fame dearly purchased with life. Remember every man that the single object with which you fight to-day is Yoshitsune's destruction. Let us but give his carcass to the waves and whatever be the issue of the battle, our misfortunes shall have been avenged."

This injunction was received by those to whom it was addressed with a yell of indescribable fury. In truth there was scarcely a man among the Heike host who would not gladly have sacrificed his life to achieve Yoshitsune's overthrow. So conspicuous had been his share in every fight hitherto fought, so daring his enterprises, and so plainly attributable to his boldness the reverses which had overtaken his foes, that these forgot to take any note of the strength he commanded and saw in him alone the origin of all their calamities. It was not therefore in obedience to some private feeling of revenge nor yet at the suggestion of a few nobles, that a description of Yoshitsune's appearance had been diligently circulated throughout the army on the preceding evening. Squire and servitor, vassal and vassal, all alike had exhibited the same desire to carry into battle some guiding knowledge of their arch enemy's features or bearing, and it is said that thousands never discharged an arrow that day without seeking to direct it towards a mark resembling, in something at least, the portrait they had received.

Perhaps it was this concentration of design that steadied their hands at the outset for it is certain that the first volley of the Taira shafts wrought terrible havoc among their opponents. Indeed these were shot down in such numbers that for a moment the whole line of Genji galleys visibly recoiled, and shouts of victory already began to be heard on the Heike side. But Yoshitsune had reserved a special band of skilled archers for just such a crisis at this, and these now advancing on the enemy's flank soon restored the balance. Yoshitsune himself followed by half a dozen of the largest galleys in his fleet drove right in among the foe, and wherever he passed a barge might presently be seen drifting helplessly without hands to ply the oars or bend the bows that had twanged so busily a few minutes before. He was clad that day, as was his custom, in armour conspicuously magnificent, but under any circumstances his deeds alone would have rendered him easily recognizable, so that however ill they fared who encountered him, his boat was unceasingly the object of a furious assault.

He was however well guarded. Tomomori's charge to the Taira knights as they rowed into the battle had been, as we have said, audible to the occupants of the Genji galleys also, and though Yoshitsune himself had seemed to pay no heed to the Delegate's words, it was not so with Benkei and Saburo. These two were never reckless in their master's cause. They understood that in such a mellaï as they were about to witness the purpose of the many is almost certain of achievement, and instead of taking post at their master's side as was their wont, they placed themselves at the opposite end of the boat, and devoted their whole attention entirely to meeting the many attempts which were made to board the galley from the stern.

It was to this alone that Yoshitsune owed his preservation. The Heike men were willing to sacrifice themselves in any numbers provided only the survivors might achieve the object for which all fought, so that time after time Yoshitsune's barge was made the mark for onsets some of which must inevitably have succeeded but for Benkei and Saburo's forethought. Those however who escaped the sweeping strokes of the giant's ponderous glaive only furnished food for Saburo's sword, against which casque and cuirass proved but a feeble protection that day, and despite their desperate efforts and reckless bravery, only one man of all the Heike knights gained a momentary footing in the galley of the white pennancelle. That man was Noritsune, Earl of Noto. Renowned for his enormous strength no less than for this deadly skill with a weapon seldom used and not easily avoided, he had hitherto taken no active part in the fight, but urged his boat gradually forward from the outskirts of the fray, resolved that his first and last effort should be to grapple with and annihilate Yoshitsune. He was one of the few that



had any personal knowledge of the Genji chief's appearance for the two had already come together at the battle of the Valley of Ichi, and Noritsune carried an indelible mark of that encounter. He did not therefore prosecute an uncertain search like many of his comrades, but guided at first by the evidence of destruction that distinguished the track of Yoshitsune's boat, and afterwards by the brilliant armour and comely face so well remembered, he soon succeeded in steering his galley to within a few yards of the man whose death he sought to compass. There, however, for the moment, his efforts ceased. Bidding his men rest on their oars, he himself crouched down in the bows of the boat watching the fray that was going forward, but apparently with no disposition to take part in it, nor exhibiting any interest in its progress. In his right hand he carried the weapon that had gained him so terrible a notoriety. It was a heavy ball of iron, fastened to a delicately wrought chain of the same material, and looked in itself an arm little to be dreaded, but those who had seen it launched with a force that crushed in casque and skull, or whirled with lightning speed round the head of the stalwart earl, knew that the most skillful warrior in the southern provinces might not safely venture within its range.

Yoshitsune meanwhile, knowing nothing of the danger that threatened him, was wielding his glaive with that wonderful dexterity peculiar to himself. In all the din and tumult, while bow-strings twanged and swords clashed around him, or when the shock of onset drove back his followers and left him sometimes to wrestle with men in whose furious persistence he could not fail to read the implacable purpose his own death alone might satisfy, he never once quailed or hesitated, but stood in his place calm and unwearied, always managing to strike first and finding no occasion to repeat his stroke. We have seen that when the battle was first joined he had not been content merely to remain within bow-shot of his foes, but had pressed hotly forward in the hope of at once compelling the enemy to give ground. This was not done through unreasoning impetuosity, but rather, as we shall presently understand, in obedience to a well considered design, and had Yoshitsune found others capable of following and supporting him there is little doubt he would have succeeded in his purpose. But though in appearance the assailant, he became almost immediately the assailed, for the Taira knights saw in his advance the very opportunity they so ardently desired. Instead of driving back his opponents, the death he dealt among them caused them rather to press forward, since they guessed that none but Yoshitsune himself could hold his own against such odds, and so as the battle deepened about him, it seemed that each victory he won only served to redouble the numbers and resolution of his foes.

Noritsune saw all this and begun to fear that by waiting too long some accident might deprive him of his victim. His original design had been to drive his boat against Yoshitsune's and then hurling his iron truncheon, trust his immense strength to achieve the rest. But his observation of the fight soon convinced him that with whatever dexterity he might sling the ball, its movement would be less rapid than Yoshitsune's, and so he resolved to refrain from all aggressive action until he had actually gained a footing in the enemy's galley. He had no sooner framed this resolution than an opportunity of carrying it out presented itself. A band of Taira knights, perceiving that Yoshitsune's escape had hitherto being due in no small measure to the dexterous manœuvring of his barge, determined to aim solely at disabling his oarsmen and though they sacrificed their own lives in this attempt, they succeeded in maiming or killing more than half the crew. In the moment of confusion that ensued, Noritsune gave the signal to his men, and before the Genji soldiers could make an effort to avoid the collision, his galley came crushing down upon Yoshitsune's.

Whether the shock astonished Yoshitsune into an unusual course or whether he had some instinctive perception of the impending danger, it is impossible to say. His back was turned towards Noritsune as the latter raised his hand, and his whole attention seemed to be concentrated on one of his own galleys which had pushed forward to his assistance. The boat was still some sixteen or eighteen feet distant when without a word of warning and in the very second preceding the consummation of his assailant's design, he leaped with a prodigious bound from one galley to the other, and Noritsune's missile, hurled with all his force, flew to the end of its iron chain and then plashed harmlessly into the water.

Yoshitsune laughed merrily as he turned round and poised

his glaive. The whole thing seemed to him nothing more than an amusing incident of the battle, and he appeared almost disposed to repeat his extraordinary leap when he observed his assailant's discomfiture. But from that instant Noritsune abandoned all hope of success or even of escape. He might have easily regained his own boat in the confusion, but he contented himself with unfastening the iron chin from his wrist, and then casting the weapon he had so often and so fatally wielded into the sea, stood with folded arms awaiting his fate. Two of the Genji soldiers perhaps mistaking the import of this action leaped upon him empty-handed, but he with scarcely a perceptible effort, threw an arm about each, and crying out that he took them to keep him company among the dead, jumped with them into the sea.

But these things had little effect upon the complexion of the battle. So far neither side could claim any advantage, though the Heike actually engaged were considerably outnumbered. This might, however, have ceased to be the case at any moment, for Shigeoyoshi, Earl of Awa, with his three hundred galleys had as yet held aloof from the mellay. Whichever party he joined could scarcely fail to be victorious, and it was the desire to win his alliance by some preliminary success that had induced Yoshitsune to make his first onset. We have seen that this hope had been for the moment defeated and that the Taira men had, on the contrary, assumed the aggressive, but while they were intent only on Yoshitsune's destruction, the Genji boats gradually forged forward, and little by little this wave of onset began to roll the Heike fleet back towards the shore where another army of their foes was drawn up. Seeing this the Earl of Awa no longer hesitated. Bearing down on his late allies' flank with his three hundred galleys, he immediately placed the issue of the combat beyond all doubt.

The Heike soldiers did not indeed yield or attempt to fly as had hitherto been their wont. They had come out to conquer or to die and to this resolution they adhered, not perhaps uninfluenced by the consideration that every road of retreat was cut off. Thus even when the tide of victory had inevitably turned, the occupants of each galley fought doggedly on, neither giving nor seeking quarter, so that before sunset the waves of the bay were red with the blood of the victims they had engulfed. The Empress-mother, understanding that the doom of the Heike cause was at last sealed, tied her son on her back and threw herself into the sea, an example which was immediately followed by many others of the noble ladies forming her court. Of these, however, the main part were rescued by the Genji knights, and the boy Emperor under Yoshitsune's care, soon forgot the hatred he had been taught to cherish towards the white flag.

(To be continued.)

#### DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

'Tis past and gone and we would drop a tear  
O'er all that's caused anxiety or fear,  
But since we cannot call it back again,  
Then let it go, nor let it cause us pain,  
But strive in its successor to improve  
That course in which it is our fate to move.  
If wishes for your welfare can do good,  
We'd freely give you all the joy we could.

1.

This title women may possess  
By right of birth or marriage,  
And yet be not what she'd profess—  
'Tis truly in her carriage.

2.

Frozen drops of rain or vapour  
Recall the task before you set,  
Mumble prayer with cross and taper,  
To paradise we hope you'll get.

3.

This body, you must understand,  
Is boundless, grand, and free,  
Its nature is opposed to land,  
'The truth of which you'll see.

4.

A candle, here it is a light,  
And to the sex that's tender,  
With figure pleasing to the sight,  
Implies her waist is slender.

"FUJIYAMA."

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF MAR. 6TH, BY "HOODLUM."

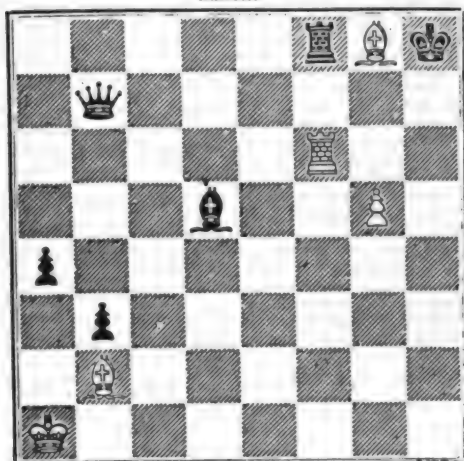
<i>Fancy</i>		<i>Dress</i>
F	n	D
A	ma	R
N	u	E
C	u	S
Y	e	S

Correct answers received from Le bon temps viendra, Sakura and Zulu. Others incorrect.

### CHESS PROBLEM,

BY THE REDACTEUR OF "SIRRA,"

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF MAR. 6TH, BY J. A. Campbell.

<b>White.</b>	<b>Black.</b>
1—Q. to K. Kt. 6.	1—P. takes Q.
2—K. to Q. B. 2.	2—Kt. moves.
3—Kt. mates at K. 6.	
If	2—P. takes D.
3—K. takes P. dis. mate.	2—P. to B. 6.
If	2—K. takes Kt.
3—Kt. to Kt's 3.	
If	
2—B. mates at Kt's 6.	

Correct answer received from Q.

### NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 22nd*
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Mar. 25th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 16th†
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 15th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Mar. 18th

\* Left San Francisco, 28th February, Gaelic.

† Left Hongkong, 7th March, Sunda.

### NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 30th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 13th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Mar. 21st
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 20th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Mar. 17th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

### YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY :—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.15, 1.30, and 4 P.M.

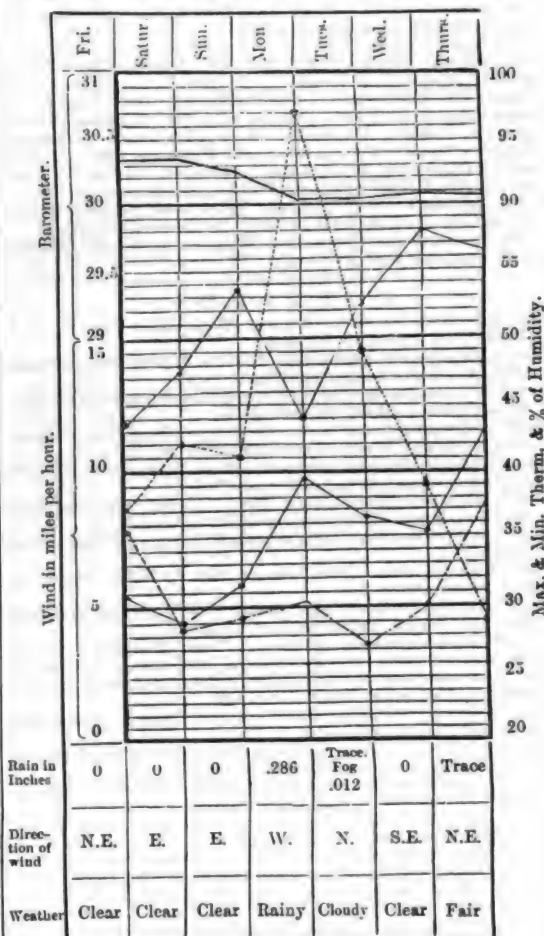
LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY :—7.0 and 9.45 A.M. and 12 noon; 1.30 and 4 P.M.

### METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 5TH, 1880.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



### REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. &amp; min. thermometers.

-----represents velocity of wind

.....percentage of humidity

Max. velocity of wind 18 miles per hour on Thursday, at 4 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.434 inches on Saturday, at 7 a.m., and the lowest was 29.876 inches on Monday, at 10 p.m. The early part of the week was characterized by an unusually high barometer and the latter part unusual constancy in barometrical height. The range of temperature on Monday was remarkably small—being only a trifle more than 4°. The total amount of rain for the week was 298 inches.

### SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

#### INWARDS.

Mar. 7, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlelsen, 1,133, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 8, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 1,042, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 8, British steamer *Belgie*, Meyer, 2,627, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.  
 Mar. 10, Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Moore, 896, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 9 Japanese barque *Kinokuni Maru*, Nicols, 960, from Nagasaki, Coals, M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 10, British barque *West Glen*, Thompson, 699, from Antwerp, General, to L. Kniffier & Co.  
 Mar. 11, American ship *Merom*, J.S. Lowell, 1,200, from New York, Oil, to Fearon, Low & Co.  
 Mar. 11, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 12, British barque *G. Broughton*, Clemenshaw, 803, from Antwerp, General, to Simon Evers & Co.  
 Mar. 13, Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Drummond, 1,240, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 13, French steamer *Tibre*, Reynier, 1,726, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Belgic* from Hongkong—For Yokohama: Mr. H. M. Blanchard; one Indian in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. J. Anderson; 109 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru* from Kobe:—Mrs. Task, Mr. Buckmaster, 100 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* from Shanghai and way ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Mowatako, Mr. and Mrs. Kiyooka, Mrs. Fujioka and child, Messrs. J. R. Randall, J. P. Francis, V. Roehr, M. C. Bonger, Dr. Henderson, J. W. Beauchamp, Otta Reimers, M. Raspe, Biggleston, Uyari, Nodama, Kutanbe, Shinjitsu, Katsuo, Ichimura, Sudzuka, Matsumoto, Shirai, Yoshiwara, Nawakubo, Tamimura, Tanaka, Kobata, Deumi and Kimura in cabin; 2 Europeans, 2 Chinese and 408 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Webb, 3 children and European nurse.

Per Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru* from Hakodate:—Rev. Mr. Denning and 6 Japanese in cabin, 190 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Torre*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. Bearley, G. W. Butt, and P. E. Cameron.

## OUTWARDS.

Mar. 6, H.M.'s sloop-of-war *Pryazna*, Commander Hon. H. N. S. Hood, 1,124, 6 guns, for Nagasaki.

Mar. 7, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, for Samu-sawa, etc., General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 7, German schooner *Johann Heinrich*, Oestmann, 411, for Takao, despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Mar. 7, French steamer *Tanaie*, De la Marcelle, 1,735, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 8, Japanese barque *Sumanoura Maru*, Spiegenthal, 925, for Nagasaki, General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 8, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 524, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 9, Russian corvette *Digit*, Captain De Livron, 1334, 8 guns, for Honolulu.

Mar. 10, British barque *Vivid*, Peterson, 238, for Kobe, despatched by Adamson, Bell & Co.

Mar. 10, British steamer *Belgic*, Meyer, 2,627, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.

Mar. 10, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,200, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 11, German brig *Gustav*, Johannsen, 240, for Cheefoo, General, despatched by Mitsui Bussan Kuwaisha.

Mar. 11, German brig *Peter*, Holm, 241, for Cheefoo, General, despatched by Walsh, Hall & Co.

Mar. 11, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 11, German barque *Anna Bertha*, Kransen, 468, for Newchang, Ballast, despatched by Ting Hong Tye.

Mar. 11, British steamer *Castello*, Anderson, 1,482, for Kobe, General, despatched by Hudson & Co.

Mar. 12, Japanese steamer *Kinshin Maru*, Davidson, 690, for Samu-sawa, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 13, British steamer *China*, Alderton, 1,030, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

Mar. 13, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 1,402, for Kobe, Mail, and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 13, British steamer *Cairnswair*, Castle, 1,122, for Hongkong via Kobe, General, despatched by W. M. Strachan & Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer *Tanaie*, for Hongkong:—Mrs. Pelikan, infant, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Gulick and Mr. G. De Ory.

Per British steamer *Belgic* for San Francisco:—Messrs. J. Wolfe, J. L. Anderson, Yegi, G. W. Owen, John Beyer, A. Dubowski, G. J. Mutch, J. Haries; 4 Europeans, 2 Japanese, and 109 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and way ports:—Captain and Mrs. H. E. Bridges, Mr. and Mrs. Takasaki, (Okayama Kenrei) Mr. and Mrs. Yoshidome, Mrs. Arai, Prince Date, Sir R. P. Beauchamp, Messrs. Iwasaki Yanoski, Kawada, Yom, (Chinese Consul), Tonami, Watanabe J. Date, Takezoze, Akiba, O. Silveslie, G. Poggi, Takahashi, Ito, A. W. Glennie, Mori, Shiwotani, Kajima, Arima, Mori, Kawakami, Nishigawa and Mr. and Mrs. Aoki.

Per British steamer *China* for Hongkong:—Mr. C. B. Rickett in cabin; 1 European, 6 Chinese and 1 Japanese in steerage.

## CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Tanaie* for Hongkong:—

Silk for London... .. 15 Bales.

" France... .. 203 "

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* for Shanghai & ports:—

Treasure... .. Yen 100,000.00

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure... .. \$ 36,900.00

Per British steamer *China* for Hongkong:—

Silk for France... .. 25 Bales

## REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru* reports: Left Kobe 6th March at 6.15 p.m. Arrived at 6.30 a.m. 8th March. Experienced light and moderate E. winds and fine weather throughout.

The British steamer *Belgic* reports: Sailed from Hongkong Mar. 1st at 1.45 p.m. Encountered very strong N.E. monsoons and rough sea to Van Diemen Straits; thence light variable and easterly winds and smooth sea to port. Arrived at Yokohama March 8th at 12.34 p.m. Time 6 days 21 hours and 5 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru* reports: Left Kobe 8th Mar. at 6.15 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama, 10th March. Experienced to Rock Island fresh N.W. and Westerly winds; thence to port light N. E. winds with fine weather throughout.

The Japanese barque *Kinokuni Maru* reports: Left Nagasaki 24th February. Experienced strong N.E. gales with intermediate calms and dirty weather throughout, being four days in the Gulf with light variable winds. Anchored 7 p.m., 8th March.

The British barque *West Glen* reports: Left Antwerp on the 24th of October, and Flushing on the 26th; had fresh easterly winds in the Channel, and moderate variable winds to the Equator, which was crossed on the 29th of November in long. 28 W. Had fresh S. E. trades, passed the Meridian of the Cape on the 24th of December, and ran the easting down on the 46th Parallel before fresh westerly gales. Made Cape Ottway on the 25th of January; passed through Bass' Straits; and met with a hurricane, lasting 48 hours, near New Caledonia, during which sustained a small loss of deck gear and had some sails split. Crossed the Equator in the Pacific on 21st of February; had strong N. E. trades and fresh N. E. and N. W. winds to the coast of Japan. Arrived in port on the 10th of March. Passage, 135 days.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* reports: Left Shanghai 3rd at 3.5 p.m. Arrived Nagasaki 5th March at 12.15 a.m.; left Nagasaki 6th at 12.10 a.m. Arrived Shimonoeki 6th March at 2.9 a.m.; left Shimonoeki for Kobe 6th March at 4.15 p.m. Arrived at Kobe 7th March 1.55 p.m.; left Kobe for Yokohama 8th March at 6.8 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama 11th, 3 a.m. Experienced fine weather throughout the entire passage.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru* reports: Experienced light winds and fine weather throughout. Passage 48 hours and 15 minutes.

## NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 13th March, 1880.)

	Discount on Ten Sat.			Gold Yen.	Nipon.	Silver Subsidary (New.)	Silver Subsidary (Old.)
	A.M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1880.							
Monday.....	Mar. 8 41½	41	40	374	326	113	102
Tuesday.....	" 9 40½	40½	40½	—	—	—	—
Wednesday.....	" 10 40½	41	40	—	—	—	—
Thursday.....	" 11 41½	41½	41½	—	—	—	—
Friday.....	" 12 42	41½	41½	—	—	—	—
Saturday.....	" 13 41½	41½	41½	—	—	—	—

## VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

## SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charlwood	LONDON	Yokohama
Nov. 5	Crossfield	"	"
" 5	Bundaleer	"	"
Jan. 10	Meath (s.s.)	"	"
" 14	Ullock	"	"
Nov. 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
Sept. 27	Clydesdale	NEW YORK	"
Oct. 3	Lucille	"	"
" 10	Columbia	"	"
" 25	L. J. Morse	"	"
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 7	Centennial	"	"
" 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
" 21	Manuel Llaguno	"	"
Dec. 1	Paul Revere	"	"
" 29	Susan Gilmore	"	"
Jan. 9	Alice Buck	"	Hiogo
Nov. 5	Hesperia	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Dec. 18	Lydia (s.s.)	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Oct. 5	Wm. H. Marcy	PHILADELPHIA	Hiogo
" 26	Sea King	"	"
Nov. 10	H. H. McGilvery	"	Nagasaki
Dec. 20	Laertes (s.s.)	GREENOCK	"
Dec. 13	Bonanza	SAN FRANCISCO	Hiogo



## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16 '79	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13 '78	M. B. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	Mar. 18	M. M. Co.
Tokio Maru	Swain	Japanese steamer	1,146	Shanghai & ports	Mar. 11	M. B. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Feb. 26	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Coldstream	Morgan	British barque	545	Antwerp	Feb. 25	Simon Evers & Co.
G. Broughton	Clemenshaw	British barque	603	Antwerp	Mar. 12	Simon Evers & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	—	German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Lenard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Merom	Lowell	American ship	1,200	New York	Mar. 11	Fearon, Low and Co.
North Star	—	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Otome	Jensen	Russian schooner	55	Nemuro	Feb. 9	Russian Authorities
Otsego	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Bonin Islands	Jan. 27	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
West Glen	Thompson	British barque	699	Antwerp	Mar. 10	L. Kniffier & Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
AMERICAN.—Alert ... ..	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ... ..	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostock	Captain Schance

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ... ..	Volga	M. M. Co.	Mar. 27th, at 7 a.m.
Hongkong via Kobe ... ..	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	Mar. 20th, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco ... ..	City of Peking	P. M. Co.	About Mar. 30th
Shanghai and way-ports ... ..	Tokio Maru	M. B. Co.	Mar. 17th, at 4 p.m.

## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—*Wool* has quieted down very much, and dealers refuse to make offers, looking for lower prices later on. At the same time holders are fairly strong, not being able to replace sales at present rates. *Shirtings* in-animate; *Velvets* better; other *Cottons* unchanged.

## COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$32.00 to 36.50
"    "    Good to Best ... ..	\$37.00 to 38.25
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... ..	\$32.00 to 34.50
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... ..	\$38.00 to 40.00
"    "    Good to Best ... ..	\$41.00 to 43.00
"    "    38 to 42 ... ..	\$40.00 to 42.00

## COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.65 to 1.95
"    "    8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.90 to 22.75
"    "    9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.20 to 26.25
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.75
Drills, English: 14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12 " 44 in.	\$1.75 to 1.80
Prints:—Assorted " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.11½ to 0.14½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.62½
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.82½
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

## COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ... 36 " 22 in. per piece	\$8.25 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns:— " 12 " 42/3 in. " "	\$0.82½ to 0.86
Taffeta class:— " 12 " 48 in. " "	\$1.75 to 1.90
WOOLLENS:—	
Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 yds. 32 in.	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Cord ... 29-30 yds. 22 in.	4.00 to 5.25
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in.	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 yds. 30 in.	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.60
Pilots ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.55 to 0.60
Union ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb.	0.38 to 0.42

SUGAR.—The market is quiet. A few sales have been made at \$4.25.

KEROSENE.—No movement of importance has taken place in this market. Stocks have been increased by the arrival of the *Merom*, from New York, with a full cargo.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... .. per picul...	\$4.20 to \$4.25
Taiwanfooin bag... ..	\$4.10 to \$4.15
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ... ..	\$8.00 to \$9.00
China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fah..	\$6.25 to \$8.00
Daitong .. ..	per picul... \$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... ..	... \$2.80 to \$3.00
Kerosene Oil ... ..	... \$1.62 to \$1.65
Newchwang Peas ... ..	... \$2.20 to \$2.25

## EXPORTS.

SILK.—Very little business has been done in Silk since the 6th instant. The news from Europe has not been encouraging and natives on the other hand do not yet shew any desire to meet buyers. Sales amount to only about 120 shipping bales. Prices remain unaltered, but are to a great extent only nominal.

Total export to date 16,393 bales against 16,535 bales at the corresponding period last season.

Stock in Yokohama about 3,000 Japanese bales.

	In London at 3/9½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.		In London at 3/9½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.
Hanks,—Superior, nom...			Kakoda,—Extra .....	\$730 to 750 24/9	to 25/4 frs. 68 50 to 70 00
"    Best .....	\$680 to 690 23/1	to 23 5 frs. 64 00 to 65 00	"    Best .....	\$690 to 710 23 5	to 24/1 frs. 65 00 to 67 00
"    Good .....	\$660 to 670 22/6	to 22 10 frs. 62 00 to 63 00	"    Good .....	\$630 to 670 21 7	to 22/10 frs. 59 50 to 63 00
"    Good Medium .....	\$650 to 660 22 2	to 22 6 frs. 61 30 to 62 00	"    Medium .....	\$630 to 670 21 7	to 22/10 frs. 59 50 to 63 00
"    Medium .....	\$610 to 630 21 3	to 21 6 frs. 59 00 to 60 00	"    Common .....	\$630 to 670 21 7	to 22/10 frs. 59 50 to 63 00
"    Common, In'r...\$580 to 590 19 11	to 20 3 frs. 54 80 to 56 00		Filatures,—Extra .....	\$780 to 800 26/4	to 27/ frs. 73 00 to 75 00
Oshins,—Best .....	\$630 to 670 21 6	to 22 10 frs. 59 50 to 63 00	"    Best ...	\$730 to 770 24 9	to 26/ frs. 68 00 to 72 00
"    Medium .....	\$630	21 6 frs. 59 50	"    Good ...	\$680 to 720 23 1	to 24 6 frs. 64 00 to 67 80
Hamateki.....	\$630	21 6 frs. 59 50	"    Med. & C'n	\$680 to 720 23 1	to 24 6 frs. 64 00 to 67 80

## EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight .....	3/9½ to 4
"    "    6 " .....	3/10 nom.
"    Bank Bills on demand .....	3/9
"    Private 4 months' sight .....	3/10
"    "    6 " .....	3/10½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight .....	4.72
"    Private 6 m. sight .....	4.87
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight .....	½ % prem.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight.....	½ % dis.
ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight .....	72½
"    Private 10 days sight.....	73½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand.....	89½
"    30 days sight Private.....	91½
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand...	90½
"    30 days sight Private.....	91½
Kinsatz.....	41 dis.
Gold Yen .....	8 prem.

## SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—During the past week the following vessels have arrived:—*West Glen* and *G. Broughton*, both from Antwerp, with general cargoes. The *Cairnsmuir* left for Kobe, to-day, at noon.

## INSURANCE.

**THE  
LANCASHIRE  
INSURANCE  
COMPANY.**

**CAPITAL**  
**TWO MILLIONS STERLING.**

**CHIEF OFFICES:**  
Exchange Street, St. Ann's Square,  
**MANCHESTER.**

With Branch Offices at 14, King William Street, E.C.  
London; Liverpool, Glasgow, Birmingham, Bristol,  
Leeds, and Newcastle.

**T**HE undersigned having, by ample Power of Attorney, been appointed Agents for the above mentioned Company at this Port, are prepared to issue Policies of Insurance against Fire at current rates.

**CORNES & Co.,**  
**No. 35.**

Yokohama, March 10, 1879.

1

THE

**MERCHANTS  
MARINE INSURANCE CO.,  
LONDON.**

**H**AVING been appointed Agents for the above Company, we are prepared to grant Policies on **MARINE RISKS**, at the current rates.

MALCOLM & Co.  
No. 73.

Yokohama, 19th November, 1875.

**NOTE.**—By the Company's Articles of Association, it is provided that, after payment to the Shareholders of a dividend of 10 per cent per annum, One-fourth of the residue of profits will be rateably divided amongst those Insurers out of whose business profits have been made during the year.

**NORTHERN ASSURANCE  
COMPANY.**

## FIRE AND LIFE.

**THE UNDERSIGNED** on behalf of this Company are prepared to accept **FIRE RISKS** at **NEW TARIFF RATES**, and **LIFE RISKS** on **HOME TERMS**, and settle all claims thereon.

W. M. STRACHAN & Co.

Yokohama, August 21, 1879.

Yokohama, April 9, 1878.

**Chinese Insurance Company,**  
LIMITED.

**THE UNDERSIGNED** having been appointed Agent for the above Company, is prepared to accept **MARINE RISKS** to all parts of the World, at Current Rates.

E. B. WATSON,  
Agent.

Yokohama, September 15th, 1879.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

**HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

PAID-UP CAPITAL ... .. \$5,000,000.  
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,200,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. SARSOON, Esq.  
Deputy Chairman—WM. H. FORBES, Esq.

E. R. Belilios, Esq., H. L. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppins, Esq.,  
Hon. W. Keswick, Adam Lind, Esq., Wilhelm Reiners, Esq.,  
W. S. Young.

Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

## LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillpots, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.  
E. F. Duncanson, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.  
Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

## SHANGHAI.

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo, Hankow,  
Saigon,  
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

## YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

I teres allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.  
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o  
" " " " 3 " " 4 "  
" " " " 3 " " 4 "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description  
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,  
India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

A. M. TOWNSEND, Acting Manager.  
Yokohama, April 13, 1878. 6mly.

## MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA, (HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

PRIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class,  
let at the rate of from 50 sen to 80 sen per day, and  
from 12 yen to 20 yen per month.

## BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class.....	{ 1.50 yen per day, or 40.00 " " month.
3rd class.....	{ 1.00 yen per day, or 28.00 " " month.

All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or  
small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates,  
for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood  
of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged  
from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tt.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA  
EXHIBITION, 1876."

### OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-  
CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF  
LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY  
CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL  
TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS,  
6D., 1/4, 2/6 AND 1/- EACH.

### OAKEY'S INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO  
THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH  
SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

### OAKEY'S SILVERSMITHS SOAP

[NON-MERCURIAL].  
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-  
PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

### OAKEY'S WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 12. BOXES.



July, 1879.

52ins.

**J. J. GARGAN,**  
ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,  
No. 88, Creek Side.

Machinery of all kinds overhauled and  
Repaired.

House Building and Repairs Con-  
tracted for.

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.

**SARGENT, FARSAI & CO.,**  
No. 80, Main Street:  
JUST OPENED.

A VERY CHOICE ASSORTMENT  
of MEERSCHAUM PIPES and CIGAR  
TUBES, BRIAR PIPES with cases and without.  
This is the finest assortment of Pipes and Cigar Tubes  
ever offered in Yokohama.

POCKET KNIVES, SCISSORS and SHEARS,  
a large variety.

The LITHOGRAM, all desired sizes. Do not  
fail to call and see it in operation. Over 50 copies from  
one original writing.

Yokohama, February 5th, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

# W. & A. GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS.

**W.** & A. GILBEY have special facilities for carrying on an extensive Foreign Trade, having held for many years in their Excise Bonded Stores, for the purpose of their Home Trade, a stock of not less than 12,000 Casks of Wines and Spirits, which are equally available for Export. These stores are by far the largest private Duty Free Warehouses in the World, and are under the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially attached to these Warehouses.

THE EXTENT of W. & A. Gilbey's purchases enables them to give the best VALUE to the public, as a twentieth part of the Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom is supplied from their stock. In the year 1876 W. & A. Gilbey paid duty on 1,881,049 gallons of Wines and Spirits, and the average quantity bottled and sent out by them daily was 3,050 dozens or 36,600 bottles.

QUALITY is guaranteed by W. & A. Gilbey, and is the same whether the Wines or Spirits are obtained direct from their Head Establishments or from any of their Agents. The purity and genuineness of every article in this list are guaranteed in accordance with Act of Parliament, 38 and 39 Vict., Cap. 63.

W. & A. Gilbey have always adhered to the standard of Bottle Measure recently recognised by the Government, namely—

6 bottles contain one gallon; 12 half-bottles contain one gallon.

SECURITY is ensured to the purchaser, each bottle bearing W. & A. Gilbey's seal and label guaranteeing quality and measure, and the strength also in the case of Spirits.

## W. & A. Gilbey's Head Establishments:—

**England.**—(Offices) Pantheon, Oxford Street, London; (Warehouses, Duty Paid) Oval Road, Camden Town, London.

**Ireland.**—(Offices) Upper Sackville Street, Dublin; (Warehouses, Duty Paid) Upper Sackville St., Dublin.

**Scotland.**—(Offices) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh; (Warehouses, Duty Paid) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh.

**France.**—Principal Establishment, Chateau Loudenne, near St. Estephe, Medoc.

**Excise Bonded Stores.**—Warehouses, Nos. 1 to 5, North-Western Goods Station, and Bouny Street, Camden Town, London.

**Distillery.**—James Street, Camden Town, London.

**Printing Department.**—Poland Street, Oxford Street, London.

# BONG & JORDAN,

GENERAL FORWARDING AGENTS,  
43, Fish Street Hill, London, E.C.

REPRESENTED BY

**H. MacARTHUR,**  
LANDING & FORWARDING AGENT,

179, Yokohama.

Yokohama, September 27th, 1879.

tf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOW READY.

# YOUNG JAPAN,

BY

**J. R. BLACK.**

Vol. I.—Price \$5.

KELLY & CO.

Yokohama, February 6th, 1880.

# SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

**FIRE** Insurance granted, upon desirable buildings and their contents, in TOKIO.

Apply to

**EDWARD FISCHER & CO.,**  
Agents.

Yokohama, 3rd March, 1880.

# KEROSENE OIL.

# STORAGE and FIRE INSURANCE.

For terms, apply to

**EDWARD FISCHER & CO.**  
Yokohama, 3rd March, 1880.

# C. D. MOSS.

HOUSE AGENT, SURVEYOR AND VALUER,

FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE BROKER.

*Rents Collected, Property Supervised.*

**NEW WORKS AND ALTERATIONS  
SUPERINTENDED,**

**109 BLUFF,**

AND TEMPORARILY, 87B, SETTLEMENT.

Yokohama, 3rd January, 1880.

# NEW RULES OF THE ROAD AT SEA, &c.

**A**DOPTED by Great Britain, the United States of America, France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Portugal, Belgium, Denmark, Netherlands, Spain, Austro-Hungary, Greece and Chili.

ON SALE IN SHEET FORM.

Price, 25 Cents.

"JAPAN MAIL" OFFICE,  
No. 16, Bund.

And at **SARGENT, FARSAIR & Co.,**  
No. 80, Main Street.

Yokohama, December 24th, 1879.

## MISCELLANEOUS

# J. & E. ATKINSON'S PERFUMERY,

CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained the following

## EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876. VIENNA, 1873.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY."  
PARIS, 1878.

## Atkinson's Choice Perfumes for the Handkerchief,

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang Ylang, Stephanotis, Opopanax,  
Jockey Club, Ess. Bouquet, Tread, Magnolia, Jasmín,  
Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,  
And all other odours, of the finest quality only.

## Atkinson's Florida Water,

A most fragrant Perfume, distilled from the choicest Exotics.

## Atkinson's Quinine Hair Lotion,

A very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

## ATKINSON'S

### Ethereal Essence of Lavender,

A powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

## ATKINSON'S

Quinine Tooth Powder, Violet Powder, Macassar Oil, Glycerine Cream,

And other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the Manufacturers.

**J. & E. ATKINSON,**  
24, Old Bond Street, London, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

**CAUTION.**—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, "a White Rose on a Golden Lyre;" printed in seven colours.

ESTABLISHED 1799.

July 26, 1879.

12m. 26in.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.

Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,  
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,  
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED CHEESE,  
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,  
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,  
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,  
PLUM PUDDINGS,  
LEA AND FERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.

## CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars they should invariably be destroyed when empty. Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.

All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles, Jars and Tins.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL,**  
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,  
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

52 ins.

**H. MacARTHUR.,**  
No. 179.

LANDS, <sup>AND</sup><sub>OR</sub> SHIPS, & CLEARS  
CARGO,  
AT MODERATE RATES.

Yokohama, January 12th, 1880.

tf

## THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

**CANOMILE PILLS** are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach." "Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years. Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

## CAUTION.

Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.



MISCELLANEOUS.

# ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,  
BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.

Manufacture all kinds of

## IRONWORK, Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch  
Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some  
thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.  
ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.*

### ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.

*See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.)  
with 1,300 designs.*

Railings. Balcony Panels.  
Gates. Street Posts.  
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.  
Balusters. Newels.  
Crestring. Terminals.

Columns. Column Capitals.  
Brackets. Gratings.  
Windows. Casements.  
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.  
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

### SMITH'S HEARTHES & PORTABLE FORGES 12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.*

Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,  
LONDON.

26 ins.

## NOTICE.

TRANSLATIONS from JAPANESE into ENGLISH  
or *Vice-Versa* undertaken by the advertiser, a  
Japanese who is well versed in the English Language, and  
familiar with Commercial and Legal technicalities.

Enquire at

H. MacARTHUR'S Office,

NO. 179.

Contracts, Letters, Advertisements, or Legal Documents  
promptly translated at small cost.  
Yokohama, January 13th, 1880.

tf

MISCELLANEOUS.

<p><b>SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION MEDICINAL FOOD</b> <b>MOORE'S</b></p>	<p><b>FOR INFANTS</b> <b>MOORE'S</b></p> <p><b>ASTHMA &amp; Difficult Breathing</b> promptly relieved and paroxysms averted by <b>Datura Tatula Inhalations</b> Testimonials accompanying each box of Cigarettes, Cigars and Pastilles. Tins, in the economical form of tobacco, and suitable for carriage, from 6d. to 1s. 6d.</p>
<p><b>SAVORY BEST FOOD</b> <b>MOORE'S</b></p>	<p><b>ROYAL NURSERIES.</b> THE MOST DIGESTIBLE, CONTAINS THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF NOURISHMENT in the MOST CONVENIENT FORM. In this 14, 2s., 6s., and 10s.</p>
<p><b>WASTING DISEASES</b> IMPROVES THE APPETITE Increases Strength and Weight.</p>	<p><b>143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &amp;c., everywhere.</b></p>

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE



MARK.

## ELLWOOD'S

PATENT AIR CHAMBER

### HATS AND HELMETS,

THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION  
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters  
and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS,  
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

## DINNEFORD'S

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY  
OF THE STOMACH. HEARTBURN,  
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists  
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

## FLUID MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout  
the World.

March 30, 1879.

ly.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**E. P. & W. BALDWIN,**  
WILDEN WORKS.  
STOURPORT, ENGLAND.

**SHEET IRON,**  
BRANDED  
"BALDWIN-WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."  
**TIN PLATES,**  
BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"  
"ARLEY," "STOUR."

*Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,  
and Close Annealed.*

Export Agents—  
**Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane, London, E.C.**  
April 6, 1878.

**KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES,**  
COUGHS,  
ASTHMA,  
BRONCHITIS,  
ACCUMULATION OF PHLEGM.

Composed of the purest articles. These Lozenges contain no opium nor any deleterious drug, therefore the most delicate can take them with perfect confidence. Their beneficial effect is speedy and certain. The old unfailling family remedy is daily recommended by the most eminent Physicians. (In use nearly 60 years).

**MEDICAL TESTIMONY.**

July 25th, 1877. 22, Cold Harbour Lane, London.

Sir,—Your Lozenges are excellent, and their beneficial effects most reliable. I strongly recommend them in cases of Cough and Asthma. You are at liberty to state this as my opinion, formed from many years experience.

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Mr. T. KEATING, Indian Medical Service.  
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## JAPANESE METAL-WORK.

EVERY visitor to Kamakura must have been struck by the grand proportions and sublime features of the great bronze Buddha. This excellent casting is but a type of many smaller ones to be found in various parts of the country. There are exceptions to all good rules, and, in attributing a high standard of art to the generality of these statues we would not include the hideous representation of the notable Daibutsu at Nara. The bronze at the latter spot stakes its reputation merely upon its immense size; its proportion, execution, and expression of countenance being greatly in error. In the Kamakura Daibutsu and in many smaller representations there is a tolerable truth of proportion, and a remarkable modelling of feature, resulting in an indescribable effect of divinity in expression. From these huge images down to the smallest sword ornaments, the Japanese have shown, and still show, great skill as workers in metal. Steel swords, famous for their keen edge; bells and gongs of the softest musical tones; and vases, caskets, and metal fittings exhibiting all the tricks of casting, chasing, *repoussage*, inlaying, plating and engraving, all testify to this. Compositions in metal are produced by mixtures unknown in Europe. Much of the old bronze contains gold and silver in its mass, and to this circumstance the natives attribute the clear musical tones contained in many temple bells.

All will have read the story of the old Shiba bell so prettily written by the late Dr. Purcell. It was a bell that, for its size and the distance at which its chime was audible, might have compared with Big Ben himself. Kyoto has several bells of great size and antiquity; notably one at the temple called Daibutsu; and there is still a fine old specimen at Ueno. These bells are often excellent speci-

mens of ornamental casting, the invariable dragon on the top being supplemented by raised devices and inscriptions on the sides. Bells also take an important place among the archaeological treasures of the soil, numerous instances having occurred, in which they have been exhumed, even as far back as 714 A.D., bespeaking considerable antiquity for the treasure trove. These bronzes are small, and are supposed by some to have formed the pendants of decayed pagodas, of which there must have been many in ancient times, since we read of an early king having ordered at one time the erection of eighty-four thousand such towers in the country. It is scarcely necessary to mention that the Japanese bell has no internal tongue, being struck from the outside by a large swinging wooden hammer. There is one large bell at Chioin, in Kyoto, the sound of which is said to remain obstinate to the ordinary hammer worked by hand, and the priests have applied modern ideas of mechanism in attempting to move the immense clapper by machinery. To make our notice of bells complete it would be necessary to mention the bowl-shaped bells struck upon the edge at temple-worship; the little hand-bells with internal clappers used by the priests; and the swinging bronze plates of various shapes, hung in clusters, and tinkled by bell ropes, in connection with the larger buildings.

The point, however, in which the native metal-worker most excels is the adaptation of metals to ornamental purposes, to achieve which results, copper and iron, mixed with different alloys, have been used to obtain different effects of colour. The modern curio-dealer covers some of his cabinets with the metal-work once forming the embellishments of sword-hilts and sheaths; and, though the *total ensemble* of such over-crowded productions is bad in the extreme, many of the individual fittings are very elegant in design. The guard of the sword-hilt is an iron plate often adorned with raised and inlaid metals in elegant design and delicate workmanship. In some cases a device upon common black metal will be traced in line by inlaid strips of copper, gold or silver, let in with the level surface, similar to Persian inlaid work:—sometimes the inlaid portions are formed of a variety of metals standing out in relief from the surface, and delicately modelled to represent natural forms. With various mixtures of the commoner metals, are obtained a variety of colours from reddish tint to a black, used in combination with gilding and silver, inlay to produce an approach to natural colouring. Such metals are *akagane*, *shakudo*, *shincho*, *sogan* and *shibuchi*, being mixtures of copper and iron with tin, silver and gold, in varying proportions. But the greatest skill is shown in the modelling, with sharp delineation and different degrees of relief which is unequalled in any foreign workshops. A favourite object for such workmanship was the handle of the *kogatana* of which many can be bought with raised flowers, foliage, birds, figures, and even landscapes. Nor does this art as yet show signs of deterioration, unless indeed it be in the loss of a certain amount of discretion and a lavish overcrowding of

enrichment upon surfaces, to please those customers who think that in ornament, quantity is more to be desired than quality.

One point worthy of notice is the fidelity of imitations of small natural objects of the animal and vegetable kingdoms, such as insects, mice, fish, birds and flowers, the truth in every detail being minutely indicated. Again there is the redoubtable dragon of Japan,—with his mysterious unearthly anatomy, suggestive of terrific spleen, spouting his fireclouds,—a subject to which the bronze maker often recurs; for the artist in metals is not balked by such fleeting shapes as fire, cloud or water, and has his conventionalized representation of each, expressive of their nature and force. Vases are often modelled with the thin curling spray spirals, indicative of splashing waves washing round their bases; and the dragon's fire-breath is often shaped into a support for a globe of pure crystal. Passing from smaller to larger objects it would be an omission to forget some of the beautiful bronze water-basins to be found before many of the temples. A favourite design for these is the cup of a gigantic lotus flower, or its *bowlé* and finely veined leaf, such as are seen crowding the moats and garden lakes with their curled hollows full of rain or dew. Apart from the suitability of such an idea for a water basin, the lotus has a religious meaning which particularly adapts its form to the precincts of Buddhist temples.

The seated Daibutsu has invariably a base indicating the lotus flower, and the expression of the same idea is to be seen in a small circular shrine at Ikigami, where a few petals in front are turned down to form a step to the threshold of the entrance.

A treatise, however brief, on the bronzes of Japan would not be perfect without a reference to the fine lanterns or *Kônedôrô*, which, ranged in avenues, line the approach to the gateways of shrines. Such lamps are placed for the most part in front of the burial places of the Shoguns, notably at Uyeno, Shiba, Nikko and Kamakura. They are oblations offered to the spirit of the deceased by the daimios and high dignitaries, the largest and richest in design having precedence in position. As the name indicates, they are intended to hold lights, and have a hollow head barred by perforated metal-work in diapers. They are often seven or eight feet in height, are gilt in parts, and finely moulded and enriched with foliated bands and raised panels representing sacred symbols in telling relief. The *haka* or monument of the sixth Shogun at Shiba, with its railing and gateway, is also a fine specimen of bronze work with sharp raised ornament. The entrance has two large bronze panels, one on either side, on which are representations of the sacred bird, *kô*. This complete group of metal-work may be held up as an example of the exquisite delicacy and sharpness of modelling which is the secret of good effect. In order fully to appreciate the superiority of Japanese *relievo*, one must be familiar with the many enormities of modern European foundries, and their clumsy coarse treatment of supposed ornamentation. There is as much, or more, artistic feeling to be shewn in the modulation of an embossed or curved surface as in the line of a painter's brush; such works depending for their expression upon the clearness, variety, and decision of the shadows and half-lights,—here sharp and black,—there soft and faint. Several fine *torii* of black bronze exist in different parts of the country; and of these may especially be mentioned the one at the head of the avenue leading to the temples at Nikko.

Another mode of ornamenting metal may be mentioned in the *repoussé* or embossed work, by which designs in raised relief upon thin metal are made by beating out from the back. There is also filigree work, similar to the

Genoese, in which precious metals are used in thin threads, and tiny globules soldered in patterns upon the surface of small ornaments. Such kind of articles can be seen upon swords and in small caskets and *kanzashi*, often executed in the precious metals. In addition to this, silver and gold utensils of great value are often merely engraved, a rich effect being given to their surface by the addition of arabesques in an incised line. In some of the large metal nuts, bands and clasps, which adorn buildings, the gilt metal is boldly engraved, and the incisions are filled in with a black enamel giving a very gay effect to the whole. This work corresponds to the *niello* engraving so much used during the middle ages.

We have more than once alluded to the grace imparted to common objects by simple and quaint shapes having a highly decorative effect. It is common in some countries to see the necessary handle, lock, or button to handsome oak cabinets, and to the doors of luxurious dwellings, made merely of the orthodox spherical pattern in porcelain or bright brass, without any attempt to convert the useful appendage into a novel or suggestive form. Here it is different, and the common iron rings, locks, and handles of cabinets and chests, to say nothing of the handsome engraved finger plates to the *karakami*, take always some pleasing shape. Japan has still much to learn from, but she has also much to teach to Western nations particularly in matters of decorative art.

#### A JAPANESE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

AT the recent meeting of the friends and supporters of the Yokohama General Hospital it was, all but unanimously, agreed that it would not be convenient or proper, as affairs are at present constituted, to send European or American patients, even though they might belong to the comparatively low class which is constituted by "common sailors," to the Japanese Hospital at Nogé. Of its kind and for the purpose for which it is intended and to which it is applied this institution is a credit to its originators, to the system under which it is conducted, and to the direction under which it is controlled. It possesses excellent accommodation for the patients for whom it is intended, the best medical and surgical advice procurable, the best drugs and medicaments which can be bought for money, the best and most careful attendance for the inmates who may have to avail themselves of its hospitality. Its beneficence extends so far that the presence of the friends of those who have to submit to treatment within its walls is allowed, not only to visit them at remote intervals, but if they desire it to be in constant attendance upon them. Applicants for advice or shelter are neither sent away unprescribed for, nor commended to the cold clemency of the sky for the covering of a roof. They find medical science, medicine, care, food, wards to sleep in, and nurses to tend them. In this respect the refugees at Nogé Yama and on the Bluff resemble each other. No one who is brought or comes to either of them is sent helpless away. But the Japanese establishment has, at least in one respect, an advantage over that supported and frequented by foreigners. In the former the position of the person admitted is at once known. It matters little whether he or his friends can afford to pay for his support; but whatever the case may be no concealment is possible; and where payment is obtainable it is expected, and even without being expected promptly rendered. Thus the institution is free from the incubus of guests who, professing to remunerate the hospital largely for apartments, attendance, and luxuries, involve the chest in an unwarrantable expenditure, make



no pecuniary return, and contribute, if to nothing else, to an unhappy and confusing deficit in the balance sheet.

The hospital at Nogé is a benefit of national importance whose value and extent cannot be underrated. Among the advantages which it has procured is that of providing a practical and efficient school of medicine and surgery, whence issue from year to year competent and approved professors of the healing art, who carry the appliances of their science and their skill to the remotest parts of the empire; and so help in no mean degree to advance the popular participation in the latest hygienic improvements. That the cholera epidemic of last year was confined in this prefecture within moderate limits, as compared with the extent of ravage which it wrought in other sections of the empire, is in great part due to the experience, intelligence, and method acquired in their clinical course by the medical students of this establishment. Sent out by the Governor of the Ken to inspect districts where the disease was reported to have manifested itself, they inculcated habits of cleanliness, taught the value and the manner of use of disinfectants, stopped the water supply from wells and courses known or supposed to be propagators of infection, and caused conduits from pure sources to be erected, or wells which could not be contaminated to be dug. It is recognized that in many instances their energetic and well directed efforts were the means of utterly extirpating the germs of the malady in localities where it had obtained an established footing, and was in train to demoralize and destroy large centres of rural population. And this is, so to speak, a mere transient piece of good work, effected by an establishment which is a standing honour to the local authorities which have organized and maintain it. A more permanent and valuable benefit which it has been instrumental in conferring upon the residents within the Kanagawa jurisdiction, in the first instance, and indirectly upon other regions of the empire, is the systematic introduction and practice of vaccination. Jenner's great preventive is not only accessible at the Nogé Hospital. Police regulations provide that it shall be applied there to all infants whose parents cannot or do not otherwise procure it, and the scheme and method find such favour with the populace that, only in the rarest instances, is it found necessary to bring pressure to bear in order to have the precautionary measures adopted. Hence to the sanitary institution at Nogé, and its able direction, under the superintendence of the *Kencho*, and its competent foreign medical adviser, is due the present virtual disappearance of a loathsome and disfiguring scourge, which not many years ago was wont to turn much of the beauty of this people to ugliness and deformity, and a great portion of its youth to decrepitude and premature age. The ability and kindness of the nurses attached to the establishment are beyond dispute.

In spite, nevertheless, of all the good that has been effected by the Japanese Hospital at Nogé, and its administrators and subordinates, those who are connected with it would be the first to acknowledge that it is in no way adapted to the reception and treatment of foreign patients, even of that class for which, presumably, any treatment and housing is good enough—common sailors. For foreigners of any description—at least for Europeans and Americans—no provision has been made in its organization. Such patients would be unhappy and miserable there, if, indeed, under present arrangements it were possible to admit them. They would require a diet, modified no doubt according to the state of their health or condition, but still one of a kind to which they have been accustomed. They would, also, reasonably, or not, expect to find in the hospice to which they might be con-

ducted such articles of furniture as an occasional table or chair, and other foolish accessories to, what they have been brought up to believe, necessary accompaniments of their existence. They would also, probably, if they were to be consulted at all, desire to have about them advisers to whom they could explain their ailments, attendants to whom they could express their wants, in a mutually intelligible tongue. Now, the *personnel* of the Japanese Hospital would be the first to disclaim any pretension that these requisites of infirmary life, as we may call them, would be found there. They would say that the idea of providing them had never been contemplated: that, in fact, under the prevailing system of extra-territoriality, the whole matter of the accommodation and cure of alien patients had been taken charge of by persons of foreign nationality residing within the limits of the empire. And they would be right. At present there are British, American, and German Naval Hospitals in the foreign concession at Yokohama, where there is also a General or Cosmopolitan Hospital, supported by the voluntary contributions of foreigners of any, or every, nationality. That this latter institution might very well be abolished under proper circumstances, and even to the benefit of the community we do not deny. In fact we shall be glad to shew how the result might be satisfactorily consummated.

Why, for instance, should not the Japanese Government, or the local authorities in this ken establish a hospital of their own—called by what name they pleased—to which persons of every nation should be admitted. On the foreshore of this harbour in and near Benteu there are plenty of sites available. The plan would be on a mixed Japanese and foreign basis, with foreign appliances for foreign inmates. That one or more foreign medical men should be permanently attached to, or should periodically visit the institution would certainly be advisable. After a time Japanese practitioners, some of them speaking western languages, might assume entire charge of the establishment. Nurses with at least elementary foreign linguistic knowledge would not be difficult to obtain. The advantages which foreign patients would possess from the presence of such an institution need hardly be enumerated. Among them however, that of cheapness of maintenance and considerate attendance, are specially worthy of notice. We have little doubt that a Japanese General Hospital properly constituted, with accommodation for foreigners, would soon defy the competition of any purely foreign refuge. That it will be founded is, probably, only a question of time; but until it is opened the present General Hospital, or some refuge of the same sort, will need to be supported by the foreign residents of Yokohama.

#### REVIEW.\*

FEW persons can have failed to remark the extremely lazy and superficial ideas possessed by even well-educated Japanese about the dates of events in their own history. It is not uncommon to find that a man, who, from memory or by having the book before him, knows that an event happened in such a year of a certain period, (a description that at first sight seems sufficiently explicit), is yet totally unaware whether it occurred one hundred or three hundred years ago. The explanation of this singular fact will be obtained by the first glance at the exhaustive essay on Japanese Chronology which Mr. Bramsen has prefixed to his tables. With four modes of counting years to choose from, the Japanese historians have almost always preferred to use the most arbitrary and the most uncertain, namely that of the *nen-go*, or periods of time that lasted,

\* Japanese Chronological Tables, by William Bramsen.

sometimes less than one year, rarely more than twenty years, and which commenced and ended, *à propos* of nothing apparently, when the rulers for the time being grew tired of the old one. It was only at the commencement of this present period of Meiji, of which we are now in the thirteenth year, that it was announced that henceforth the *sen-go* are to be changed only at the commencement of the reign of a new emperor. Of the other three systems, the most used was the Chinese one of reckoning by cycles of sixty years. These took their names from the combinations of two series, one consisting of twelve and the other of ten characters. The series of twelve is also used alone by the common people, any of whom can reckon on his fingers that the year of the monkey (1871) was ten years ago; the Japanese, like the old Romans, reckoning both the year they start from and the year they count to.

The counting by the reigns of the emperors seem to have been but little used; and the fourth mode of reckoning from Jimmu Ten-ō, which, apocryphal as it may be, has at any rate the advantage of simplicity, is a modern innovation that has never got into general use. Mr. Bramsen gives an ingenious suggestion to account for the impossibly long lives assigned to the early emperors, and by means of which the reign of Jimmu Ten-ō is said to have commenced in 660 B.C. He puts forward a theory, supporting it with facts bearing the stamp of probability, that in the remotest days, prior to the official adoption of the Chinese year after the death of the emperor Nintoku in A.D. 400, the Japanese reckoned as one year the period from equinox to equinox; and thus the ages of these patriarchal emperors are set down as double what they should be.

We have not space to follow Mr. Bramsen through the whole of his essay, which makes clear not only these four systems, but also the far more intricate subject of the subdivisions of the year.

The arrangement of the lunar months, their adjustment with the *setu* or the twelfth parts of the solar year, the determining of the intercalary months, which were necessary once in about three years to preserve approximately that adjustment, are tersely and clearly explained. Intricate, and indeed dry, as the subject seems, Mr. Bramsen has succeeded in handling it in a way that invests his book with interest for all who are curious about "things not generally known," and that should secure for him a body of readers far in excess of those students of Japanese history for whom the work is more specially intended, and to whom his Chronological Tables will save hours of thankless labour.

WE have observed a recent work published by order of the Daijo Kuwan entitled (in translation) "True relation of sights and scenes in America and Europe." It consists of five large volumes, and relates the incidents of the celebrated mission of Iwakura, Kiho, Okubo and Ito to Europe and America in 1872-3. It was compiled by the subordinate members of the embassy, of whom, it may be remarked, there were nearly fifty. It is handsomely printed on foreign paper, and is illustrated with hundreds of wood-cuts evidently taken from photographs. It contains in all two thousand one hundred and ten closely printed pages, and is not only a diary of passing events, but also records the information derived from reading or personal investigation respecting the railways, roads, manufactures, buildings, constitution, and, occasionally, the history of the countries visited. Thus, the stay of the mission at Sheffield gives the writers time to examine into, and describe fully, the great manufactories of steel and railway iron. The railway

across the Rocky Mountains, the peculiar tenets of the Mormons, and the mines of Nevada find place in an account of the journey from San Francisco to Chicago. The headings of a few of the chapters will convey some idea of the comprehensive nature of the work. The reader is introduced to railways of America, West Point Academy, Philadelphia, New York, London, Liverpool, Glasgow, the Highlands, Bradford, Newcastle, Belgium, Holland, Amsterdam, Russia, Sweden, Venice, International Exhibitions, The Public Works of various countries, Education, &c., &c. It would be difficult, perhaps impossible, to find in any country a more complete and exhaustive description of foreign countries, gathered chiefly from personal observation. The large staff which accompanied the Ambassadors doubtless enabled the expedition to acquire a fuller mass of information than would be possible for any merely private individual, however industrious. If the object of publishing these volumes was to disseminate sound and accurate information respecting foreign countries among the Japanese public, it is to be feared that their high price—almost five yen—will prevent them reaching the lower classes.

IN our review of the last number of the Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan, we omitted to draw attention to the eccentric and altogether incomprehensible transliteration, or rather transliterations, of Japanese names used in the various papers. Thus Tōkiyō on p. 5 is Yedo in the map facing p. 86, and becomes Tokio on p. 87. Nippon on p. 61 appears as Nihon on p. 76; Otaru, p. 62, increases to Otarunai on the sketch facing p. 64. On p. 78 Yezo is metamorphosed into Yedo. Iha-ya (p. 76) is iwaya on p. 81. Zhiāmu Tefāwu on p. 77 appears under the more familiar form of Jinmu Tennō on p. 81. Similarly, the Emperors Suizei (p. 78) and Suzhin, p. 80, become Suisei and Sujin a page or two after. Koshiki on p. 76 is Kojiki on p. 81. Koshito on p. 63 is spelled on a different system to Hidéyoshi in the last paper. The confusion between 'da,' 'z,' and 'dz' is very conspicuous. Thus we find Suisei (p. 87), Nelsunni (p. 81) Suizei (p. 79) Gozen (p. 58). Again Keikau (p. 79) becomes Keikō on the following page. Apart, altogether, from the present chaotic state of transliteration—due in great part to the facility with which individuals evolve systems of their own, and the tenacity with which they cling to them, however absurd they may be, and however clearly the public shows that it will have none of them—we think that consistency should be maintained at least in the publications of the Asiatic Society. If some back numbers of the transactions were examined, quite as glaring differences in spelling the same word might be discovered. It is therefore with much pleasure that we observe a movement within the society itself to remove an anomaly which is as unsightly as it is unreasonable.

DURING last December we treated at some length the valuable lecture on mining in Japan, delivered by Professor Netto, of the University of Tokio, before the German Asiatic Society. The importance of the subject dealt with has apparently induced the Government to sanction the translation of this lecture into English, and its publication, for the information of the large number of persons who are unable to derive any benefit from the compilation in the language wherein it originally appeared. Having so recently and exhaustively reviewed Mr. Netto's work, it is hardly necessary for us to do more now than acknowledge the receipt of a copy in its new garb. The present pamphlet consists of about fifty-four pages of letter press, several plates illustrative of mining appliances, a florid title page and a formidable list of "errata." As we remarked on the previous occasions already referred to, Professor Netto's own portion of the work

leaves little to be desired, and undoubtedly forms a very useful acquisition to the literature of mining in Japan; but we are constrained to express the opinion that it is greatly to be deplored that, when the contribution was found worthy of translation into English, and publication, some person sufficiently acquainted with the English language was not employed by the Government upon the work. In that case the grammatical, idiomatic, structural and lingual absurdities with which the new rendering abounds would certainly have been avoided.

THE general use of kerosene in this country, and the liability of inferior descriptions of the oil to explode, leading frequently to disastrous and even fatal consequences, makes a simple and reliable test of the kerosene used interesting. We notice in a New York journal that there is a United States law governing the whole country and prohibiting the sale or storage of petroleum or kerosene the fire test of which shall be less than 110 deg. Fahrenheit. In New York a State law was passed enacting a similar test, and in the city a special provision is in force prohibiting the use of all oils for illuminating or heating purposes which emit an inflammable vapour at a temperature below 100 deg. Fahrenheit. This vapour test is equal to 180 deg. fire test: so the law in New York is more stringent than in any other part of the United States. The fire test is made by placing a bottle of the oil in a small basin of water, then heating it to 110 deg. when a flame is applied and if it is extinguished the oil is passed. The vapour test is more complicated and necessitates the employment of instruments. We understand that since the adoption of the vapour test in New York the number of explosions has greatly decreased until they have become extremely rare. A law here in Japan, similar to that in force in America, would, if stringently carried into operation, be very reassuring to the consumers of kerosene, who in the hot season are perpetually exposed to dangers of which many of them have, fortunately for their peace of mind, but little conception.

AT the recent meeting of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, evidence was adduced that there is not much likelihood of the mint at Osaka finding a competitor in China for the manufacture of a currency to supply the wants of exchange in the trading ports of the Far East. It was mentioned that, at their interview with H.B.M. Minister, the Committee had again brought up the subject of a Chinese mint, but His Excellency did not hold out any hopes that the Chinese authorities would move in the matter. A large amount of information respecting the cost, arrangement, and expense of working, had however been collected, printed, and placed in the hands of the representatives of Treaty Powers to aid in further discussion of the subject.

WE offer a hint to the new Seismological Society. Accuracy is regarded as of the highest importance in scientific matters, and hitherto, notwithstanding numerous catalogues of earthquakes in Japanese, it has been found impossible to transfer native dates exactly into those of the western calendar. With the assistance of Mr. Brausen's chronology this can now be done easily; and therefore we suggest that one or two members be appointed to collate various earthquake almanacs, such as the *Jishin Nendai*, and transfer the dates into those of the Gregorian calendar. The work, it is true, requires nothing more than patience and industry; but its value to any subsequent enquirer into, for instance, the periodicity of earthquakes in Japan, would be very great, as it would remove a preliminary difficulty, which is a stumbling-block for many.

THE principle laid down by the *Chōya Shimbun* in an article on the diplomatic policy of Japan, is unassailable. It recommends the usually passive and non-interfering course of the United States to its countrymen, rather than the active and frequently intriguing diplomacy of most European nations. Quoting what it states to be a speech of Washington's, it says that the chief objects to which Japan should direct herself in her foreign relations, are the extension of commerce, and abstinence from interference in the internal affairs of other countries. It points out that, in many respects, Japan and America are in similar circumstances. They are both free from the danger incident to continental nations; both can carry an internal development peaceably, without the anxiety and embarrassment caused by powerful, ambitious neighbours, and armies—possibly hostile—on their frontiers. It goes on to say that foreign relations will assume more and more importance, and that the time has now come to settle the basis on which these relations shall be conducted, and contrasts the position of Germany, following one policy, with that of America pursuing a wholly different course. The article is an exceedingly sensible and well-reasoned one, which is more than can be said for all the productions of the same journal.

WHILE on the subject of Mr. Brausen's recent chronology, we may ask whether it is not within the province of the Asiatic Society to assist, in some way, the publication of works of this description. The value of the book to all students of Japanese subjects is evident; but it is also evident that the number of students is small, and that, consequently, the number of copies sold cannot repay the author even for his pecuniary outlay. The purchase of fifty or sixty copies, or a vote of one or two hundred dollars to assist in paying the unavoidable expenses of such a work, would seem to be a sensible way of advancing knowledge.

REFERRING, some time ago to the introduction of foreign machinery into China, we instanced, from notes in the Shanghai journals, the foundation of a woollen mill in the remote province of Kiangsu. We now observe that one of the German employés, engaged by the Government to initiate and control the works, has returned to Shanghai. "He states that no difficulty is experienced in the working of the machinery by the natives employed, all of whom have been brought from Foochow. The sheeps' wool supplied is of the finest quality, and a great deal of camels' hair also comes to the factory. The people in that part of the country live almost entirely on meat and wheat flour, and the mutton is spoken of as being very good. The foreigners live in a compound of their own, and are well provided for by the Government in every respect." Fifty-two days were occupied by the traveller in reaching Hankow from Lan-chow-fu, the name of the place where the factory has been erected.

THE Authorities of the Tsung Li Yamen appear to be adopting an entire change of attitude toward foreign powers generally. Formerly, if a request or demand were made of them by the representative of a treaty power, and they found it inconvenient or inexpedient to comply, they would, by means of excuses more or less definite and polite, contrive to relegate the decision of the matter to remote periods if not so far as to the Greek Kalends. Now it has been affirmed that, when recently approached by the Board of Foreign Envoys, with a complaint of a long category of alleged treaty-violations, they distinctly refused to listen to the requisition, drew attention to at least as many infractions of obligation which they said had been perpetrated by the other side, and spoke of a necessary revision of the conventions which should



be remodelled as China would decide. The Peking correspondent of the *Shanghai Courier* refers to this matter. He says that there is a difference of opinion between learned sinologues as to the correct interpretation to be put upon the Yamen's latest despatch in answer to the western diplomats. He remarks that, while one party would interpret the document "as a flat denial on the side of the Chinese to entertain any more negotiations with foreigners, the other party looks upon its contents more as a kind of excuse on the part of the Yamen that, owing to the fickleness of the demands of the foreign representatives, Chinese are at a loss to know what definite state of future treaty obligations might be proposed; for in their opinion the Alcock convention grants foreigners more privileges than any convention hitherto has done." Even if the latter rendering should be the accurate one, which we have grave reason to doubt, the method of equivocation is of quite a different kind to that established by Chinese precedent in matters of foreign policy.

PROFESSOR Tyndall, we believe, is the author of the now common definition of dirt, namely that it is "matter in the wrong place." Scientific researches frequently prove the accuracy of the designation. To what numerous, and without exception valuable, uses has not that dirtiest of all dirt, coal tar, with the various substances which it contains, been applied. We are now informed of a startling discovery made by a Florentine savant. For some time past he has been analysing the dust, first of his native town, and latterly of Paris, in order to carry out his experiments. He finds that the dust of the carriage-ways in the latter capital, gives a steady return of thirty-five per cent of iron, occasioned by the abrasion of the horses' shoes. Not content with this, the Professor next attacked the dust of the foot-ways, and after two months' experiments on the Boulevards, obtained a regular average of thirty per cent of good transparent glue derived from the leather worn from the soles of pedestrians. If this story is not true it may at least be pronounced "well invented."

UNDER date of the 5th of last December, the Shanghai correspondent of the *Times* comments on the arrangements a short time previously made in his neighbourhood, between the Russian and Chinese Governments. Chung How had only returned to his native land three days before the letter was written. The author remarked that Chinese public opinion in Shanghai, so far as there is any on political subjects among the merchants of that busy port, was that the plenipotentiary had given a good deal in return for very little. "Excuses are made for him that, in view of the present complication between this country and Japan, and of the possibility of a rupture, he had to take what he could on the best terms he could get, as it would not do for China to be embroiled with Russia at a time when she is about to force Japan to give up the sovereignty of the Loochoos." The correspondent continued thus:—"There is possibly an element of truth at the bottom of this tall talk, for there is an undoubted activity in a warlike direction in all the provincial governments along the coast. The direction, however, is defence; and the efforts made are, as usual, ill-concerted or isolated altogether. The power of China to defend herself or to harass her neighbours must not be measured by the armaments which she purchases in foreign countries, nor by the amount of money she devotes to the manufacture of arms and ammunition at home. Her arsenals are nests of jobbery, and every contract for war matériel which the provincial governments make is looked on as a chance for robbery. Some five years ago, for example, the officials at the arsenal here ordered the machinery from England necessary for the construction of ironclads at a cost of something like \$180,000; they fined the firm from

whom the machinery was purchased a round sum for every day behind the time agreed on for the completion of the contract; and from that day to this the machinery has never been used, and some of it even never set up. The Shanghai arsenal is in pretty much the same position as the Government Merchant Steamer Company, in that it is filled with the cousins, the poor relations, of the high provincial authorities from whose revenues it draws the supplies of money necessary to keep it going." And, again:—"Expensive machinery rusts in disuse, and workshops stand idle, while lavish sums are squandered in salaries to an extravagant staff of be-buttoned clerks and overseers." This is only a repetition of an old story; but it serves to show that China should not be a very formidable aggressive antagonist; and that as regards any but her own feudatories she would be wise, as she is likely, to confine her warlike schemes to preparations for "defence and not for offence."

THE interest in Chinese politics centres round the Kuldja treaty and the unfortunate Chung How who contracted it on the part of China. A Peking correspondent of the *North China Daily News* affirms that he has already been incarcerated and under the control of the Board of Punishments for several weeks. It is incidentally mentioned that during the first day of his duress he was compelled to disburse three thousand taels; and that the average cost of living for each day of confinement is about one hundred taels. We learn that he has been convicted on three counts:—leaving his post without permission, acting contrary to his instructions, and exceeding his powers. Indiscretions of various kinds are also attributed to him; and, in fact, his utter ruin, if not his execution is likely to be compassed. However the Board has declared him sufficiently punished already, and the foreign ministers, with the exception of those for Russia and Japan, are reported to have interceded individually on his behalf. Evidently great excitement prevails at court, and the anti-foreign and bellicose party is in the ascendant. All that Prince Kung, even, seems to have been able to accomplish is the prevention of the extreme measure of presenting the Russian Chargé d'Affaires with his passports. Marquis Tseng has meanwhile been ordered from London to St. Petersburg on the difficult, dangerous and all but impossible errand of reëstablishing equilibrium in the disturbed relations between the two empires. The mission is considered, in Peking, to be a hopeless one. The victorious and arrogant Chinese General Tso is supported in his schemes of future warfare by the grandfather of the young emperor, the haughty Manchu, Prince Sun. His collusion with Tso is the more significant that he is credited with as much contempt for the Chinese as he is known to feel for western barbarians. Comparatively efficient troops are being massed upon the Ili frontier. From all this it is apparent that the maintenance of peace will be very difficult. That Russian statesmen view the matter in this light, may be inferred from the tenor of a telegram received during the week. It directly implies that, because of the gloomy aspect of the Chinese question, the projected expedition against the troublesome Tekke Turcomans was postponed. The developments of the next few weeks or days may be looked for with interest. Russian forces in Central Asia, under the able leadership of General Kauffman and his lieutenants, may be relied upon to dispose of the troops brought against them; but the war, if it comes, must necessarily be a costly and a terrible one; and the tortured world has actually had enough of contest for some years to come. Again, if the matter were certain to be left to the sole decision of the two parties immediately concerned, there would be comparatively small cause for anxiety. As it is, there is no predicting what interests may not be involved, or thought to be involved, in the issue.



THE "Magician of Menlo Park" is evidently not regarded by everyone, even in America, in the same favourable and enthusiastic manner, as it appears there is an electrician in New York of the name of W. E. Sawyer, who is far from being either a believer in Edison as a professional phenomenon or an admirer of him as a genius. Indeed, he asserts his clear conviction that the light-maker of Menlo is of light weight in the balance of true electrical science, and more of a charlatan than a practical inventor in the brilliant field of electric development, by which the electric light is to supplant gas in general use—an event which to judge from results may safely be set down as likely to take place about the Greek Kalends. No later, indeed, than on the fourth of last January, Mr. Sawyer issued the following public challenge to Mr. Edison, which that gentleman did not think fit to accept:—

"Notwithstanding the assertion that one of Mr. Edison's electric lamps has been running for 240 hours, I still assert, and am prepared to back up my assertion, that Mr. Edison cannot run one of his lamps up to the light of a single gas jet, (to be more definite, let us call it twelve-candle power) for more than three hours. To be still more definite, I offer to Mr. Edison, at 220 at West Fifty-fourth street, in this city, an opportunity to prove what he says. From the private residence in that street are run a circuit of 1,000 feet. Mr. Edison shall have every facility; he shall use my wires; he shall have any dynamo machine or other generator of electricity he may prefer; and all that I ask is that the power of his light be measured by a photometer; that once in place it shall not be interfered with; and that a Committee of gentlemen, preferably nominated by the editors of the New York Press, shall be present and certify to the facts of the test. Furthermore, I will place one of my lamps side by side with Mr. Edison's; it shall be run at the power of twenty-five candles; it shall outlast the entire forty lamps at Menlo Park run at the power of twenty-five candles; my lamp to stand as it is put up, and Mr. Edison to put up a fresh lamp as fast as the preceding lamp shall have burned out. I am anxious for the test, and if Mr. Edison has really run one of his horse-shoe lamps 240 hours he will not refuse to accept my offer, for he will be treated with the utmost courtesy, and shall have everything his own way."

THE discontinuance of the subsidy to the Peninsular and Oriental Company's line between Hongkong and Yokohama, has resulted in the steamers of the company being diverted from the direct service. They will, we believe, henceforth call at Nagasaki for the purpose of loading coal to supply the main line, but this alteration is of less consequence to the community of Yokohama than seems to be thought in some quarters. The mail steamers of the P. and O. Company are now due in Hongkong one day before the dates fixed for the sailing of the vessels of the Mitsui Bishi Company on their homeward trip. The Japanese Government will, doubtless, make arrangements to take delivery of all mail matter intended for Japan, in Hongkong, and ship it on board the national line which has, up to the present time, performed the trip to and from Hongkong, with praiseworthy regularity. Calling at Kobe, as the Mitsui Bishi steamers do, will then give our neighbours in that port a slight advantage as regards the English mail, which will be equalized by the similar privilege enjoyed by us through the French line. It is almost a foregone conclusion that the petition of residents in Yokohama to have a fresh subsidy granted to the Peninsular and Oriental Company will be disregarded by the Imperial authorities, as a very strong feeling against these gratuities appears to be prevalent in England.

#### MR. SMEDLEY'S PAINTINGS.

THE exhibition of pictures by Mr. Smedley deserves congratulation, were it only for the industry evinced by so considerable a collection, and the novelty of his idea in displaying them together. If any other of our artists, pro-

fessional or otherwise, have works in equal or greater number, by all means, in the words of Mark Twain, let them "trot 'em out;" for pictures are certainly not things meant to be hidden under a bushel. Professional painters resident in the East are not, as a rule, the most indefatigable of labourers, better work being done by the travelling members of the faculty, who in the full ardour of fresh acquaintance busy themselves for a few months and then pass on to depict the features of another clime. In small commercial communities where little is known about art, and where the painter has few competitors, our professional friend can sometimes afford to study the *dolce far niente* and receive the adoring genuflexions of society with very little necessity to bestir himself. "Oh what a capital caricature that was you made of Lord So and So!" or, "what a charming little landscape that was that you did for my cousin three years ago!" But our painter, with a conscience, let us suppose, well knows that the caricature cost him five minutes of observation and memory of profile; and that the charming landscape is such that he would blush at the *chaff* which it might receive were he again amidst the emulating influence of his old students of Academy.

Mr. Smedley, as a painter, would, we believe, wish to be considered as an amateur; for, though he belongs to a profession whose accomplishments stretch far into the realms of art, still there are architects, so called, who can wield neither pencil nor brush; and a painter's training can scarcely be said to form a compulsory part of the architect's curriculum. The exhibitor has, however, carried this leisure pursuit to a considerable degree of perfection, and shows us sketches and studies that many galleries at home would willingly receive.

There is undoubtedly a rich fund for the artist in the features of Japan, both so far as original subject is concerned, and also as regards the treatment of detail, atmospheric effects, sharp definition of shadows, and clearness of light and colour so peculiar to the scenery of the country. As yet thousands of glorious views and picturesque spots, full of historical associations, remain virgin to the painter's study. It is scarcely necessary to allude to the distinguishing nature of Japanese vegetation, landscape contour, and architecture, as compared with that of Europe; nor to the picturesque dress and customs of the people. Some years ago a water-colourist, Mr. Dillon, paid a sketching visit to Japan; and the subjects of his selection chiefly consisted in elaborate studies from the famous blossom trees and characteristic foliage. Mr. Smedley, so far as his exhibition shews, seems to have divided his studies between landscape and architecture. In some of his larger architectural paintings he has introduced groups of figures in the old style of costume, but, in all cases, the figures are secondary to the back ground. In the painting, No. 88, they take more prominent part, being massed into the representation of a famous historical event which took place within one of the gates of Yedo castle. The figures have not, however, that degree of finish or good drawing which would entitle the result to the name of a historical painting.

The artist is evidently no anatomist; and the pose, action, and proportion of the form often slightly errs, one remarkably noticeable point being an exaggeration of the shortness of stature of the people, some being shown less than five heads in height. So far as boldness of touch, play of light and shade, and richness of colour can go to atone for such defects he has gone: for in the careful defining of sunlight and shadow, and in the happy harmonizing of bright colour, the artist gets some of his best effects; but he is decidedly wanting in power, or, may be, patience, to finish with thoroughness.

As an instance of rich colouring may be noted the sketches Mississippi Bay, Nos. 4 and 5; where natural colour has been intensified and emphasized very powerfully without losing truth. Among the larger landscapes we prefer Yokohama from Bokenji (No. 13) which is a very pretty piece of colouring and rendering of hazy distance. Kioto from the hills (No. 27) is a very clever representation of *multum in parvo*,—a large city and its surrounding hills conveyed to the mind by a few broad touches. Mr. Smedley's architectural paintings have the same merit of effective colouring, but also the defect of want of finish and necessary minuteness. Some are so large as to admit of a great deal of beautiful detail which exists in the copy, and which is essential to any one who desires a full acquaintance with Japanese ornamentation; but the painter shows only the general effect and prevailing tones of masses, as they would appear to a near-sighted person. There is, however, one painting (No. 80) of quite a different style from the rest,

representing a view of Hongkong. It evinces an enormous amount of labour and patient finish, the boats and steamers in the harbour, and the houses and objects on land, being all depicted with almost photographic minuteness, in consequence of which a great want of tone and colour occurs in the picture. Our conclusion is, that, if the exhibitor could combine a little of the patience evinced in this specimen with the rich colouring and light and shade shown in the generality of the others, he would attain a standard of considerable merit. One thing remains to be said; and that is that the exhibition of Smedley's paintings is made under the disadvantage of a glaring and badly directed light, a fault which is of course unavoidable in a settlement where no picture gallery or large studio exists. If the idea of a periodical exhibition of paintings on Japanese subjects would spread among professional and amateur artists in the country, this drawback might be removed by fitting up a room with top-lights in a proper manner.

#### IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, KOMABA, TOKIO.

**T**HE first class of agricultural students at this College, having completed their three years course, were recently awarded diplomas.

The College was founded at the beginning of 1877, and was temporarily located at Naito Shinjiku, whence it was removed to its present site at Komaba, the farm being a portion of the former hunting ground of the Tokugawa Shoguns, about two *ri* from Tokio. The buildings were formally opened by the Mikado in person on the 24th of January, 1878, at which time a staff of five foreign teachers was attached to the institution. On Saturday last, the 18th instant, took place the ceremony of awarding diplomas to those agricultural students who have successfully completed their course of studies. There were present, among others, the Naimukio, H. E. Matsugata; H. E. Shinagawa, Chief Commissioner of the Agricultural Bureau; Messrs. Hashimoto, Iwayama Sekizawa, Principal of the College, the Governor of Tokio Fu, the twelve Kenrei who still remained in Tokio, and the officers, professors, foreign and native, and students of the College. Shortly after 11 a.m. these all assembled in the large laboratory, from which the benches had been removed for the occasion.

The proceedings commenced with an opening address from Mr. Shinagawa, who then presented the diplomas to the eight successful candidates. Mr. Sekizawa next recapitulated the history of the College; after which addresses were delivered by the only two remaining foreign teachers, —the Professors of agriculture and chemistry. Professor Custance, while congratulating the successful students on the result of their past work, pointed out that this was but a tithe of that which lays before them. He also urged upon them the necessity of patience and perseverance in their future labours. Professor Kinch began by referring to the difficulty of condensing the discussion of those topics which naturally presented themselves to the mind on such an occasion, into the limited time at his disposal. Insisting upon the paramount value to the farmer of a really intellectual training, he proceeded to give a brief sketch of the various agricultural colleges and schools of the world; and, in mentioning the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester, pointed out that it possessed the distinctive feature of being in no way dependent on government aid, but that it was founded and is supported by farmers themselves. The Professor next traced the history of his own particular branch of science—agricultural chemistry—stating that it is comparatively quite lately that any systematic application of the natural sciences to agriculture has become possible, and referring to the names and labours of some of the eminent men, from Sir Humphry Davy down to Liebig, who have contributed to the elucidation of what he described as “this fascinating topic.” Liebig, he said, has, more than any other man, advanced the science of agriculture from a chemical point of view, and this in spite of the very insufficient data he had to reason from. The necessity to the agriculturist of a very extended course of reading was also insisted on, the close connection with agriculture of the different sciences being shown. Reminding his students that they had now been grounded

in the principles and facts of chemistry, and that their teaching had throughout had an agricultural bias, the speaker, after warning them not to forget that they stood yet on the very threshold of the special branch—agricultural chemistry, proceeded to throw out some suggestions as to the directions to which they might profitably direct their future energies. They were cautioned not to apply general principles to particular cases, without first making sure that all the surrounding accidents were in accordance with those upon which their principles were based. A careful investigation of the accessory manures was recommended to them,—a passing allusion being made to the “martyrdom of stench which we suffer in this country.” Here again the Professor warned his hearers against acting on the results of isolated experiments, and called their attention specially to the more scientific application of certain mineral manures. The great importance of improved stock-breeding was now alluded to, it being pointed out that as trade increases so will the demand for horses, as beasts of burden and means of transport, become larger; further that the Japanese are becoming more and more a flesh-eating nation; and lastly, that a great demand for wool exists, which, if it can be supplied by the country itself, will materially increase the national prosperity. This led up to the question of the possible utilization as cattle-food of certain refuse vegetable substances now chiefly employed as manure. As an instance of possible improvements in the direction of selection of seeds, the case of the sugar-beet was adduced, the percentage of sugar obtained from which has been by careful cultivation and selection increased from two or three percent to ten or fifteen per cent. The forestry question was next touched upon, the annual removal of the forest litter being reprobated. The relative exhaustion of the soil in connection with crops especially valuable either for exportation or for reducing imports was next referred to, various valuable statistics being given. The formation of an Agricultural Society was also advocated, the politico-economical principles involved, being dwelt upon at length; while the tendency to study science for its own sake and apart from its practical application was inveighed against, ultimate truth being pointed out as the object to be gained. The Professor urged the formation of a literary and scientific association among the past and present students of the Imperial College of Agriculture, as one among other means for the formation of an *esprit de corps*, and concluded by thanking the students for their diligent attention and unvarying obedience, and by expressing his hope that the connection between himself and his students might be continued with pleasure and profit on both sides.

His Excellency Matsutata then made a speech referring to the untimely death of His Excellency Okubo, the originator of the College, and expressing the pride he felt at having had the privilege of the direction of such an important national institution; adding that his interest in the welfare of the College would not be lessened by his removal from the immediate control of agricultural affairs. He then referred to the large extent of uncultivated land in the Empire, and announced that it would be the special duty of those who had now graduated to devise the best means of bringing these waste lands under the plough, for which purpose they would need improved implements, an increased supply of farm horses, and vastly better roads than those existing at present. For the furtherance of these objects it is the intention of the Government to send the present graduates to survey some of the waste lands in the Northern provinces with a view to their reporting in detail their opinions as to the best means of utilizing these lands. These reports would then receive careful consideration from the Agricultural Bureau.

Mr. Yenomoto, the senior graduate, briefly returned thanks to the officials and teachers of the college for their invariable kindness and consideration.

The officials and graduates then adjourned to partake of a cold collation, where the proceedings were of a less formal nature, and the visitors appeared thoroughly to enjoy the refreshments provided for them. Finally the College buildings and apparatus, as well as the Museum, the farm buildings, and the live stock were carefully inspected by the visitors from the country.

We may remark on the generally improved condition of the farm since we had the pleasure of visiting it on the oc-

casion of the formal opening of the College by the Emperor. The authorities seem to have made the best of their opportunities in every way. We specially noticed, as new features, the very neatly laid out botanical gardens on either side of the main road leading to the College; the extensive veterinary hospital, with its Turkish bath and other appliances; while, in order to give better accommodation to the chemical department, the Museum has been removed from the College itself to the building formerly used as a Preparatory School. Nor must we omit to notice the flourishing appearance of some experimental plots, by means of which the students will doubtless be impressed practically with the value of a systematic course of observations from which to deduce conclusions tending to the advancement of agriculture in Japan.

We have referred above to the reduction in the foreign staff of the College. We may, therefore, add that those teachers whose services have been dispensed with have been partially replaced by Japanese Professors, of Botany, Yasumoto (of the Medical College), Zoology, Nerigi (of the Medical College), Mathematics, Taka (of the Tokio Daigaku), and Anatomy; while the professorship of Veterinary Science is, at present, vacant, and consequently, the great advantages which should be derived from the veterinary hospital, if properly organised, have scarcely become apparent.

## JAPANESE PERSONAGES.

### II.

#### GENERAL KURODA.

GENERAL Kuroda Kiyotaka is a member of one of the historic families of the great Satsuma clan, and has the reputation, proved on several trying occasions, of being a brave and upright leader, with but slight regard for pomp and ceremonial.

Prior to the restoration he allied himself with the opponents of the Bakufu Government, and loudly expressed his dissatisfaction with the arbitrary conduct of the Shogunate officials, and their contemptuous disregard of the imperial authority. In conjunction with Saigo Takamori, Okubo Tochimichi, and other able leaders, he acted a prominent part in the wars of the restoration, and when peace was reestablished received in recognition of his valuable services the appointments of Privy Councillor, Chief of the Colonization Department, and General in the Army.

General Kuroda then went to Yesso and energetically devoted himself to the colonization of the island. Under his auspices waste lands were brought into cultivation, roads and bridges constructed, and towns and villages sprang into existence with marvellous rapidity; so that whatever progress has attended the settlement of the Hokkaido is in no small degree owing to his influence and example.

While he was engaged in this peaceful work, the Koreans insulted the Japanese flag by firing upon the *Unyo Kan*, at Kokwa bay. General Kuroda was chosen ambassador to demand satisfaction for the outrage, and his dangerous mission was crowned with complete success. The Korean Government apologized for the conduct of their officers, entered into a treaty of amity and commerce with this empire, and opened Korea to Japanese trade. The valuable results of the General's embassy are now becoming apparent in the increasing importance of the mercantile relations springing up between the two countries.

In 1877, the formidable rebellion in the south-west found the subject of this memoir appointed to the command of a division acting against the enemy. Embarking with his soldiers in transports, General Kuroda landed at Yashiro and at once assumed the offensive. He attacked the rebels, who fled after a sanguinary struggle, abandoning to the victorious troops all their arms, ammunition and stores. General Kuroda then raised the siege of the fortress of Kumamoto, which was closely invested by the rebels, and on the point of falling into their hands. His forces being augmented by the relieved garrison, General Kuroda marched upon the enemy and took part in the closing struggle at Shiroyama, when the great Satsuma rebellion was finally crushed with the death of its mainstay the redoubtable Saigo.

General Kuroda was not overlooked in the distribution of rewards which followed the restoration of peace. He received

the honorable distinction of the highest rank of the Order of the Rising Sun.

The recent changes in the cabinet have not effected General Kuroda, who still retains, with advantage to the empire, his high offices of Privy Councillor, Chief of the Colonization Department and General in the Army.

### III.

#### GENERAL OYAMA.

OYAMA Iwa-o is also a member of the Satsuma sept, which has furnished so many of the typical heroes who flourish in the pages of Japanese history "to point a moral and adorn a tale":—at once guides and examples to future ages. General Oyama is a relation of the celebrated Saigo Takamori, a leader in the movement which restored the imperial authority to the position it had been deprived of for over three centuries, and who subsequently raised the standard of rebellion in the south-west, expiating his error with his life on the fatal field of Shiroyama. General Oyama bears a high reputation for gallantry in action and iron resolution. He is well educated, possessed of an extensive knowledge of strategy, and particularly careful of the wants and comfort of his soldiers.

At the time of the restoration General Oyama associated himself with Okubo and the rest of the patriotic party, and throughout his whole career has devoted himself to the best interests of Japan. After the restoration was accomplished General Oyama received the appointments of Lieut-General in the Army and Assistant Vice-Minister of War. He also received civil promotion to the senior fifth class. When the rebellion in the south-west occurred, the general was despatched to the scene of operations in charge of a division of troops, and rendered brilliant service in quelling the rising. After the conclusion of peace he was decorated with the Japanese Order of the second class, and since then, upon the death of General Kawaji, received the appointment of Assistant Home Minister and Chief of Police. When the recent changes took place he became Minister for War.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 15th March, 1880.

The *Times* publishes a telegram from Berlin announcing that the Russian military expedition against the Tekke Turcomans has been postponed, on account of impending serious complications between the Russian and Chinese Governments.

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 20TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 3RD MONTH, 20TH DAY, DO-YO-DI.

### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The English mail came to hand on Tuesday last, per the P. & O. steamer *Sunda*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki. The O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* with home despatches, and American dates to 28th ultimo, arrived in port this morning. She is circulated to leave for Hongkong, on Tuesday next, at daylight. The M. B. S. S. *Niigata* left for Hongkong this afternoon at four o'clock, and will be followed to-morrow, at 7 a.m., by the M. M. steamer *Volga*.

Our American files by the *Gaelic* shew that the sand-lot agitators in San Francisco, are creating an immense amount of excitement in that city, which they have threatened to "burn and drench in blood." Of course no one actually fears the



accomplishment of these wild and visionary schemes, but as a matter of precaution several of the most prominent of the agitators have been arrested and charged with misdemeanor.

Snow, thaw, rain and constant traffic, have combined not to improve the condition of the road leading from the Settlement, through Honmura, to the various approaches to the Bluff. Six weeks or more ago, we indicated the then disgraceful state of this much frequented thoroughfare, which is now in several degrees worse state than it was then. It is a mere succession of knubbly knolls, and horrid holes, disastrous to carriage springs, tiresome to *jinrikisha* drawers, fatiguing to pedestrians, and provocative of a deadly succession of jolts to those who ride in vehicles. Some of the money subscribed, in the form of ground rent, by members of the foreign public to the funds of the Municipal Government, might be applied to their convenience in this respect. And as for the bridges, there is little doubt that the Tay viaduct will be renewed, long before that more stupendous structure which occasionally spans the creek at the end of the Honmura Road, shall again be rendered passable by the engineering skill of the talented local contractors employed by the *Kencho*.

H. M. S. gunboat *Albatross*, one of the new vessels for the China Squadron, arrived at Singapore on the 22nd of February.

H. M. S. *Vigilant* with Admiral Coote on board was hourly expected in Hongkong on the 6th instant.

The new Ocean steamer *Laertes*, Captain R. F. Scale, arrived in Hongkong on the 2nd of March, from Liverpool. She is one of several steamers being built for the "Blue Funnel" line. The names of the other new boats are *Bellerophon*, *Cyclops*, *Jason*, and *Telemachus*. The dimensions of the *Laertes* are—length between perpendiculars 320ft. 5in., beam 34ft. 3in., and depth of hold 26ft. Gross tonnage 2,148, and 1,391 tons register. Her accommodation is similar to that of the other vessels of the fleet; she carries twelve first-class and thirty-eight third-class passengers. Her engines are compound, direct-acting, vertical surface-condensing inverted cylinders, of 94½ inches and 65 inches respectively, horse-power 300. The steamer is said to be a very pretty model.

The M. M. steamer *Tanis*, with the Marseilles mails of 8th February, left Hongkong for this port on the 17th instant, at 6 p.m.

An inquiry was held on Thursday, on board the British barque *Chili*, before J. J. Enslie, Esq., respecting the death of John McGee, an able seaman, during the passage from Bristol to Yokohama. The evidence shewed that the deceased fell from the bow-sprit when carrying out an order to reef the jib halliards. A life-buoy was thrown to him and a boat lowered, but after an unavailing search of about half-an-hour, the boat returned to the vessel with the life-buoy, but without having seen any trace of the deceased. A heavy sea was running when the accident occurred, and the *Chili* was under reefed canvas. After hearing the evidence Mr. Enslie found "that the deceased John McGee lost his life on the 27th of August, 1879, at sea, by falling overboard from the British barque *Chili* and drowning, that his death was accidental, and everything was done by the master and the crew to rescue him."

Mr. Mechi of Tiptree Hall, a great authority upon scientific farming, and cattle and sheep raising, has written a letter in reply to one received by him on the subject indicated in the above heading. The suggestions it contains may be useful here in Japan, where there is no apparent reason why sheep raising should not prove a remunerative enterprise; and where great national advantages would accrue from its successful pursuit. Mr. Mechi says "Your suggestion or surmise is a correct one. For the last 30 years I have invariably supplied my sheep with supplemental food, such as cut hay, ground corn, cake, malt culms, bran, and sometimes condimental food, all intermixed, thus neutralizing the over-succulent and often unripe condition of the natural food. Especially was this necessary in such a cold, pluvial, and sunless season, as 1879. By this treatment my losses have been trivial, sometimes scarcely 1 to 2 per cent.; but this last trying year they were in excess as follows:—Ewes, 96—lost, 7; remaining 89. Lambs, 129—lost, 11; remaining 118. I know of cases in Essex where the loss amounted to from 50 to 70 per cent. My sheep are

always folded within iron hurdles on wheels, the fold being removed morning and evening, so that they get fresh food daily, and are not allowed to roam at large and taint extensive areas. By supplemented dry food the sheep and the land are both maintained in good condition. Dry food appears to be fatal to the liver fluke, which rots the sheep, for I heard of a case where, on low pasture subject to liver fluke, the farmer grazed his sheep safely by giving to each daily one pint of dry barley. My sheep for 30 years have never had rot or liver fluke, even in the wettest season."

In one of the small shows just beyond the Yoshida bashi, a most extraordinary exhibition is given of decapitation, which is perfectly appalling in its fidelity. The performance takes place in a small room about twenty feet long by twelve feet wide, half being allotted to the spectators, who are admitted on payment of the moderate fee of two cents. The "properties" consist of a deal table and a sword, &c. After the usual soul-stirring flourish on a drum and samisen, a man and woman appear from behind a screen, the man binds the woman's head in a cloth, and she then kneels down close to the table, and sideways to the spectators. The man then draws the sword and makes a violent blow at the woman's neck, she falls forward, arms extended and limbs twitching. He then, having first wiped the sword on a gory looking piece of rag, takes up (apparently) the woman's head, wrapped in the cloth and places it on the table. To all appearance it is a human head, the eye-lids and features, have a convulsive motion, presently the eyes open in a dreamy sort of way and to the accompaniment of the everlasting samisen, the head sings a mournful song. A curtain is then interposed between the audience and the performers and when again drawn back, the woman is disclosed quietly seated alongside the man. When it is recollected that this all takes place within about three feet of the spectator, and that the "properties" are of the simplest description, some idea may be formed of the wonderful excellence of a performance which has excited great attention.

Seven of the steamers for Tientsin started this morning (4th). The two favourites are, of course, the *Fung-shun* and the *Pau-tah*, both belonging to the China Merchants' Company. We understand that the Customs' mails have been sent by the *Fung-shun*. The *Taku* has just received new boilers and machinery, and she would doubtless have been among the favourites for the race had her departure not been delayed. She does not leave until to-morrow morning, owing, we believe, to her new boilers or machinery requiring some further attention. The list of the departures, from the official returns, will be found in its usual place on our front page.—*Shanghai Courier*.

The *Higo News* states that an alarm of fire was raised at 11.45 o'clock on the night of the 14th instant. "A godown on Lot 122 was found to be on fire in the roof, the flames having apparently made way up one of the walls. As the fire had fortunately not obtained a very strong hold, it was quickly extinguished."

It is stated in the same paper that the erection of many new buildings in Kobe has given quite an impetus to the brick-making trade, and several additional kilns have been started at the brick-making establishment at the Eastern entrance of Akashi. We hear that the price of bricks has lately risen from one to two yen per thousand, but if the low rate of *satsu* be taken into consideration, the rise has been little more than a nominal one.

The following is the decision arrived at by Court of Inquiry held at Kobe, at the request of the master of the American ship *St. Charles*, respecting the loss of the vessel by fire on the 1st of March instant:—

We, the undersigned, assessors appointed by the Court to examine into the loss of the American ship *St. Charles* by fire, and the origin thereof, do find, as disclosed by evidence adduced, on the examination of captain, first officer and crew of the said ship:—

- 1st: That the origin of the fire is unknown.
- 2nd: That in our opinion no blame attaches to the captain of the vessel.
- 3rd: That every effort was made by the captain, officers and crew of the vessel to extinguish the fire.
- 4th: That the inflammable nature of the cargo rendered the best efforts of the captain and crew, and the assistance obtained and rendered from and by the English, German, and Italian



men-of-war in port, abortive, and their efforts only ceased when the ship was in flames and the fire uncontrollable.

J. D. CARROLL,  
T. F. MCGRATH, } *Assessors.*  
E. H. GILL,

Approved: J. STAHEL,  
*United States Consul, acting Judicially.*

# ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

## TOKIYO MEETING.

A general meeting of this society was held at the Shōheikuwan, Seidō, Tōkiyō, on March 9th; Dr. Divers, President, in the chair.

The election of Dr. D. Brauns and Mr. A. W. Thompson as ordinary members was announced.

Mr. B. H. Chamberlain then read a paper entitled "A Short memoir from the Seventeenth Century,"—a translation of an old document which, under the title of "*O An Mono-gatari*," relates the personal experiences of a woman who, with her family, was shut up in the castle of Ohogaki, in Mino, in the year 1600. Though entirely devoid of all pretensions to literary skill, the touches of nature which bring before the reader's eyes the actualities of life in those days of perpetual warfare give an abiding interest to the little narrative, while the style in which it is composed is so peculiar as an example of the colloquial speech of those days that it is intended, in the "*Transactions*" of the Society, to print a fac-simile of a page of the original.

The President, in thanking Mr. Chamberlain for his interesting communication said that it was evident that no small part of the charm of the paper was due to the felicity of Mr. Chamberlain's translation.

Mr. Blanchet asked how the practice of blacking the teeth (referred to in the paper) originated.

Mr. Chamberlain said he did not remember with precision the reasons given for the practice, but that details were to be found in Mitford's "*Tales of old Japan*."

Dr. Faulds observed:—The fact brought out by Mr. Chamberlain that the custom of blacking teeth now apparently confined to married women in Japan, was once common to men of the higher ranks also, is quite interesting. There seems to be an exceedingly common tendency, not yet specially studied, in women to manifest such "survivals" of vanishing customs. Many familiar examples readily occur to one, such as the custom of wearing ear-rings, necklaces, bracelets, flowing robes, etc., of western ladies. A more striking example is the long hair parted in the middle which is still found amongst the males of many primitive peoples, such as some of the races of North America, the Lepchas in Asia, etc., but which exists only amongst women in more advanced races. That the blacking of teeth in Japan was as purely ornamental in its purport as the blackening of our own boots is rendered somewhat probable, I think, by the wide prevalence of the custom of teeth ornamenting in other lands. The people of Borneo bore their teeth, and insert brass pins into them. Various tribes chip, grind, or file them down, however perfect or regular they may be, into shapes differing according to the customs of each tribe. It is often said in Japan that married women now blacken their teeth to preserve them, but in Sumatra the hard protecting enamel is first removed, simply that the rough surface may better absorb the black colouring matter. In such a case the process can only be injurious to the teeth, and the custom can only be explained as one of ornamentation.

The President said he had always been under the impression that the Japanese women blacked their teeth and shaved their eyebrows after marriage, as a sign that they no longer wished to make themselves attractive to the other sex.

Mr. Dallas then read a paper by Mr. F. V. Dickins on the Kana transliteration system. In this paper Mr. Dickins explained his reasons for dissenting from the transliteration scheme proposed by Mr. Satow, and advocated instead a rigorously phonetic system. He pointed out that to propose a scheme for romanizing Japanese which was not purely phonetic, was to run counter to the whole current of modern European rational orthography. The view of the Kana transliterators seemed to be that the writing and spelling of Japanese words should rather record facts in their history than afford a clear and certain guide to their pronunciation. While admitting the scientific interest of etymology, Mr. Dickins contended that its practical value was small, and with it, in his opinion, the symbolization of articulate speech should have no concern. He also saw special objections to Mr. Satow's system, which he went on to particularise. His criticisms of it were based on the understanding that the scheme was intended for universal acceptance not only by foreigners, but by the Japanese themselves when they should have the courage to discard both the Chinese character and their own Kana. On this point Mr. Dickins expressed himself as follows:—

My opinion is, and long has been, that not all the reforms hitherto made in Japan are collectively of anything like the importance that

attaches to a romanization of the language. I have not space here to do more than indicate the grounds of my opinion. My own experience of the language is that the difficulties met with in its acquirement are almost wholly difficulties of decipherment. The best scholars among us read the easiest and most clearly printed Japanese painfully; the most intelligible handwriting is a mystery save to perhaps a dozen Europeans, and probably not a single European can handle the Japanese brush with the ease of a very ordinarily educated native. Few natives even (I have often made the experiment) can read the common books with fluency,—can read phrases or lines at a glance as we can in English; each character or word must be singled out by eye and mind and separately perceived and comprehended. A native clerk, acquainted with Roman, who for some time was in my employ, and who had to translate or copy for me numerous legal documents written in Japanese, as well as make extracts from books, was induced by me (chiefly for my own convenience) to use roman in all transcriptions from his own language. I found such transcriptions, after a little practice, as easily legible and intelligible as similar matter in French or German would be. I could indeed run the eye over them with almost the same ease as over English documents, with immense saving of time and energy. And this though the major part of such transcriptions consisted of Sino-Japanese. Not only was this result achieved, but the clerk himself soon came to prefer his romanized transcriptions to copies or originals in the Japanese character. In short, after much pondering over a subject that has been matter of reflection with me during many years, I am persuaded that the romanization of Japanese would do more toward perfecting the civilization changes now in progress, by facilitating the education of the people of Japan in the more extended sense of the expression, and by enabling them more easily to understand and be understood by the rest of the world, than the whole mass of reforms that have taken place since the downfall of the Tokugawa dynasty. The education of the people would be relieved of at least two-thirds of the difficulties that at present attend upon it, the spread of knowledge would become possible, and political reforms, without which any real or permanent advance of the nation is not to be dreamed of, would thus become feasible. I cannot dwell longer on the advantages that would result from the changes; they are sufficiently obvious, and, indeed, may be easily realised by imagining for a moment the effect in a country like England of an adoption of Japanese modes of representing the language in a written form. I shall, however, mention shortly one benefit that would almost surely be brought about—an immense one, though of a purely literary character—the arrestment, namely, of the degradation of the language actually in rapid progress. Indeed, Japanese is fast disappearing as a written language, and becoming replaced by a splay-footed and inharmonious species of broken-down Chinese, difficult of composition and more so of comprehension. This particular kind of degradation is only possible so long as Chinese characters are employed; the false mintage of current writers would of necessity cease when they found themselves obliged to use Japanese materials—not mere Chinese signs—to express their ideas with. In the term "Japanese materials" I of course include such Sino-Japanese words as have been sanctioned by sufficient usage. There are ample stores of such materials in existence without having recourse to mere sign-combinations which instruct the eye rather than the ear, and which widen the breach—already too wide—between the written and spoken languages. Indeed, I should like to see the use of even admitted Sino-Japanese restricted as much as possible; new combinations might, I think, be made in nearly all cases of purely Japanese elements, with the result of a much more harmonious and much more intelligible language than would otherwise be attainable.

The author continued that he failed to admit that there were practically two languages in Japan, or to see how the Kana system could subserve any special convenience or need of Japanese scholars. They were just the very last persons to require being reminded every time they wish to write or read the word *sūro* that it may once have been *safurafu*. Moreover, it appeared that some of the "phonetical redundancies" of the Kana scheme merely recorded practices of Japanese dictionaries, and not important etymological facts. After some further criticisms Mr. Dickins described his own proposal for a phonetic system, making use of ordinary Roman letters, after which he summed up the case as follows:—

I claim the following advantages to be possessed by the natural over the *kana* system.

- 1.—Considerable economy of letters; hence of type, time and paper.
- 2.—Constancy of letter-value; hence freedom from phonetic uncertainty, while no etymological fact of any importance is lost.
- 3.—Accordance with the spelling reform tendencies of most modern European languages (and with the spelling scheme advocated by Dr. Hunter under the Indian Government for the romanization of Indian languages), which are wholly phonetic. Sanskrit to some extent is an exception, but this is chiefly because the Devanagari is itself a most perfect phonetic non-syllabic alphabet.
- 4.—Briefer and easier for the Japanese themselves and for foreigners to learn and adopt.
- 5.—The letter-values approximate so nearly to those of most European alphabets that most Europeans would sufficiently well pronounce Japanese without special study; Englishmen alone

1. As matters are, it appears to me that the government is drifting more and more into the hands of a set of bureaucratic oligarchs, among whom those who have been in Europe or America, and have there become initiated with western ideas, are very completely understood, will have the greatest influence, and will be, at the same time, the least in unison with their countrymen. Political power cannot be vested in the hands of the masses without concomitant education, which in any sufficient degree is impossible so long as about seven years study is necessary for a native to become properly conversant with the actual modes of writing his own tongue.

would have to remember that the vowels have a continental value (save 'u').

6.—The easy rule, consonants and their combinations as in English, vowels as in Italian, practically sufficient for ordinary purposes; the peculiar sounds 'hi,' 'ri,' etc., pronounced according to this rule not considerably differing from the true pronunciation.

7.—Less departure from the commonly received system.

The only disadvantages I can think of are:—

1.—Some antique pronunciations would not be recorded.

2.—Relation of Sino-Japanese words ending in 'ô' to their Chinese originals would somewhat but not greatly be obscured.

3.—In some instances words similarly pronounced would lose the eye distinction of difference in spelling.

Lastly, the natural system would, as I have pointed out, tend indirectly yet powerfully to arrest the process of degradation to which literary Japanese more especially, but the spoken language, though to a less degree, as well, is being subjected.

The President, after thanking the author and Mr. Dallas, suggested that a phonetic system of transliteration might be found useful in providing a good means for beginning the study of the language, as had been found to be the case by the advocates of the phonetic spelling of English. It had to be borne in mind that no phonetic system could be absolutely accurate in expressing all the delicate varieties of sound in any one language. He was sorry to see that Mr. Satow was absent, but he hoped Mr. Chamberlain would have something to say.

In reply to the President's invitation to address the Meeting, Mr. Chamberlain, while paying a tribute to Mr. Dickinson's well-merited reputation as a Japanese scholar, could not help drawing attention to the fact that, in citing as a parallel to the "orthographic" spelling of Japanese the historic method of spelling our own tongue which is now so very generally condemned by scientific philologists, Mr. Dickinson had coupled together two things between which there is scarcely any resemblance. The common English spelling is not consistently etymological, nor indeed consistent in any way. The Japanese spelling of all native words is indisputably etymological. Even if Mr. Dickinson's contention against the value of the etymologies of words borrowed from the Chinese be admitted for the sake of argument, it was already abundantly shown in Mr. Satow's original paper on the subject of transliteration that it would be highly inconvenient to allow the romanization of such words to proceed on a different principle to the romanization of words of native origin. The most trenchant arguments by which the phonetic reformers of England, and of one or two continental countries support their proposed innovations therefore fail to the ground in this place. If, following Mr. Dickinson's example, European precedents are to be brought forward, let us rather adduce that of Greece, whose case is almost exactly parallel to the case of Japan. There, too, there is an ancient tongue, the vehicle of almost all the literature, and a modern dialect whose pronunciation is so much corrupted that, to say nothing of other peculiarities, no fewer than seven letters or combinations of letters are spoken with the one sound *i*, reminding one of the variously written Japanese *ji's*, whose unfamiliar spelling has of late been made the butt of so much ridicule. Would now, let it be asked, anyone seriously propose that Greek as a whole,—ancient literary Greek as well as modern colloquial Greek—should be spelt according to the present Athenian pronunciation, simply on the score of the greater convenience of such a plan to the few foreigners resident in the Greek ports? But it is thus that our Japanese phonetists ask us to act: in order to facilitate the reading of some few names of places, steamers and such like to English persons unacquainted or imperfectly acquainted with the Japanese language, we are to commit the anachronism of transliterating the traditional standard tongue, which is centuries old, according to the modern pronunciation of Yedo, which may be different a hundred years hence from what it is to-day; for pronunciation is a thing that is of its nature fluctuating, and a system of writing which follows it therefore of necessity unstable. Referring to Mr. Dickinson's animadversion on his (Mr. Chamberlain's) distinction of two tongues classed under the one denomination of "Japanese," he could only re-assert that, quite apart from the influence of Chinese words, the native language had in the course of centuries suffered such modifications that the older written and the younger spoken form differed as much from each other as Latin and Italian. The grammatical terminations were different, and even such common words as "to be," "I" and "you" were different. The comparison drawn between usual English and the stilted English that flowed from Johnson's pen was, therefore, misleading because insufficient. The disagreement between the advocates of phonetic and those of "orthographic" spelling was doubtless one which it were vain ever to hope to see changed into unanimity, as the first principles which each party takes as the basis of its opinions are diametrically opposed. But if the final vote of public opinion were to be given against the "orthographists," Mr. Chamberlain could not but hope that Dr. Hepburn's system would be, of the many competing phonetic systems, the one in favour of which the community would decide. Dr. Hepburn's system has some strange incon-veniences (e. g. the treatment of the letters 'ch' and 'j'), but at least it aims at being a true representation of the sounds that meet the ear. In Mr. Dickinson's paper, on the other hand, we are no sooner enlightened by the phonetic rule than we

stumble across the historic exceptions, and after being told that *shiyau* and *shiyou* are altogether irrationally divergent representatives of the one sound *shô*, we have perforce to accommodate ourselves to *omou* and *omoun* as written equivalents of the one sound *omô*. No; logic compels us to adopt one consistent system, be it a strictly phonetic one, or else the "orthographical" one which is advocated by Mr. Satow and his supporters, and which, less ambitious than the proposal now before the meeting, does not undertake to make a revolution in the speech of the Empire, but only sets to itself the humbler, but more practicable, task of representing in Roman letters the Japanese written language such as it was and is.

Mr. Bramson said that, however much he should have liked to make a few remarks on Mr. Dickinson's paper, and on the subject of a uniform and general system of transliteration, he was sorry to say he had come to the conclusion, that any labors in this direction would, at present, be entirely thrown away. In his opinion it was hopeless to think of any such universal system, when we have evidence before us, that this learned society, which must be supposed to consist of those who would take most interest in such matters, has not yet brought itself to adopt a fixed system of transliteration in its transactions. Not only do the various contributors follow different systems of writing, but in some papers no method at all is followed, and the same words on one page are written according to some phonetic system, and on the next in conformity with the historical (orthographic) system. The speaker thought it was high time that something was done to ameliorate this deplorable state of affairs, and he therefore gave notice that he intended at the next meeting to make the following proposal: "That three members of the Council and three ordinary members of the Society be chosen by this meeting to form a committee whose duty it shall be to consider what measures can be taken to ensure some kind of uniformity in the transliteration of Japanese words in the Society's Transactions; and that the result of their deliberations, in the form of some rule, be placed before a General Meeting for adoption."

Mr. Dallas said that, alike with Mr. Dickinson, he felt very great diffidence in putting forth an opinion in opposition to that held by scholars of such eminence as Mr. Satow and Mr. Chamberlain, but it appeared to him that they allowed it to be inferred that the orthodox mode of expressing Japanese words in Kana,—which forms the basis of their Kana-transliteration system,—is generally known to the people of Japan to somewhat the same extent as the accepted spelling of English is known to the population of England. His own experience was that the contrary was the case, and that only an extremely small percentage of the well-educated class had any acquaintance with what Mr. Chamberlain had well termed the "historical" mode of writing in Kana. Some years ago, when preparing a paper for this Society during a residence in the interior, where the local dialect very greatly mauled the pronunciation, his only mode of getting at the pronunciation accepted in Tôkyô or Kiyôto was to ascertain how a character was expressed in Kana; and he was surprised to find that out of a class of some twenty young men of from eighteen to five-and-twenty years of age, most of whom were tolerably good Chinese scholars, only two seemed to be at all certain of the mode of spelling, and even these had constantly to refer to the dictionary. He quite agreed with Mr. Chamberlain that in any attempt to romanize Japanese the point to be kept in view was its practical utility to the Japanese rather than the convenience of foreigners unacquainted with the language, but he thought that it should be made useful to the millions, whose intercourse is restricted by the extreme difficulty of their present method of writing, rather than to the limited number of highly educated men who have so thoroughly mastered the present system as to be able to express themselves in it with facility. Few errors are more common among foreigners than that of supposing that the majority of Japanese are able to readily read and write. It must surely be in the everyday experience of those members of the Society, who are not themselves independent of such aid, that, if they ask an average Japanese to read a letter for them, he does not read it as it is written, but merely renders the sense of it in his own words, and if pressed for the actual words of the writer, he will have to confess that he cannot give them. While the written and spoken languages differ as much as they do, it is no paradox, but a simple fact, to say that the ordinary Japanese cannot write what he speaks, and cannot read what he writes! The great advantage of romanization would be that it would allow the spoken language to be expressed on paper, and thus bring letter-writing within the reach of millions of the population who now never attempt it. A financier might safely predict that were romanization of Japanese to be generally introduced into the lower grade schools throughout the country, it would in a few years produce a very material increase in the revenue of the Post Office. In discussing then the merits of a Phonetic or Kana transliteration, it must be borne in mind that either system would be equally new to the people at large, and Mr. Dickinson's point cannot be too strongly insisted on, that the question for the Japanese is not one of reformation but one of creation. If this

be granted, and overwhelming evidence of its truth is within reach of every resident in Japan, the advantages that Mr. Dickens has so ably urged of a phonetic, over any other system historical or etymological, can hardly be gainsaid. He (the speaker) would not occupy the time of the meeting by entering into those minor details, in respect of which he would like to suggest modifications to Mr. Dickens' scheme, as such points would be more conveniently discussed before the Committee contemplated by the motion of which Mr. Bramsen had just given notice.

Mr. Bramsen continued: Although before coming to this meeting I had made up my mind not to join in any discussion, the temptation is too great, and I cannot help saying that I share in Mr. Dallas's opinion, that the Japanese are not well posted in the use of the Kana. I have made frequent experiments in this direction, and one of them seems to me to be very striking. I have a highly-educated and well-read friend, by name *Shiwa*. I once asked him: how do you spell the first part of your name, *Shiyau*, *Shiyon*, *Suu* or *Sefu*? My friend answered: I write it thus:—at the same time putting down on the paper one Chinese character. But, I said, how do you write in Kana? To which he replied: "I do not know, and I do not care to know!" And this was the very point on which the parallel drawn by Mr. Chamberlain with modern Greek, did not hold good. The Greeks do write in their alphabet, and cannot write in any other way; while the Japanese do not write in the Kana. The proposers of the new orthographical system thus actually require foreigners to do what the Japanese cannot do themselves.

Mr. Ewing remarked that it was quite possible that the change in the pronunciation of a language to which Mr. Chamberlain referred were due to the fact that the language was not spelt phonetically, in which case the objection to phonetic spelling as requiring change from time to time would be invalid. It was quite true, as the president had observed, that no phonetic system could hope to represent all the minute varieties of sound present in a language. Each symbol must represent a group of very closely allied sounds rather than a single definite sound, and within this range variation might occur. But once a language was spelt phonetically, we should expect the subsequent variations of pronunciation to be confined within those limits which determined the actual range of phonetic value possessed by any one symbol when the spelling was first fixed.

The meeting was then adjourned.

#### SYLVAN SOUNDS.

(From the Japanese.)

#### II.

##### VOICE OF THE WIND.

Tossed high against the well-thatched roof,  
There sounds along the eaves,  
The dash as if of mighty waves,  
While thro' the forest-leaves,  
It rushes while it swells and raves,—  
But 'tis no crooked billowy line  
That rocks the topmost boughs of pine,  
And surges on and onward still,  
In wild wrath o'er the wooded hill—  
It is the lawless wind at play,  
That rages on its stormy way.

#### III.

##### VOICE OF THE BROOK.

The brook its silver current takes,  
Swift-winding to and fro,  
Amid the fair, young bamboo groves  
That lean above its flow,  
And lend their tints of freshening green,  
To rippling crystals scarcely seen,—  
It trips along with tinkling tones,  
Clear as the harp whose music rains  
Soft-falling on celestial plains,  
When vernal angels wake its strains.

F. B. H.

Tokio, 12th March, 1880.

#### JAPANESE PARABLES.

#### II.

ONE day during the rainy season, when small rivers become like vast lakes and tiny rivulets foaming torrents, a pedestrian arrived at the bank of a stream, usually of moderate dimensions, and was not a little surprised at the

masses of water which were surging along towards the ocean. The traveller intended to wade across, as he had previously been accustomed to do, and was just on the point of making the attempt, when he observed a man standing on the opposite bank. Wishing to ascertain the probability of his being able to pass over in safety, the traveller cried out:—

"Will you kindly inform me how deep is the water at the ford? Do you think it is prudent to go over?"

The other man, who happened to be deaf, noticing by the traveller's gestures that he was spoken to, promptly replied by pointing to his ear and shaking his head, meaning, of course, that he was deaf and could not hear what was said. The traveller, however, put an entirely different construction upon these signs and replied:—

"Oh! Is the water then so deep as to reach up to the ears? No wonder you warn me against essaying to cross!"

And he then went away to seek another and, as he thought, safer ford.

#### III.

"How I envy you," exclaimed a man with an absurdly short neck to his neighbour who had one like a stork. "I am sure that you enjoy the flavour of dainty viands much longer than I can; because my neck is unfortunately so short, that everything I eat passes rapidly into my stomach, while with you, it must be 'sweetness long drawn out.'"

"You are right to some extent," replied the other, "but I labour under corresponding disadvantages. Imagine how I suffer when I have to take an emetic!"

#### JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

#### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

His Excellency Sano, the new Minister of Finance, inspected the Printing and other Sections of his department a few days ago.

His Excellency Prince Nagaoka, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Holland, has been informed that he will be allowed to draw salary after the second-class rate.

Mr. Ysaba, the new member of the Senate and ex-Governor of Aichi, left for his former prefecture on the 12th instant, in order to formally hand over the Government to his successor. Mr. Matsumura, Governor of Miyagi, returned to his jurisdiction on the same day. Mr. Funakoshi, the new Governor of Chiba, left for that district on the 14th instant.

Mr. Fujii Shozo, a *shizoku* of Hiroshima Ken, forwarded a petition to the *Genro In* on the 13th instant, demanding a National Assembly.

His Excellency Sasaki, Vice-President of the Senate, returned to Tokio on the 12th instant.

Mr. Awoki, *Sakan* of the first class of the Bureau of the Land-tax Revision, has left for the central provinces on an official tour of inspection.

Their Excellencies Okuma and Ito will shortly proceed on a visit to Arima, Kyoto, and Osaka.

Mr. Miyamoto, Chief Secretary of the Foreign Office, returned to Tokio, on the 13th instant, from Osaka. Judge Kiyo-oka, President of the Osaka Supreme Court, arrived in the capital the same day on official business.

His Excellency Lieut.-General Ida, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Vienna, has been empowered to draw salary of the second class.

Majors Katsura and Baba, have been relieved from the office of Under Secretaries of the *Daijo Kwan*, and Captain Inouye, Judge of the Military Court, has received one of the vacant appointments.

The object of the mission of Mr. Hanabusa, *Chargé d'Affaires* to Corea, is to endeavour arrange for opening a new port at a short distance from the Royal Castle, in addition to the port of Gensan. As it is already reported that the Korean Government object to a port being opened near to the capital or the burial place of the Royal Family, the negotiations will probably be long and complicated.

A meeting of the Central Board of Health was held on Monday last. Mr. Hosakawa, the *Kanji* of the Senate, presided.



It is rumored that the revised criminal code, and the new code regulating the administration of justice, are to be put into operation from the commencement of next month.

A meeting of the Senate was held on the 13th instant, presided over by Mr. Hosokawa, the *Kanji*, who acted in the absence of President Oki. The subjects under debate, were the resolutions passed by the recent Local Governors' Assembly.

His Excellency Tanaka, Minister of Justice, inspected the different branches of his Department on the 13th instant. His Excellency visited the *Tokio Saibansho*, the *Tokio Joto Saibansho*, and the *Dai-shin-In*, on the following day.

Major Kushiwa-mura, has been appointed attaché to the Japanese Legation at Berlin, and will shortly leave for his post.

Mr. Kawase, one of the Chief Secretaries of the Finance Department and Commissioner to the Melbourne Exhibition, will leave Japan about the middle of next month. Mr. Kawase will first visit America and Europe, and then proceed to Melbourne.

It is rumored that His Majesty the Emperor, will attend the ceremonial opening of the Kioto-Ootsu railway, to take place in April or May next.

A meeting of the Senate was held on the 15th instant.

Mr. Kunisada, the Chief Secretary of the Aichi Kencho, is to be Governor of the same prefecture.

Mr. Watanabe, Governor of Osaka, was ordered, by telegraph, to come up to Tokio before the 16th instant.

Mr. Maida, the Consul General for the port of Gensan, will shortly leave for his post.

As the Customs tariff in the port of Fusan, Corea, is to be revised, Mr. Hanabusa, *Chargé d'Affaires*, will shortly proceed there.

Governor Matsuda, of Tokio, entertained the German Consul at the *Fucho*, on the 17th instant.

It is said that Judge Yoshima has been appointed President of the Sapporo Saibansho.

On the 16th instant Mr. Kennedy, *Chargé d'Affaires* for Great Britain, accompanied by his Secretary, visited the Home Department, where he had an interview with His Excellency Matukata, Minister of the Interior.

Mr. Matsuda, the Governor of Tokio, visited the Tokio Fu Hospital, at Atagoshita, on the afternoon of the 17th instant.

About three thousand people met at Miyatsu, in the province of Tango, on the 10th instant, for the purpose of electing representatives to send a memorial to the Government, asking for the establishment of a National Assembly. The representatives chosen were to leave for Tokio about the middle of this month. The people of the prefecture of Yamannashi are also agitating for the establishment of a National Assembly.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* of Thursday morning last writes as follows:—"Our Cabinet may now have arrived at the conclusion, that the time is ripe for the granting of a National Assembly, which we are as desirous to see established as we are for rain in time of drought. We are in receipt of a letter addressed to us yesterday by an unknown correspondent, which we intended to comment upon, but we have had no time to do so, as it was very late in the evening when it arrived. We therefore publish the correspondence only, and congratulate our readers upon the prospect of the future prosperity of our country. The letter in question is as follows:—"I have heard from a well informed authority, that His Excellency the Prime Minister has given verbal instructions to all members of the Noble class, to bear in mind that a National Assembly will certainly be established."

Mr. Tomimatsu Taizo, as the representative of the prefecture of Wakayama, waited upon His Excellency Sanjo, the Prime Minister, on the 16th instant, to present a memorial demanding the establishment of a National Assembly.

The *Hochi Shimbun* states that further changes are shortly to be made in each of the Departments, and that the Bureau of Woods and Forests, which is now under the Home Department, is likely to be abolished, and all affairs hitherto transacted by that Bureau are to be brought under the control of the Agricultural Bureau. One of the consequences of the rumored changes will be that the salaries of the Governors and their subordinate officers in all the prefectures, with the

exception of those prefectures where there are open ports, will be increased before any further alterations take place.

It is reported that Mr. Nagayama, the Governor of Niigata, has sent in his resignation.

His Excellency Awoki, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Berlin, will leave for Germany about the 22nd instant.

His Majesty the Emperor will shortly visit the Nobles' School at Nishiki-cho, Kanda, during the hours of study.

A special meeting of the Central Board of Health was held in the Home Department, on the 18th instant.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa, when on his way to Naga-saki from Kobe, visited the port of Hakata. Governor Watanabe called upon the Duke, and the latter landed and visited the weaving factories (for which the place is celebrated) and the town. The Governor subsequently presented the Duke with some specimens of Hakata fabrics.

Mr. Kawase, Chief Superintendent of the Board of Commerce, proposes to leave for San Francisco, on the 30th instant.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* writes as follows:—"His Majesty the Emperor lately attended a meeting of the Cabinet, and listened to the opinions of the Prime Ministers and the Privy Councilors on various political subjects. His Majesty remarked that it was quite proper for the country to have a National Assembly. All the members of the Cabinet expressed their opinions on the question, but we have been unable to ascertain what they said."

The same paper states that, with regard to the establishment of a National Assembly, the Cabinet was divided in opinion, but the majority were in favour of the measure.

The *Choya Shimbun* gives, as a current rumour, that Mr. Yegi, who was lately appointed Secretary to the Japanese Legation in Washington, will be transferred to the Japanese Legation in Berlin.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The Minister of the Navy has informed the authorities of the Imperial Naval college, that the man-of-war *Tsukuba Kan* will sail for Vera Cruz on a day to be hereafter named, for the purpose of training naval cadets during the cruise.

It is rumored that that the Japanese man-of-war *Hiyei Kan* will shortly sail for Singapore.

The meeting of commanding officers in the Japanese army is reported to have commenced on Monday last.

There will be a rifle match at the range at Dai-machi, Mita, Tokio, belonging to the Navy Department, about the month of May next. His Majesty the Emperor will preside, if possible.

By what we learn from a late issue of the *Mainichi Shimbun* it appears probable that the War Department contemplate adding the Chinese language to the routine of studies at the Military School of Tokio, as an obligatory course.

His Majesty the Emperor left the palace, at 8.30 a.m., on Tuesday last, and proceeded to the Military College, where he witnessed the ceremonial distribution of certificates among the cadets who had successfully passed their examination. During the afternoon His Majesty witnessed military manoeuvres, target shooting, &c., and returned to the palace at three o'clock. H. I. H. Prince Arisugawa, the *Sadaijin*, and Generals Yamagata, Saigo and Yamada, members of the Privy Council, and other high military officers, had the honour of taking tiffin with the Emperor.

Before the departure of the *Tsukuba Kan*, there will be a ceremonial distribution of diplomas among the cadets who have successfully passed their examination in the Naval College.

General Tani entertained the commanding officers of the army, on the 17th instant, at the Kame-Sei Restaurant, situated on the banks of the Sumida-gawa.

General Toriwo was, at his own request, relieved from his office at the *Gitei-Kwan*, on the 10th instant.

Sub-Lieutenant Uchiyama, who went mad the other day in the prison where he has been confined since the Takabashi mutiny, has now recovered, and will shortly be sentenced for his participation in the outbreak.

Lieutenant General Ida, having been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court Vienna, has been relieved from the command of the Hiroshima Garrison.

The Japanese men-of-war *Nisshin Kan*, *Teibo Kan*, *Hosho*



Kan, and *Moshun Kan* were manœuvred in the bay on the 17th instant.

The first battalion of the Imperial Guard will shortly march to Mito, and thence to Shirakawa in the province of Oshiu. The second battalion will proceed to Nippe, and thence to Shinano, for the purpose of practising field manœuvres.

Fifty men are to be selected from the crew of every Japanese man-of-war early next month, and trained in the use of torpedoes in the Torpedo School at Yokosuka.

The *Kongu Kan* has gone to the Yokosuka Dockyard, to undergo repairs.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

A rice company is to be established at Hakodate.

Twenty-five cases of gold bullion were sent to the Osaka Mint for coinage, on the 15th instant, from the branch office in Tokio.

In order to encourage farming in this country, the Minister and Assistant Minister for Home Affairs will, after the present year, visit in rotation all the *Fu* and *Ken* once annually. Agricultural schools are to be established in different localities.

Omori Bun-no-suke, a resident of Yokohama, shipped for Kobe by the *Tokio Maru*, on the 17th instant, gold and silver bullion to the value of 73,473 yen 45 sen, the property of the branch office of the Osaka Mint in Tokio.

There were 1,062 visitors to the Osaka Competitive Exhibition of Cotton and Sugar, during the week ending the 6th instant.

The Public Library of Tokio was re-opened to the public on Monday last.

The *Ise Shimbun* was suspended on the 12th instant, but was permitted to resume publication on the 17th instant.

It has been reported to the authorities that counterfeit two yen paper money has been detected by the officers of the Tokio branch of the one hundred and fifth National Bank, among the *kinsatan* paid into that establishment.

A proposal has been laid before the Home Department by the authorities of Shizuoka *ken*, respecting a new road to be made in the neighborhood of Hakone. Three different routes have been suggested, viz:—one from Yumoto to the sea coast at Nebuka; another from the same place to the foot of Futakoyama; and the third from the same place to a spot between Mishima and Numazu, through Yagunzawa. The line of road to be adopted has been left to the decision of the government.

A new carriage road is to be constructed between Nobiru in the prefecture of Miyagi, and the prefecture of Akita. A steamer will connect Saunusawa and Nobiru.

One of the native papers states that traffic is going on in the subsidiary coinage, by which some people are making money. The gains cannot be very extraordinary, as the average amount of coin purchased by any one individual is only about ten yen.

A correspondent of the *Hochi Shimbun* writing from Hakodate, under date the 9th instant, says:—"Mr. Tokito, Chief Secretary of the Colonization Department, returned here on the 7th instant the *Takachiho Maru*, and has become very popular. The export of ice commenced some time since, the *Kumamoto Maru* taking seven hundred tons on her last trip. The *Hakodate Shimbun* stopped publication, for its own convenience, on the 7th instant."

Awomori and Hirusaki in the north, are to be connected with the general telegraphic system. Officers from the Telegraph Bureau were despatched to these localities on the 14th instant.

On account of the opening of new ports in Corea and the expected increase of Japanese residents, a limited number of police sergeants and men are shortly to be despatched from Japan for their protection.

The image of Confucius was exhibited to the public at the Tokio Library on the 14th instant, and a great many people assembled for worship. Among the visitors was the Chinese Minister accompanied by subordinate officers.

The projected line of railway between Ootsu and Tsuruga was commenced on the 15th instant.

The port of Shimonoeki is to be improved, so as to afford anchorage for large vessels. The sum of 200,000 yen has been subscribed towards the cost of the undertaking.

An Osaka paper states that an English barque *Harmen-o* (?), taking coal from Australia for Yokohama, has been wrecked on the coast of Formosa.

Kido Shojiro, son of the late Kido, has applied for permission to make a five years visit to Germany, in order to study western culture.

An Osaka paper states that a great meeting of the *Aikoku-sha*, or Patriotic Society, is shortly to be held, and that government spies will probably attend.

The *Hochi Shimbun* contains the following account of an extraordinary occurrence on the coast. A vessel, owned by a man named Fukutaro, left Seki-yado, in the province of Shimonoe, for Tokio, having on board twenty-three passengers. When off Ogawa-saki, the vessel was boarded at about two o'clock in the morning by three men who came in a small boat. These men leaped on board, brandishing drawn swords, tied the passengers and crew, and plundered them of all the money in their possession. They then ordered food to be prepared by the wife of one of the sailors, and had just finished eating it, when another vessel from Numata, with thirty-eight passengers, arrived. The pirates seized this vessel also, and bound and plundered the persons on board. Altogether, these miscreants got a booty of about three hundred yen, and made off in their boat, expressing the utmost satisfaction at the success of their exploit. The matter was reported to the authorities on the arrival of the vessels in Tokio, and efforts are being made to apprehend the robbers.

Eighty thousand postage stamps, and four million post cards for home use, and fifty thousand post cards and three thousand special stamps for foreign use, were printed in the Printing Bureau of the Finance Department, and handed over to the Post Office authorities, during the half-year ending on the 31st of December, 1879.

Mr. Itagaki, the *ryu-Sangi*, is reported to be going to Osaka to attend the great meeting of the *Aikoku-sha*. Mr. Kataoka has already arrived in Osaka, and is diligently working to promote agitation for the establishment of a National Assembly.

Seventy-six police officers, who took part in the suppression of the South-Western rebellion, have received gratuities varying from fifteen to one hundred yen.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that General Saigo and Admiral Kawamura were out shooting recently near Atami, and carried, as is the custom of Kagoeshim sportsmen, short swords in order to defend themselves in case of sudden attack by wounded wild boars. The admiral tripped over the root of a tree, and fell down into a deep valley, the short sword inflicting a wound, which was thought sufficiently serious to induce sending to Tokio for a surgeon, there being no medical man in the neighbourhood of Atami.

To-day has been observed by the Japanese as a general holiday. It is called the *Shuki Kori-sai* or Spring holiday, and is in memory of ancestors of the Imperial family.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, March 14th, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 8,814.27
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 951.95
Total.....	\$ 9,766.22
Miles open 18.	
Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$8,309.68
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$1,001.38
Total.....	\$9,311.06
Miles open 18.	

##### KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, March 14th, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$14,533.54
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,747.53
Total .....	\$16,281.07
Miles open, 55.	
Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$10,812.02
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,310.57
Total.....	\$12,122.59
Miles open, 47.	

## ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

London, February 23rd.—In the House of Lords to-day, Earl Cairns, the Lord High Chancellor, introduced bills simplifying conveyancing, facilitating sales and leases of lands, and generally increasing the powers of owners for life to improve land. The principal one of these bills passed its first reading.

The Seed Potatoes bill was passed in committee.

In the House of Commons to-day, Sir Stafford Northcote gave notice that on Thursday he would move a resolution that whenever any member was named by the Speaker or Chairman of the Committee as disregarding the authority of the Chair, or abusing the rules of the House by persistently obstructing business, the Speaker shall put the question, without debate, amendment or adjournment, that such member be suspended during the remainder of that day's sitting; and if any member be thrice suspended in one session, the third suspension shall be for one week, after which a motion may be made for the continuance of his suspension; but a suspended member will have the right to be heard in reply to such a motion.

Subsequently Sullivan, Home Ruler, moved that Earl Cadogan, speaking at an electoral meeting at Chelsea, be summoned before the bar of the House for a breach of privilege, as no Peer is allowed to interfere with elections; and that Major Jocelyn be also summoned to the bar of the House, as he at the same meeting characterized the Home Rulers as despicable bands of Irish rebels.

Sir Stafford Northcote pointed out that the meeting was an ordinary meeting of the Conservative Association.

Sir William Harcourt opposed the motion by moving the previous question, but said the Chancellor of the Exchequer had to thank himself for it by his course in the Plimsoll affair.

The previous question was adopted—229 to 15.

O'Donnell, Home-Rule member for Dungannon, proceeded to raise another question of breach of privilege.

Sullivan, in a speech on his election, incidentally expressed his intention of raising a question of breach of privilege by new papers.

[NOTE.—These proceedings are doubtless in retaliation for the motion against obstruction.]

O'Donnell, in raising a question of breach of privilege, brought under notice a number of newspaper articles, which, he complained, contained a series of grossly scandalous libels on Irish members. He read from the *World*, *Advertiser*, *Daily Telegraph*, *Pall Mall Gazette*, and *Liverpool Courier*, and denounced their denunciations as part of a conspiracy to fasten on the Liberal leaders the charge of complicity with obstruction. He moved that these articles infringing on privileges of the House, and handed in the newspapers mentioned for the passages to which he had made reference to be read by the Clerk. It would be trifling with the House to read extracts.

Sir Stafford Northcote said the articles were inoffensive, and moved, as an amendment, that the House proceed to the order of the day.

The Marquis of Hartington seconded the motion, and congratulated the Government on adopting the right course; but he said there could be no doubt that some of the newspaper passages read by the member for Dungannon were serious breaches of privilege.

Shaw, Home Rule, recommended the withdrawal of O'Donnell's motion, and O'Donnell expressed his willingness to withdraw it. His motion was then negatived, without division. The amendment to proceed to the order of the day, moved by Northcote, was agreed to, and the Irish Relief bill was read a third time.

The *Standard* stated that rumors were freely circulated on both sides of the lobby last night that the immediate dissolution of Parliament is contemplated. The *Standard* adds; These reports are at present premature, but if the business of the House continues to be systematically obstructed, the Government will have no alternative but to dissolve Parliament at an early day.

The Home Rulers will meet to consider Northcote's motion to check obstruction.

London, February 23rd.—In the last boat race on the Tyne, Hawdon defeated Kempster by twenty lengths.

Constantinople, February 23rd.—It is understood that the English Foreign Office is willing to pay a reasonable

ransom for Colonel Syngé and wife, now held by brigands near Salonica.

St. Petersburg, February 23rd.—The official *Messenger* announces that the inquiry into the Winter Palace explosion has had the result of rendering it to some extent certain that the crime was committed by a person who passed as a workman, and that there is reason to suspect a connection between this person and the same individuals who were arrested previous to the explosion.

In view of possible explosions, the police have ordered citizens to be provided constantly with a sufficient supply of water for two days. The Nihilists have issued a proclamation threatening to set fire to the Capital on the 3rd of March. The Government has decided to increase the number of house porters, who will be instructed to be ready to guard against emergencies, especially on the anniversary of the Czar's accession to the throne.

General Trepoff has been appointed Military Governor of the Winter Palace, vice General Delsalle, who has become paralyzed.

The statement that the officer in charge of the Palace Guard has disappeared, is contradicted.

The Czar to-day visited the Paulowsky Military School, in an open sleigh. He was enthusiastically cheered by students and people.

Baron von Schell, Privy Councillor, has committed suicide, his mind being affected by the explosion in the Palace.

An eminent General recommends that the Winter Palace be given up as an Imperial residence, in favour of the palace opposite the Izak Cathedral.

Paris, February 23rd.—John Lemaine, editor of the *Journal des Debats*, was to-day elected Senator for life. He received 142 votes, and 95 were thrown against him, of which the greater number were blanks, while about 20 were for various other candidates.

The Chamber of Deputies has approved the convention between France and the United States for the exchange of postal remittances.

The Chamber adopted the bill reconstituting the Superior Council of Education, with the Senate's modification.

Berlin, February 23rd.—The Reichstag, after a long debate, passed a motion requesting Bismarck to cause the suspension, while the session lasts, of the criminal procedures pending against Deputies Fritzsche and Hasselmann, Socialists. Fritzsche and Hasselmann have returned to Berlin.

There was a debate on the second reading of the Budget bill. An item for the creation of a Consulate in Apia, Samoan Islands, was referred to the Budget Committee. The Federal Commissioner stated that the proposal was in no way connected with the bill relating to the South Sea Company.

The House adopted the war estimates, the Minister of War positively denying that the proposed increase of the army originated in an expectation of immediate war.

Berlin, February 23rd.—The *North German Gazette* commenting on the reported intention of Russia to erect fortifications at Roano, Bialystock and Grodo, says: "This is done, probably, to create a belief among the Russian people that an attack on the part of Germany is feared."

Paris, February 23rd.—The Russian Embassy here has received documents with a view to proving the criminality of Hartmann in connection with the Moscow explosion, and they will be handed to the French Government immediately.

London, February 23rd.—The *Standard's* Madrid special says that intelligence is received from Tripoli that 1,500 houses have been destroyed by floods.

London, February 23rd.—Professor Roscoe, of Owens College, says the evidence thus far submitted by S. Ballantyne is insufficient to establish the conclusion that Hannay has discovered a process for making diamonds.

New York, February 24th.—M. De Lesseps and some of his engineers arrived to-day on the steamer *Colon* from Panama. De Lesseps this afternoon said that there was no secret understanding between England, France and Germany, in relation to the projected canal. Even the idea of such a thing was too absurd to think about. He had also made an arrangement with the Panama Railroad Company, the details of which he would prefer not to give. The proper name of the canal was the "Canal du Chagres."

taking his appellation from the river of that name. The interest was also purchased from Lieutenant L. N. B. Wyso.

Calcutta, February 24th.—The India budget shows a surplus of £119,000 for 1879-80, and the estimates for 1881 show a surplus of £417,000. The above results are reached after paying from the revenue all charges on account of famine, the Afghan war and frontier railways. The war expenditure in 1879-80 was £2,216,000. Total net war expenditure to the end of 1881, including 1879-80, is estimated at £5,750,000. The rate of exchange for the ensuing year is estimated at 1s 8d per rupee.

Paris, February 24th.—In the Senate to-day during debate on the Ferry Education bill, M. Pelletin vehemently attacked the Jesuits.

London, February 24th.—Dean Stanley to-day received an address with 3,200 signatures and gave audience to a deputation protesting against the proposed erection of a monument in Westminster Abbey to the memory of the Prince Imperial. Dean Stanley refused to alter his decision in the matter; and said if he were to give way in this instance it would open the door for complaints from every party against honours to rivals. Relative to the supposed feeling in America against the erection of the monument, he said: "Doubtless if the Orleans Princes had fallen in the war of secession their graves would have been heaped with all the honors the United States could bestow."

London, February 24th.—In the House of Commons to-day, Courtney (Liberal), gave notice that he would shortly move a resolution in favor of withdrawing from the Transvaal.

The Home Rule members of Parliament held a meeting yesterday to consider the motion to check obstruction, the notice of which was given by Sir Stafford Northcote on Monday night. After a protracted discussion it was decided to place a number of amendments on paper, materially limiting the suspending power proposed to be vested in the Speaker, and confining the scope of resolutions to the present situation.

Berlin, February 25th.—Russia appears inclined to treat the refusal of China to ratify the Kuldja Treaty, if persisted in, as an affront making necessary diplomatic interventions as the treaty has been signed by the Czar.

London, February 25th.—The *Times* announces that the Liberal leader has determined to give general support to Northcote's resolutions against the Obstructionists. The Home Rule members have decided not to obstruct, but to criticise, the resolutions.

London, February 25th.—A large tenant-right meeting near Portadown, County Armagh, to-day, was attacked by 3,000 Orangemen, armed with bludgeons, who stormed the platform and dispersed the meeting. Twenty tenant-righters were seriously injured. The Orange party considered the meeting seditious.

Madrid, February 26th. In the Cuban Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, to-day, Señor Nicalan proposed that the privileges of the Spanish coasting trade be extended to Cuba, and that the arrangements with the United States, by which Spanish vessels are prevented from taking cargo from Cuba to North America, be discontinued.

London, February 26th.—In the House of Lords, to-day, Nolan's bill authorizing seed potatoes to be sold to Irish tenant farmers for planting, was read a third time.

The House of Commons was, to-day, crowded in all parts. Sir Stafford Northcote moved the resolutions of which he gave notice on Monday last, as follows:

"That whenever any member was named by the Speaker or the Chairman of the Committee as disregarding the authority of the Chair or abusing the rules of the House by persistently obstructing business, the Speaker should put a motion, without debate, amendment or adjournment, that such member be suspended during the remainder of that day's sitting; and if any member be thrice suspended in one session, the third suspension shall be for one week, after which a motion may be made for the continuance of his suspension, but the suspended member will have the right to be heard in reply to such motion."

Lord Hartington strongly supported the resolution and said he thought action in the matter had been too long delayed.

London, February 26th.—Very Rev. Charles William Russell, President of St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Ireland, since 1857, is dead, aged 68.

London, February 26th.—The *Standard* is informed that, in consequence of a telegram from Parnell, Mr. Biggar, Home Rule member, has resolved to disregard the wishes of the Moderate Home Rulers and oppose the utmost resistance in detail to the obstruction resolutions.

Paris, February 26th.—The *Moniteur* announces the arrest of a Prussian officer while taking views of the Bessano redoubt. He was conveyed to Rheims.

St. Petersburg, February 26th.—A semi-official statement says: It is impossible to rectify all the erroneous statements published in the foreign press relative to the explosion in the Winter Palace. No member of the Imperial family has removed to other apartments since the explosion. The Emperor informed the Empress of the explosion the day after it occurred. No arrests have been made in the Winter Palace, except those of workmen occupying the room where the explosion occurred. The dynamite was in all probability brought to the palace in small quantities by a pretended carpenter, who had been working in the palace since September last, and who is now supposed to have been a mechanical engineer. After having sent away his fellow-workmen, this individual made his final preparations, ignited a slow match and quit the palace. Two other carpenters are still in custody, and are more or less suspected of complicity in the plot. The reports of wholesale arrests at St. Petersburg are unfounded.

Paris rumors of fresh disturbances here are unfounded.

Berlin, February 27th.—It is now generally assumed that Prince Hohenlohe's visit here from Paris has reference to a proposal that he shall shortly take the vacant Secretaryship of State for Foreign Affairs, with a view to finally succeeding Bismarck in the Chancellorship.

St. Petersburg, February 27th.—The imperial ukase has been issued by the Czar nominating members of the Commission of Supreme Control, dated February 25th, and addressed to the Senate. It says: "Being firmly determined to put an end to the repeated attempts of criminals to undermine the order of the State and society, a Supreme Commission is established in St. Petersburg for the protection of order. General Melikoff is appointed to the head of the Commission, and the appointment of the other members will be made on General Melikoff's suggestion by an imperial ordinance. The head of the Commission has, moreover, right to summon upon the Commission all whose presence he may consider useful, in order to give a united character to the action of all the authorities. The head of the Commission, setting aside the right of the Commander-in-Chief of St. Petersburg, shall have direct control over all political trials held in the capital, in the military district of St. Petersburg, and throughout the Empire. All local authorities, Governors-General and town commandants, are placed under the jurisdiction of the Head of the Commission, and all employees in the various departments are bound to afford him their entire coöperation. The Head of the Commission is at liberty to adopt any means which may appear desirable for the protection of order in the Empire, and the orders he may issue are to be unconditionally obeyed. The office of Provincial Governor-General of St. Petersburg is abolished."

General Melikoff has issued a proclamation. After referring to the indignation felt in Russia and throughout Europe at the attempts on the life of the Emperor, he declares that the Government is compelled to adopt effectual measures for the suppression of the evil threatening social order. He says he recognizes the difficulty of his task, and will not encourage exaggerated expectations of immense success. He will not hesitate to take the most stringent measures for the punishment of criminals, while endeavoring, on the other hand, to tranquilize and protect the well-intentioned part of society. He hopes for the coöperation of honest men, and begs the population to await the future with calmness, and to disregard malicious and frivolous rumors.

Hartmann, in Paris, confesses to being engaged in the attempt on the Czar's life, at Moscow. It is said, also, that the French cabinet has instructed the Minister of Justice to draw up a report on the question of Hartmann's extradition.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* says it regards the authoritative letter published in the *North German Gazette*, in reply to its article on Russian fortifications, as proof that the article is not ominous.

Vera Sassulitch, the famous feminine Nihilist agent,



who on the 5th of February, 1878, attempted the assassination of General Trepoff, Prefect of St. Petersburg, has been arrested at the residence of one of her friends in this city.

### INCIDENTS OF IRISH CRIME.

BY TERENCE McGRATH.

The battle with crime in Ireland is quite a different matter from the ordinary round of an English rural policeman's life. There, a poaching affray is the wildest excitement that may probably distract the even tenor of his way. But in Ireland—the 'land of potato, pike, and priest, punch, poeler, proclamation'—the daily life of a policeman is more prolific in incidents generally exciting, sometimes dangerous, and always demanding discrimination, caution, and courage.

The Irish constable has the advantage of a training more complete than that of any police force in Europe, and enters on the practical duties of his profession with a large amount of theoretical knowledge of the various descriptions of crime, their probable motives, the best-known means of prevention, and the steps to be taken for their detection. It is evident that with a people, so excitable, so easily swayed by agitation to acts of violence, and not unfrequently to open defiance of the constituted authorities, a police force must be sufficiently drilled to move, if necessary, in large bodies; and scattered as the force is in small parties of one constable and four men in the country stations, discipline must be strict to preserve its morale and efficiency.

The constabulary recruit, who must have good testimonials and pass an elementary examination, is sent to the depot in Dublin, from which, after he has been drilled and theoretically trained, he is transferred to any county other than his own, in which he is never stationed.

The constabulary officers enter the force by competitive examination, for which nominations from the Government are still required, as a position of such importance in Ireland could not safely be thrown open to unrestricted competition.

The cadet finds himself in the depot, where he goes through the same instruction in drill as an officer joining a regiment. But all this time, about six months on an average, his police education is being proceeded with—a 'police school' being held daily at which cadets and recruits attend, when lectures are delivered by the detective instructor on the various kinds of crime, the Acts of Parliament bearing on police matters explained, and questions asked as to the steps to be taken in imaginary offences then propounded as examples.

After officers have taken charge of districts, they ask similar questions at the inspections of the stations; and on inspections by an inspector-general the same system is pursued. In the presence of the latter, even good men become sometimes so nervous that they quite lose their heads.

'You are on patrol, and find on the road-side the body of a man: what should you do?' asked an inspector-general, who had the reputation of being rather a martinet.

'Take his dying deposition, sir,' answered the constable gravely.

'But, my man, the man is *dead*, I say.'

A short pause, then, with a brightening look, the constable said, 'But he might have a *stint* of life in him, sir!'

In Ireland it is agrarian assassination that adds double terrors to the thought of murder: the thought that having done no wrong, save that of asserting a legal right by legal means, your life is, in so many cases, in as imminent peril as that of the leader of a forlorn hope—that yet, you must, conscious of ever-present danger, remain passive until the attempt has been made and failed, or the fatal bullet has sped. For one connected with property, either landlord or agent, and imbued with business ideas, Ireland is not a place of delight. But, on the other hand, your daughters or wife may walk along any road at any hour, with small fear of insult; and if the lock of the front door be broken, it need not make you uneasy, for burglary, robbery, and assault on women are rare, being considered dirty crimes, as distinguished from the clean crimes of murder and manslaughter.

'Are you not one of the worst characters in this county?' asked a Crown counsel, cross-examining a witness in a murder case, who attended to prove an *alibi*.

'I am not,' he answered boldly. 'Who dare say that I ever stole the value of a pipe of tobacco from any one?'

'Why, you scoundrel, were you not two years in gaol for killing a man?'

'Well, if I was, an' sure it was a clane crime!' he said triumphantly, as if he had refuted the base assertion of his tormentor.

In almost every case of outrage the police have a good idea of the guilty persons, one of the few cases affording no clue by any ascertainable motive being the following: On the morning after a race meeting it was reported that a wealthy farmer named David Cullen had been killed the previous night, when returning late from the races. A small boy who was with him said that Cullen was a little drunk, but 'none the worse'; no man being considered anything the worse who can stagger along. As they walked toward home, the night being dark, they were overtaken by a man who was walking very fast.

'Good-night,' said Cullen.

'Good-night,' answered the unknown, at the same time hitting Cullen on the head with a stick as he passed. Cullen staggered home and died.

I went to the house, which looked neat and comfortable. A number of his neighbours were about the place, waiting for the coroner, who had intimated his intention to hold an inquest that afternoon. The children sat outside the house, too young quite to understand the meaning of the assemblage of whispering groups.

Inside, poor Cullen was laid on the bed, his pale quiet face showing no symptom of having suffered, and a slight blue mark over the

forehead alone indicated where the 'loaded butt'—an ash-stick with lead melted into the handle—had done its work.

Beside the bed sat the wife, a still comely woman, who seemed distracted with grief, while the parish-priest, a cousin of her husband's, spoke words of comfort to her, now and again turning towards the bed and laying his hand gently on the forehead of the corpse.

I spoke to the wife, who, on seeing me, gave way for a time to wild bursts of lamentation, wringing her hands, and half singing, half reciting, the many virtues of her husband, as the habit of Irish mourners of that class. After a time she became calm, and I then asked her about the various circumstances that might possibly throw light on the matter.

'Has your husband ever had any difference about land?'

'O no, sir.'

'Does he belong to any faction?'

'No, sir; what would he be doing with the like?'

'Do you know if he has had a quarrel with any person, no matter how long ago?'

'Quarrel, sir! He never had as much as "you lie" with any man in his life.'

By this time her excited grief had subsided, and she spoke calmly. I asked,

'How then do you account for this sad business? Can you form no idea of the reason why that scoundrel should have killed you husband?'

She thought for a minute, her brow contracting; then, with a smile at having solved the enigma, she said,

'Faith, your honour, I'm thinkin' it was a friendly stroke he got.'

No light was ever thrown upon the matter. Whoever struck him kept his own counsel—possibly was so drunk that he did not know the mischief he had done.

But the parish-priest was determined that, so far as in him lay, Cullen's slayer should not go unpunished; and if the Church's thunders have any effect, he would have presented an appearance more abject than the Jackdaw of Rheims.

The Monday following, the constable at the nearest station came in to tell me that Father O'Brien had preached a telling sermon on the murder. 'He prayed from the steps of the altar that before twelve months the arms might wither off the man who murdered Cullen, and that his soul might be frisking in the flames of hell.' 'O sir!' he added, 'he preached a beautiful sermon about it.'

Cullen's hat remained in the possession of the police, as, being cut through by the fatal blow, it might possibly be necessary to produce it, should any other evidence turn up. One day Mrs. Cullen appeared, to beg that the hat should be restored to her. I told her I feared it could not be retained, as it might be required, when, after pressing hard for its restoration, she burst into tears, saying, 'Is it not enough that I should lose my husband, without losing my little boy or one of my brothers?' I asked what she meant. 'O,' she cried, 'does not all the world know that if I don't give away all the clothes my husband wore when he was killed, another of the family will lose his life within twelve months.'

One has not often the fortune to be present at an attack upon a house; but the following incident, in which I assisted, will show how invariably in Ireland justice leans to the side of mercy, even when the guilty parties are taken in *flagrante delicto*.

About seven o'clock on a winter's evening the following letter was placed in my hand by a person who met me in the street of the country village where I was then stationed:

'Honoured Sir.—I beg for God's sake that you will send the police to Jim Malley's house at Carrowree to-night, at eleven o'clock. Jim is getting married, and his house is to be attacked by the M'Dermott faction, disguised as *gowers*. I write this letter because I fear my son will be in it, and there will be lives lost if the police do not go: for Malley's faction is strong, and they will not die soft. A FRIEND.'

As Malley was a noted Ribbon-leader, it seemed curious that his house should be attacked. However, I consulted with my old head-constable, who knew every man in the country and almost everything about him. He read the letter carefully, and said:

'This is genuine, sir. I fear there may be some mischief in the wind.'

'But, Head-constable, do you think it likely that any person would have the hardihood to attack Jim Malley? He is the most confounded ruffian in the country—a leading Ribbon-man, with a number of friends and relatives, who will all be assembled at the wedding to-night. I think it is a hoax to draw us out.'

'Well, sir, it may be; but there is a bitter quarrel between Jim Malley and the M'Dermotts for the last six months; and this marriage makes it worse, for one of the M'Dermotts had the match nearly made up with the girl's father. There was only five pounds between them, when Jim Malley took her with the five pounds less; and when Tom M'Dermott sent back his mother two days afterwards he heard the match was made, so he is very savage. But, beside that, about six months ago, at a funeral, Tom M'Dermott put a pound more on the priest's altar than Malley, although he only had two glasses of whisky; and Malley said he had men enough there to beat M'Dermott out of the funeral, if he liked. There would have been a fight there and then if the priest had not stopped it; and Malley went and borrowed a pound and put it down, so as not to be outdone by M'Dermott; but there is very bad blood since.'

The priest's altar is an institution of a very peculiar character. When a person dies, of such consequence that the priest attends the funeral, a table is placed opposite the house of death, on which stands a small keg of whisky or beer, or a smaller quantity, in proportion to the wealth of the family of the deceased, who pay for the drink. Every person attending the funeral takes as much as he wants from the store thus lavishly offered; but beside the barrel on the table is a plate, on which it is a point of honour to place money for the priest. In Ireland, where vanity and ostentation are ruling



qualities, the amount thus given is supposed to be a measure of the generosity or meanness of the donor; and where rival factions attend, the jealousy is shown as much in the offerings as in any other of the various ways in which it is so freely displayed. This is called the priest's altar, and sometimes brings in as much as twenty pounds to the expectant pastor. It will be seen how demoralising such a custom must be, leading, as it does, to disgusting scenes of drunkenness at funerals. Fortunately the custom is now dying out except along the west coast of Ireland.

At ten o'clock fourteen men met me at a place not more than two miles from Carrowrea, and we started along a by-road that led to that remote part of the district. The night was dark, save for the dim glimmer of the stars with which the clear sky was brightly studded; and, as we walked along, I turned over in my mind what had best be done if we found that the letter was true, and an armed attack was to be made upon the house. We were fifteen, all told; but, in the event of fighting, it was by no means certain that we should not have both sides pitted against us. So it was in the old days of faction-fighting, when both parties so frequently turned on the force that tried to stop the fight; and many a mourning wife or mother cursed the police who, at the point of the bayonet or by the more deadly bullet, compelled the abandonment of the feud that had been handed down from long ago, and interfered with the national amusement where fractured skulls were common, but death was rare. Should we be attacked? Would the Malleys join the M'Dermotts in a cause so sacred as opposition to the police? These were questions that occupied me as we walked along the lonely road, and turned off into the fields. The night was frosty, and the crunching of the crisp grass beneath our feet was the only sound that broke the dead stillness, when suddenly a shot was heard in the direction of Malley's house, now within a quarter of a mile. Stepping out with a will, we soon arrived at the boundary-fence of the square field in the centre of which stood the house. The first shot had been followed by a second and a third, and as we arrived at the fence three or four were fired in quick succession.

'Shall we load, sir?' asked a constable.

'Yes, load; but no firing except by order.'

The loading completed, we walked quickly along the fence until we should find ourselves at the nearest point to the house. Loud shouts were heard, and we could see white-clad figures flitting about. Again and again shots were fired, but no answering fire appeared to come from within. The men were panting with anxiety to get over the period of suspense, and two or three times the half-muttered whisper, 'We're close enough,' was heard as we went along the low fence.

'Now,' I said, as we came opposite the house, 'remember—every man a prisoner; and we all clambered over the fence together, and made a swift rush for the house.

We were not perceived until we had got within twenty yards of the crowd, who, seeing us, broke with a yell, and fled in the opposite direction. Away they sped, a crowd of white figures, followed by police like pursuing spectres. Not a word was spoken as we slowly but steadily gained upon them, save an exclamation now and then as one after another felt the grasp of a policeman upon him. Across fields and over walls and fences the pursuit continued until at last every man, except a fat old constable, had secured a prisoner, and all were collected at Malley's house.

A curious group they looked as they stood sullenly in the light that streamed from the doorway. Every man had a white shirt over his clothes; his face was blackened, and straw was fantastically twisted in his hair. This is the usual attire of the *gunners*, who perpetuate the customs of a former period by going to weddings, and dancing fantastic dances before the house, being usually plentifully supplied with whiskey from the wedding-feast. It is also, except the straw in the hair, the means of disguise adopted by the evil disposed, whose crimes necessitated the passing of the Whiteboy Act in 1776. Within, all was confusion. The ceremony had taken place, and the returning procession was preceded by boys who carried aloft sheaves of lighted straw, unconscious of the fact that as the fires of Bael continue to be lighted on the accustomed day, so the torch of Hymen is still carried at Irish wedding festivities—so interwoven are the pagan and Christian rites in the most conservative country in Europe. Over thirty people had assembled, and the carousal was in full swing when it was brought to a sudden stop by the noise of firing outside. The door was bolted, and every person huddled together at either side of the windows, so that no shot could touch them. Malley had no arms in the house, and the terror-stricken party remained in their place of safety until the frightened yell and sudden departure of the attacking crowd told them that succour had come. Never before was the presence of a policeman welcomed by Malley, who was now effusive in his gratitude. So far the warning letter was right. The party disguised were the M'Dermotts, and it was highly improbable that they attended for the purpose of paying a complimentary visit to the bridal couple. However, no shot had entered the house; and though a search over the ground traversed by the flying party was rewarded by the discovery of four guns, no ammunition was found upon any of the prisoners, who where of course the least active of the crowd.

The prisoners were handcuffed and marched into the village, about seven miles distant, and in the morning were charged before the neighbouring local justice with having been concerned in a Whiteboy offence by going about disguised, at night, to the terror of her Majesty's subjects. The parish-priest drove off from the magistrate's door as the police approached with the prisoners. The magistrate was one of the class so frequently appointed by Government in remote parts of Ireland. He was a not very successful farmer, of slender means, whose views on the criminality of various offenders, where death did not supervene, would make the hair of an English squire stand on end.

The circumstances were stated by me, and the guns produced that were picked up after the pursuit. I explained that the M'Dermotts and Malleys were enemies, and the improbability that they had gone there for a legal purpose. To my statement the magistrate paid but little attention, as he appeared much amused at the appearance presented, in broad daylight, by the prisoners, who had been prevented from removing the straw from their hair. When I suggested the advisability of having an information taken, he said, 'O no: I am quite satisfied that they only meant it as a frolic; so I discharge them.'

'God bless your honour; long may you live!' shouted the now free M'Dermotts, as, the handcuffs taken off, they proceeded to divest themselves of their outer shirts, and to remove the straw from their hair.

'Good-morning,' I said, and took my departure, leaving the M'Dermotts behind, who went round to the yard for refreshments by Mr. Maher's directions.

'Well, head-constable, what do you think of that?' I asked, as we returned to the village, rather crestfallen at the result of our night's adventure.

'Faith, sir; I forgot that Father Pat Ryan's first cousin is married to one of the M'Dermotts; and sure, Mr. Maher's uncle is a priest, and Father Pat can do what he likes with him.'

'If I had known that, I think should have telegraphed for the resident magistrate.'

'If I may take the liberty of advising you, sir, always do so in any case of a serious nature. If you do not, you might as well do nothing, and keep the popularity to yourself as leave it to Mr. Maher, for he never will do any thing that would vex the people.'—*Time*.

## THE JAPANESE PRESS.

### THE INFLUENCE OF COMMERCE.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

IN order to foster commercial enterprise it is absolutely necessary to afford facilities of transport and communication. These facilities are given by ships, railways, postal and telegraphic services, roads and bridges, the most important and convenient of all being carriage by water.

Japan has from the earliest times possessed a mercantile marine; in fact our records do not state when the shipping interest first came into existence, and it is said that, ever since the expedition fitted out by the Empress Jingu against Corea, intercourse has been carried on with that country.

Shortly afterwards, i.e. early in the sixteenth century, bands of marauders from this country were constantly ravaging the coasts of China, and accounts of their proceedings may be found recorded in the history of the Ming dynasty. About the middle of the same century, Yamada Jinsayemon sailed from Japan, and landing in Siam, formed a colony which he named "the Nippon settlement." It will thus be seen that, even so long ago, we had stout ships and skillful sailors, well versed in the art of navigation and inured to the dangers and difficulties of long voyages. Then came trade with the Dutch and English, the introduction of Christianity, and the first commencement of legitimate intercourse with foreign lands. The result was a great impetus to ship-building and commerce? and although much is attributable to the bravery and energy of the people, who were habituated to hardship and danger, yet the natural advantages of the country no doubt contributed, in a still greater degree, to the progress which was then everywhere witnessed.

In course of time the revolt of the Christians took place in Amakusa, and the authorities prohibited any further intercourse with foreign countries, forbidding the construction of large vessels, so as to prevent the possibility of undertaking long voyages.

The result of these enactments was soon experienced in the rapid decline of carriage by water, until at length matters reached such a pass that it was found impossible to convey the rice tax paid in kind to Yedo, without incurring unnecessary delay.

The Government now saw the error they had fallen into and ordered Kawamura Zuiken to take the requisite measures to improve the shipping interest, and also to provide for the carriage by water, to Yedo, of the taxes received in rice from the northern provinces of the empire. Kawamura accordingly made some amendments in the regulations affecting vessels, and established an office in every port to control maritime affairs. He also ordered life-boats to be despatched to vessels in distress, inaugurated a system of pilotage in the Inland Sea, and built a lighthouse on Suga-shima, off the coast of Shishiu. Vessels were thus enabled to make the voyage from Ushiu by the northern sea, and from Oshiu by the eastern sea, to the capital, and a great

improvement was speedily apparent in maritime enterprise and the class of vessels employed. Unfortunately, the regulation limiting the size of ships still remained in full force, and matters remained at a standstill for over two hundred years, or until the opening of the ports in 1858.

It thus appears that it was entirely owing to mistaken legislation that maritime enterprise in Japan was brought to a low ebb, and, if the natural advantages of the country and the aptitude of the inhabitants be taken into consideration, there can be little doubt that by careful management the shipping interest will speedily occupy that prominent position to which it is justly entitled.

The mercantile marine of Japan being nominal, the carrying trade of the country has fallen almost altogether into the hands of the English, a fact which is greatly to be deplored. The control of a large carrying trade is the true source of wealth, and it matters not however fertile or rich in productions a country may be, they all avail nothing if unaccompanied by a profitably employed fleet of merchant ships. It is therefore absolutely necessary for us to foster navigation and maritime enterprise, increase the number of our vessels, and resume the control of our carrying trade. To accomplish this great object will no doubt be very difficult; but, if the whole nation join as one single individual to do so, the difficulties will melt away and success will crown our efforts.

We have the experience of England and Holland to guide us in this matter. Holland at one time monopolized the carrying trade of the world; and the products of all the countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America were transported in Dutch vessels. England determined to enter into competition with the Dutch; and, in order to foster the rising industry, passed a law that the productions of Asia, Africa, America and the English colonies, could not be imported into England or any of the English colonies except in English ships. Shortly afterwards another law was passed extending the prohibition to the products of continental Europe, except when carried in vessels belonging to the country in which the cargo was procured. A great rise in the price of imported goods followed the passing of these enactments; and, although much discontent ensued and war was declared against the Dutch, yet England was victorious and laid the foundation of her present greatness.

We thus learn how the English people by their resolute and combined action deprived Holland of maritime supremacy, and. If the shipowners and shipmasters of Japan will only join together to rival England, who can say that they will not be victorious? When the Mitsui Bishi Company first commenced business it had to encounter severe competition, but it has ultimately proved successful, and although we are unaware of any foreign vessels opposing the local association at present, still, if ever a foreign adversary again enters the field, the people of Japan must unite to defeat the intruder and not lose sight of great ultimate advantage for the sake of a small temporary benefit.

There can be no doubt that the mercantile marine of Japan has increased considerably since the opening of the ports to foreign intercourse, and we find on referring to a return, issued after the close of last year, that this country now possesses 151 steamers, of an aggregate capacity of 36,622 tons; 54 sailing vessels of 16,384 tons; and 18,908 junks of 225,654 *toku*. If, however, we compare the number and size of these vessels with our population of thirty-five millions of people, we can then easily see that the results of maritime enterprise in Japan are very far from what they ought to be. It is also noteworthy how few sailing vessels we have as compared with steamers, and the consequent inadequacy of the means provided for the transit of merchandise in cases where speed is not an object.

Until these evils are remedied we cannot expect any great development of our commerce, and we therefore affirm that the most urgent steps are necessary in order to foster and increase the mercantile marine of Japan.

#### LAW REPORT.

##### IN H. B. M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before M. DOHMEY Esq., Act. Assist. Judge.

Saturday, March 13th, 1880.

Hermann Soole, A. B. of the British barque *G. Broughton*, was charged with refusal of duty, and threatening the

master and crew of the vessel with grievous bodily harm.

Alfred Clemishaw, Master, sworn stated:—during the voyage out from Antwerp the accused has been off duty, saying he was sick. The last occasion he went sick was on the 25th of February. He remained off duty until the 2nd of March and as I found he did not ask for any medicine as usual, I sent for him. He then told me he was not sick, but he did not intend to work any more on board. He also threatened to do me an injury saying that when he got me on shore I should never see my home again; he has been off duty ever since. He has threatened the crew also and yesterday the crew came aft and asked me to put the man in irons as they were afraid he would do some of them an injury. I accordingly did so. I think the man is not quite right in his head.

His Honour said he would see the German Consul in the matter as the accused was a native of Germany. In the meantime he would take charge of him.

The case was then remanded until Tuesday, the 16th instant, at 10 a. m.

Tuesday, 16th March, 1880.

Herman Jule, was brought up on remand from Saturday last, charged with refusal of duty and using threatening language on board the British barque *G. Broughton*.

Edwin Wheeler, M. D., sworn, stated:—I saw the accused yesterday at the jail, I think he is labouring under a monomania. He has an idea that there is some witch on board the ship which would cause him to fall down if he went aloft, and that is the reason why he will not work.

Stephen Aschinger, A. B. on board the *G. Broughton*, corroborated the evidence the master as to the threats made by the prisoner to use a knife, and refusal of duty. This witness stated that the accused never used any violence but confined himself to talking, and that he was well treated by everyone on board the ship. Johannes Reichardt, A. B. on board the *G. Broughton*, confirmed the evidence of the previous witnesses.

The accused was sentenced to be imprisoned until the first opportunity offers to send him to Hongkong, thence to be forwarded home.

#### IN THE FRENCH CONSULAR COURT.

Before H. PIERRET, Esq., Consul.

Messrs. E. BLANC and A. DEVEZE, Assessors.

Thursday, March 11th, 1880.

NAGASAKI *Kencho* vs. P. HYVER.

This was a claim for the recovery of \$68, ground rent due for lot No. 42A, at Sagaramata, Nagasaki.

Plaintiffs were represented by Mr. Issono Hissa-hiro, from the *Kanagawa Kencho*; defendant appeared in person, assisted by Mr. Harmand.

In their petition plaintiffs requested the Court to order defendant to pay \$68 ground rent due for one year for the lot No. 42A, at Sagaramata, Nagasaki, and the costs of the proceedings.

No further observations being made by plaintiffs, Mr. Harmand read an elaborate speech for the defence, the purport of which was as follows: By judgment given by the French Consular Court of Yokohama on October 24th, 1877, Miss Labastide was ordered to deliver to Hyver the property No. 42A, as well as the buildings on it, the furniture constituting the "Hotel de L'Univers," and the deeds establishing him the proprietor of it. This judgment was never put into execution, and through difficulties created by H. B. M.'s Consul in Nagasaki, acting as French Consul, Hyver was prevented from enjoying the free possession of his property. He was not only obliged to return part of the furniture to Miss Labastide, in direct opposition to the above mentioned judgment but he was once, in connection with that affair, sentenced to 36 hours' imprisonment, which sentence was, however, changed to a fine of \$10.00, and obliged to give security for \$200.00; besides which the documents establishing him as the rightful owner of the grounds and buildings thereon were never handed to him. In conclusion, the defence requested the Court to order the Japanese authorities to furnish to defendant the original title deed of lot No. 42A, at Sagaramata, Nagasaki, or in its absence a duly legalized duplicate, as Hyver, once in possession of that document, would no longer refuse to pay the rent claimed.

Defendant handed to the Court the title deed at present in his possession, remarking that that document, not bearing the Japanese certificate establishing its validity, was of no value to him.

His Honour observed that the defence had to be translated into Japanese to enable plaintiff to reply to it, he would therefore adjourn the further hearing of the case to Saturday, 13th instant, at 2 p.m.

*Saturday, March 13th, 1880.*

Mr. Isono Hissa-hiro, in reply to the defence, stated that the *Kencho* had nothing to do with what happened between Mr. Hyver and Miss Labastide, and that it did not matter to the *Kencho* if the judgment rendered by the French Consular Court of Yokohama, on October 24th, 1877, was duly executed or not, although they admit that through its not being executed all the present difficulties had arisen. Hyver had applied several times for a new title deed, but the authorities could not issue a new one as long as the old one was in existence. Last year defendant had paid the rent without difficulty, and the *Kencho* saw no reason why he should not do it this year. In concluding, plaintiffs requested the Court to have the ground with the constructions thereon returned to the Japanese authorities if defendant should fail to pay the rent.

Mr. Harmand observed to the Court that if defendant had paid the rent last year, he had done so because he expected that the judgment would be executed and to avoid litigation.

His Honour said that the *Kencho* had handed to the Court the Japanese certificate legalizing the title deed.

Mr. Harmand inquired if this certificate annulled the old, still existing, title deed.

His Honour answered that this question was a very serious one, which could not be decided at once, but which had nothing to do with the case under consideration, as the Court had only to decide whether the Nagasaki *Kencho* is entitled to claim from Hyver the rent for the ground No. 42a.

Defendant observed that he objected to pay the rent as long as he was not in possession of the documents, for if he were to pay it to-day he might be dispossessed of the ground to-morrow, as he had been of his furniture.

This closed the hearing of the case.

Judgment reserved

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XLI.

#### YORITOMO'S MESSENGER.

In the spring time of the year following the battle that obliterated the last vestige of the Taira power, a party of cavaliers rode into Kiyoto at sunset by the great northern route. They wore no armour, neither was there anything in their appearance to distinguish them from ordinary travellers, except, perhaps, that men so well mounted and of such stout bearing suggested a concentration of force scarcely fitted to the accomplishment of any common end. Judged by his tansure and garb their leader would have been pronounced a priest, but it was difficult to believe that such thews had ever contentedly reposed under silken stole or embroidered amice. Moreover he alone of the whole band wore the harness so seldom laid aside in those turbulent times, for the glitter of an enchased breast plate shone from time to time under the folds of his alb, and in his girdle he carried a sword of singularly rich workmanship.

They stopped at a small hostel in the suburbs whither their retinue had, it appeared, already preceded them, for the vestibule and corridors were encumbered with armour cases, and the outer chambers crowded with a multitude of vassals largely disproportionate to the unassuming mein of their masters. So goodly a company of wayfarers did not often fall to the lot of the little inn, and seeing that their numbers were not confined to the thirty original arrivals, but that they were gradually supplemented by others, who rode leisurely up in twos and threes until the total had well might attained a century, one might easily have con-

jectured that the hospice had been selected for some reason other than the scant accomodation and poor fare it afforded.

Nevertheless the only place of note in the neighbourhood was the castle of Horikawa, Yoshitsune's occasional residence during his hours of leisure, chosen not for the sake of its strength as a fortress, since the condition had little influenced its design, but because the presence of a winding stream and an environment of wooded knolls had facilitated the construction of a plaisance then justly esteemed one of the fairest in the capital. In the year that followed the crowning victory of the knights of the white pennon, the young Minamoto chief's fame had not by any means grown cold. His name was still upon everybody's lips, and the people did but follow their Emperor's example when they called him the restorer of the country's peace, and prayed that they might long be suffered to sit under the shadow of his invincible prowess. But on the horizon of the future there was discernible a little cloud pregnant with tempest. Had Yoshitsune's achievements been anything less, they would neither have fulfilled the purpose of his mission southward nor satisfied Yoritomo's thirst for supremacy. As it was, however, the elder brother's renown seemed to suffer by contrast with the brilliancy of the younger's. It is difficult indeed to believe that a man who by diplomacy or strength had secured the homage of all the great barons of Japan, and who now held at Kamakura a court only inferior to that of Kiyoto in the age of its magnificence, could yet become a prey to jealousy as contemptible as it was unjust, yet whatever verdict history may have pronounced upon the outcome of Yoritomo's career, we shall scarcely find anything establishing his claim to be accredited with either magnanimity or its sister attribute, mercy. Cruel, jealous and implacable, the first breath of plaudits that made his brother's name audible to the world, not only obliterated every memory of gratitude but drove him at once to compass Yoshitsune's destruction. It is certainly true that his earliest suspicions of the young chief's loyalty were instilled by Kajiwara Kagetoki, who never forgot nor ever ceased to devise some means of revenging the slight he had suffered at the council of Captains before the battle of Dan no Ura; but it is equally true that Yoritomo's expressed discontent at the nation's undue exaltation of Yoshitsune's name and comparative neglect of his own, furnished Kajiwara with the occasion he desired. Himself an successful traitor he may perhaps have been accredited with the facility of detecting treachery, but however infallible his judgment or exceptional his opportunities of judging may have seemed, the slanders he whispered into Yoritomo's ear must have found a very fertile soil for their reception, else had they not taken root, flourished and bore fruit before the possibility of either confirming or confuting them could arise. Some lingering scruple or more probably a passing regard for his own fair fame did indeed for a time restrain Yoritomo. Yoshitsune, escorting the prisoners of note taken in his last battle, was on his way to Kamakura, and would presently be able to answer Kajiwara's charges in person. Until then judgment should be reserved, not because the success of the Genji arms was almost entirely due to the brilliant deeds of the accused man, nor yet because the accusation was founded entirely on the completeness of that success, but because to condemn either side without hearing both was an injustice that could only be perpetrated at some risk of disadvantage. Kajiwara however saw plainly how small a pretext was needed to overcome this hesitation. He knew that if confronted with Yoshitsune his charges could not be sustained for a moment, and he therefore wrote a solemn declaration in which he repeated his accusations, supporting them on the testimony of his honour and by every form of asseveration that the rules of conscience or religion prescribed.

This was all that Yoritomo needed. Almost immediately afterwards Yoshitsune, arriving at Koshigoye within a few miles of Kamakura, was met by a message forbidding him to proceed further without special permission from his brother. The astonishment this ungracious mandate caused was not dispelled by gradually received rumours of the truth. Yoshitsune was very far from overrating the importance of his own achievements, but he was still further from crediting the possibility of such an injustice as this of which he was now made the victim. He remembered the reception he had received from his brother at their meeting under the shadow of Mount Fuji only two years before and



the unlimited confidence with which he had subsequently been treated. To him the community of past misfortune seemed an indissoluble bond of friendship, while the consciousness that even this grievous wrong could not reconcile him to the very contemplation of disloyalty made it still harder for him to appreciate his brother's suspicions. For a long time he resolutely refused to believe the worst, and it was only when he had received proof upon proof of Yoritomo's implacable anger that he sorrowfully turned his face southward again. He had lingered at Koshigoye from autumn to spring never once relaxing his efforts to compass a reconciliation whether by letter, message or mediation, and during the whole of that period Yoritomo had been equally active in seeking to persuade his barons to take the field against the hero of the 'Valley of Ichi.' But to the credit of these generally venal warriors it must be recorded that they resolutely resisted their chief's magnificent offers. It can hardly have been the experience or reputation of Yoshitsune's prowess that deterred them, for while at Koshigoye he could only command a mere handful of troops, and it would not have taxed the capabilities of the court at Kamakura to put three or four score thousand men into the field at a few days' notice, but with the exception of Knjiwara himself and his immediate supporters there was scarcely a knight in Japan to whom the standard of chivalry did not seem to have been incomparably elevated by Yoshitsune's achievements. They would all have followed his pennon to the death had he solicited their aid, but to range themselves against him while the tale of his heroism was hardly yet half told, seemed little better than an impious sacrilege, for nothing short of divine patronage could have brought such deeds within reach of human capabilities.

Neither was Yoshitsune left in ignorance of the sympathy his wrongs excited. He knew that did he but raise his standard, thousands of his old comrades, tried veterans and staunch friends, would rally about him, while from Oshiu Hidehira sent repeated promises of support, and offered to place the whole northern army at his disposal for any purpose he might seem fit. From anything like open resistance, however, he resolutely turned away. The world, quick to censure and slow to acquit, is ever ready to antedate the birth of the evil that is begotten of wrongs endured, and he knew well that a blow struck in self-defence, would be easily misconstrued into a justification of the injuries which had evoked it. He therefore wrote his brother a farewell letter, a letter destined to be cited by posterity as the most perfect production of loyal magnanimity and patient manhood, and then retraced his steps to Kiyoto with a sad heart, but an unblemished reputation. We shall see presently that he did not select the capital because either the Emperor's goodwill or the presence of those who had followed him in all his campaigns made his position there well-nigh impregnable, but because he never abandoned the hope of reconciliation and deemed that a favorable influence was most likely to be exercised by the interference of his sovereign, or the mediation of the southern barons.

This then, was the cloud that marred the sunshine of the nation's hard-earned peace during the year following the downfall of the Taira power, and changed the honorable rest Yoshitsune had so well earned, into a sorrowful season of disquiet and foreboding. None knew what a day might bring forth, and every troop of cavaliers that rode to or from the capital furnished the citizens with food for uneasy surmise. The air was rife with rumours of an impending struggle and though Yoshitsune seemed to concern himself least of all about the things that were going forward, however patiently he bore his wrongs, his most intimate friends had no difficulty in perceiving that his brother's estrangement had inflicted a never-healing wound on his loyal heart.

On the afternoon of the day that witnessed the arrival of the thirty travellers we have described above, he had retired to the castle of Horikawa accompanied only by half a score of knights and Shidzuka, his beautiful wife. Never at any time did he love to surround himself with guards nor had his hostile relations with Yoritomo induced him to change his habits in this respect; for though he had ample evidence of his brother's desire to achieve his destruction, he steadily refused to admit, or suffer others to suggest, the possibility of a treacherous attempt upon his life. This confidence was not, however, shared by his trusty followers, Benkei and Saburo. They did not form a harsher

estimate of Yoritomo's character than the rest of the world when they adjudged him capable of anything that might accomplish his cruel purpose, and it was to the system of careful observation they had established, that Yoshitsune owed timely information of the thirty travellers' advent at the hostel in the neighbourhood of his castle.

It appeared that these wayfarers had passed the preceding night, at an inn scarcely an hour's journey from their present resting place. Evidently therefore they were in no haste to reach the capital, but had either purposely delayed their progress or been unavoidably retarded by some accident. To prevent the possibility of an erroneous conclusion, Benkei questioned his informant particularly on the latter point, and learned that, not only had the cavaliers met with no hindrance, but that the horses they rode were remounts which had awaited them at a village not many miles distant, the steeds that carried them before being utterly wearied out by the extraordinary speed to which they had been urged. All this was sufficiently suspicious, but it became very much more disquieting when coupled with the facts that the cavaliers, originally a hundred in number, had divided into three bands at their last halting place, one company only proceeding direct to the hostel, the other two choosing circuitous by-roads and making their way by twos and threes to the same place.

Benkei scarcely made any inquiries about the leader of the troop, probably because he had previously obtained all the information he needed, for he described his appearance accurately to Yoshitsune when reporting the event that evening, and even called him by his name, Friar Tosa. Yoshitsune, as usual, received the intelligence very calmly. There was no reason to suppose that the friar's journey had any reference to himself, he said, but at any rate as the man had chosen to come within reach, it might be as well to interrogate him directly on the subject. At the same time though still subject to an ancient ban of exile from the capital, he was a favorite liegeman of Yoritomo's and those that went to summon him must therefore see that they treated him with all courtesy.

Benkei did not stay to comment upon this latter injunction though he plainly regarded it with no little displeasure. Hastening off at once to the hostel, he scarcely waited to be announced but strode at once into the great chamber, paying no attention whatever to the menacing looks with which the members of the band watched his intrusion. He found the friar engaged in perusing a plan, which, however swiftly it was laid aside, Benkei's quick eye recognized to be the map of a castle and its approaches, and this circumstance probably tallied with some preconceived idea of his own, for he regarded the paper with a peculiar significance that was not altogether lost upon its owner.

The friar had laid aside his priestly habiliments and now appeared in a suit of light mail which looked very much better fitted to his huge limbs than the stole and cassock. He seemed at first considerably disconcerted by Benkei's sudden appearance, but quickly recovering his composure, greeted his guest with dignified courtesy.

"I congratulate you on your return to the capital, friar," said Benkei significantly, after they had exchanged greetings. "Your friends here did not count on seeing you so soon, methinks."

"I have come upon business not of my own choosing," was the evasive reply, "and I hope to make so short a stay that my visit will be scarcely illegal."

"Nevertheless you tarried beyond the suburbs for a length of time that seems somewhat disproportionate to the previous speed of your journey."

"This was a well aimed thrust, for it implied even more than a knowledge of the details of the friar's progress. It failed, however, to disturb the other in the least."

"I suffer from an old complaint which reduces me sometimes to the condition of a decrepit greybeard," he returned with a smile. "Otherwise I had not perhaps tarried long enough to have the pleasure of meeting you here."

"Nay, by my faith, if not here then assuredly elsewhere," Benkei remarked bluntly, "for since you have not chosen to pay your respects to my lord, Yoshitsune, of your own accord, I must c'en have sought you out sooner or later to conduct you to his presence."

"His lordship then desires to see me, it would seem?"

"As to that, I must leave you to form your own conjectures, but at any rate I am here to act as your guide."

"I am sorry that you should have had so much trouble, more especially as I propose to do myself the honour of waiting on his lordship to-morrow."

"There is no time like the present, friar Tosa. It irks me much to cause you inconvenience, but most things can wait better than my master, methinks."

The two men looked at each other for an instant in silence. Probably the friar was casting up the chances of successfully resisting Benkei's mission, but if so he apparently found the odds against him, for without further comment he signified his readiness to follow Yoshitsune's messenger. Benkei watched him keenly as he made his preparations, admiring not a little the wondrous strength of nerve that enabled him to control every evidence of concern, and confessing to himself that the man was well suited to his suspected mission. It was indeed difficult to believe that he would really consent to an interview so fraught with peril as this must be, and to the last the giant glaivesman was beset with doubts that almost assumed the complexion of certainty as the friar's fellow-travellers crowded about him with looks of wonder and remonstrance at the inn-door. But the priest scarcely deigning to notice their eager inquiries, mounted his horse and rode rapidly off without even accepting the escort of which his followers seemed one and all bent upon forming a part. "He means to brazen the thing out to the last," thought Benkei, "and by my faith he is right, for unless his interrogator is more suspicious than his wont, the Earl of Kamakura's messenger will easily find grace in his eyes."

Nevertheless the friar's stout bearing underwent a considerable change when he found himself in Yoshitsune's presence. Not that there was anything in the young chief's surroundings at all calculated to impress one accustomed to the pomp of the court at Kamakura, but the fame of mighty deeds has a more stirring effect upon brave hearts than any pageant power can prepare. Yoshitsune's handsome face, softened almost to gentleness by the influences of the noble nature it reflected, and at the same time overshadowed by a sadness little suited to his unripe years, was one that none might look on unmoved, and his visitor found himself strangely embarrassed as he offered some halting excuses for the tardiness of his coming. "Your lordship knows," he explained, "that for many years I have been debarred from those pious exercises to which my life is dedicated and of which my unavoidable share in the struggle so happily terminated places me in all the more imperative need. If my first hours in the capital have not been devoted to visits of ceremony, need I ask you to remember the circumstances under which I am here; circumstances which may yet any moment resolve themselves into a necessity for my immediate departure before the purpose of my journey has been even in part achieved."

Yoshitsune made no reply to this speech either by word or gesture. Knowing what he had been taught to know of the other's designs, there was something inexpressibly audacious in this allusion to their possible failure. "I had proposed to visit the seven chief shrines of Kiyoto and offer up prayers for the permanence of the Genji rule," the friar resumed, "and since this is the sole aim of my coming, I deemed, perhaps wrongly, that your lordship would pardon me for postponing my homage to the accomplishment of my religious vows."

Yoshitsune still remaining silent, Benkei now confronted the friar and asked him bluntly whether he had selected his hostel on account of its distance from all the shrines he desired to visit, or for the sake of its vicinity to the castle of Horikawa.

"The position of the inn was not of my own choosing," the other replied. "I am but one of a party and must needs consult my comrades convenience. Nevertheless, since to judge from your question that my sincerity seems doubtful, I am ready to establish it by any method of proof you may appoint."

"There is but one reason to question your good faith," Yoshitsune interposed, "though for my own part I may neither find that reason sufficient nor easily persuade myself to repeat it. I have learned from experience that slander is an evil guide, and would fain avoid a recurrence of the injustice under which I am now unhappily labouring."

"I am fortunate in finding such a considerate judge as your lordship. May I be permitted to know the reason to which you allude?"

The friar's voice was still firm, but his clenched fists were pressed down with such violence that they seemed half buried in the straw mats, and a dew of apprehension gathered slowly on his pallid forehead.

"The reason," Yoshitsune replied bending forward and gazing fixedly at the priest's face as he spoke, "the reason is that men say your purpose in coming to Kiyoto is to assassinate me, and that you have a hundred of the best swordsmen in Kamakura to aid you in the design. Sooth to say if this were true, I might easily understand your reluctance to pay me a preliminary visit."

"Aye, and your presence at a hostel that can barely accommodate half the following you found it expedient to divide into so many sections at your last halting place," added Benkei, "not to speak of the extraordinary celerity of your journey's early stages and the timely deliberation of its latter portion. By my faith, friar Tosa, the master you serve would meet you small mercy on evidence half as damning."

For a moment the priest had seemed on the verge of losing his self-command, but the sound of menace in Benkei's tones and the aspect of approaching danger roused him to more than his previous strength of resistance. He did not trust himself to reply but drawing from his bosom a paper bearing a delineation of the ravens of Gongen, inscribed thereon a solemn assertion, reading it out word by word as he wrote. "I swear by Izanagi, Izanami and Sura no O, the God kings of our sacred land, that I am innocent in thought, word or deed, of the crime laid to my charge, and I pray that if this my declaration be obscured by any shadow of falsehood, the curse of heaven in any or every conceivable form, may fall upon me and annihilate me as I speak."

Having indited these characters and repeated them thrice in a voice scarcely tremulous, he ignited the paper at the brazier and held it as it burned so that the ashes settled down in a little black heap upon his extended fan. These he then mixed in a draught of water and turning his face to the south, swallowed the charred particles with a convulsive gulp.

Yoshitsune scarcely seemed to concern himself about this performance but Benkei followed each of its details with an astonishment almost amounting to consternation. The giant soldier was not so far exempt from superstition as to credit the immunity of deliberate perjury, and that the priest had uttered a black falsehood in the very ears of the gods themselves, he never for an instant doubted. "It was even such an oath," he muttered angrily, "that obtained credence for the foul traitor Kajiwara's defamation of the least and best knight that ever poised a glaive. Surely those phylacteries have lost their virtue or else on this soil people have lapsed beyond the care of their guardian gods."

The priest had hitherto suffered no symptom of umbrage to appear, but now one might have fancied that he almost welcomed this opportunity to give his passion vent. Springing to his feet he drew his sword half out of its sheath, and confronting Benkei, asked him fiercely whether he dared to impugn the good faith of his oath. The other, evidently delighted at this new phase of the affair, replied to the friar's invective with a jibing laugh, and tucking the skirts of his garment under his girdle, stretched out his hand towards the ponderous glaive from which he could never long endure to be separated. But before he could raise the weapon Yoshitsune's iron fan had fallen upon its blade, and once again ill-timed forbearance averted a most desirable issue.

"Yours is the fault, Benkei, since you refuse to be persuaded by what is beyond impugment. I crave your forbearance, friar Tosa, for my liegeman's mistrust. I think you have sought to persuade me alone, and a less extreme measure would have amply achieved your purpose. Nothing shall even induce me to believe my brother capable of the designs report ascribes to him, and I thank you heartily for confirming my faith in his honour. Is it impossible that you should supplement your good offices by acting as a mediator between him and me?"

It would have been difficult indeed for friar Tosa not to fancy that he discovered some tone of sarcasm in these words, but to the last his performance of the rôle he had devised was almost faultless. With every semblance of serious resolve he promised to obey Yoshitsune's injunctions, and even claimed some probability of success for his intercession. Nevertheless he would not consent to share

the banquet prepared for the master of the castle and his guests, excusing himself on the plea that until the accomplishment of his vow he had sworn not to touch fish or wine, and though Yoshitsune was almost peremptory in his invitation, this resolve could not be overcome. Nothing remained, therefore, but to accept his excuses and permit him to return to the hostel, whither Benkei would fain have accompanied him to discuss the value of the phylactery more at leisure, but Yoshitsune seemed resolved to prevent a collision between the two men. He desired the glaivesman to remain at his side, and after the friar's departure, secured the presence, not of Benkei alone, but of all his followers by bidding them to a feast at which the fast circulating wine cup soon dispelled every memory of Yoritomo's treacherous purpose. There was still one thing in life that could induce oblivion of severed affection and unmerited wrong, but was it desperation or an evil fate that persuaded Yoshitsune to court so perilous a condition on this night of all others?

(To be continued.)

### DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

In this pursuit vast energy and pains  
Mid certain peril seek uncertain gains.  
Courage, endurance, knowledge, force of mind,  
To grand results directed, few to find.  
Each mighty man who in this path has trod  
In classic times had been dubbed demigod  
Heroes from various climes have filled the roll  
By grateful fame inscribed on hist'ry's scroll  
Savants, kings, merchants, joined with seamen bold!  
First think on Cabot, then on Nordenkjöld.

1.

Turn when this word you hear : you're wanted surely !  
If you prefer it, go your way demurely.

2.

That tedious hicough has another name,  
More like sound made by martyr to the same.

3.

Sweet little infant ! on your pinafore  
You've spilt some. More defiles the floor.

4.

Of various values, but a well known measure,  
Of length, I wean ; but not of malt or treasure.

5.

Sir, I decline to take your trashy paper,  
Pay me in coin, or I'll make you caper !

6.

In Club or tavern, here the thirsty band,  
With jest and laughter, take a constant "stand."

7.

The Saxon *jeunesse d'orée* with this co-in  
For drinks, and cards, and pleasure used to go in.

8.

I hope you won't be quite so impolite,  
As say it of this poem ; though you might.

9.

Like other clergymen, this fine old priest  
Had naughty children ; so I've read, at least.

10.

I'm not at all ashamed of doing this.  
Latin or English, I have found it bliss.

11.

Poor girl ! To you denied that sweet sensation,  
Which rules "the camp, the court, the grove," the nation.

### A HINT.

This is the easiest puzzle you will ever see.  
It's saturated with the number three.

QUAM.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF MAR. 13TH, BY "FUJIYAMA."

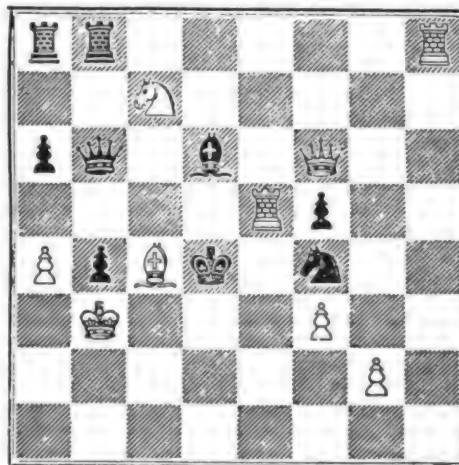
Last		First.
L	a d	Y
A	v	E
S	e	A
T	a p e	R

Correct answers received from Quam, Tip and Zulu. Others incorrect.

### CHESS PROBLEM,

BY F. HEALEY.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF MAR. 13TH, BY the Redacteur of "Sissa."

White.

1.—B. to K. B. 7.  
2.—R. to B. 3. dis. ch.  
3.—R. to K. R. 3 mates

Black.

1.—K. Kt. 2.  
2.—K. moves.  
1.—Q. R. or B. takes B.

If  
2.—R. to K. R. 6 double ch.  
3.—Mates.

Correct answers received from V. d. P., and P.

With reference to V. d. P.'s query as to Mr. Campbell's problem, try

1.—Kt. K. 3.  
2.—Kt. Kt. 7 ch.  
2.—K. tks. K. 1.  
3.—B. Kt. 6 mates.

### NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Mar. 25th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 30th
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 29th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 25th

\* Left Hongkong, 17th March, *Tawaia*.

### NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 30th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 27th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Mar. 21st
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 24th
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	April 3rd
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 22nd
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 24th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

### LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels :—

Merchant steamer :—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer :—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

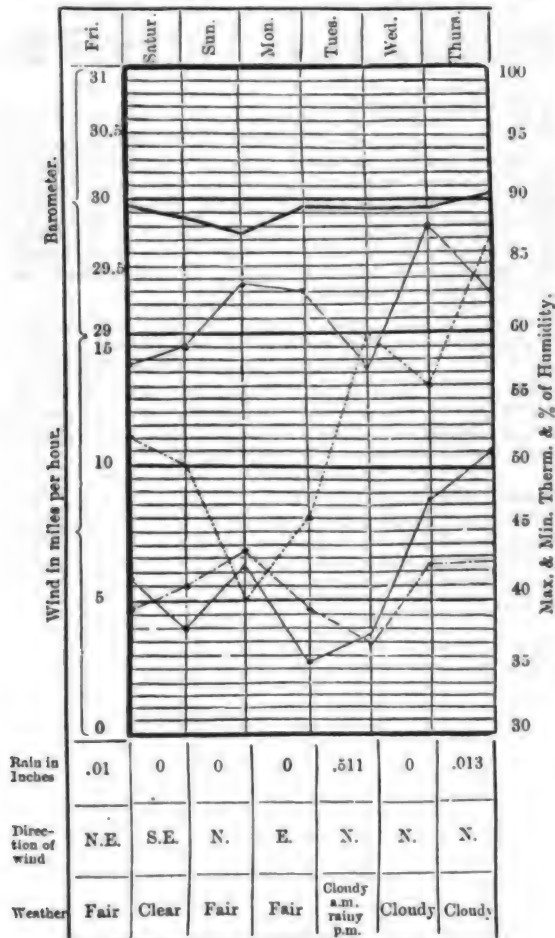
Man-of-war :—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels :—For a ship : flag B. (red) : barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground) : brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground) : schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as seen as it can be made out



## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 12TH, 1880.  
Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.  
Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.  
.....represents velocity of wind  
.....percentage of humidity  
Max. velocity of wind 23 miles per hour on Sunday at 4 p.m.  
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.  
The highest reading of the barometer was 30.044 on Thursday at 10 p.m., and the lowest was 29.655 on Sunday at 2 p.m.  
There has been a considerable rise in temperature during the latter part of the week, the maximum being 68° on Wednesday, and the minimum temperature has also rapidly risen. The total amount of rain for the week was .534 inches. The barometer has been generally low, but is rising at the end of the week.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Mar. 13, British barque *Chili*, Veal, 445, from Bristol, Coal, to Captain.  
Mar. 14, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 521, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Mar. 15, Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, Pyne, 295, from Yokkaichi, General, to M. B. Co.  
Mar. 15, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Mar. 16, British steamer *Sunda*, Seaton, 1,029, from Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.  
Mar. 16, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133 from Kobe, General, to M. B. Co.  
Mar. 18, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, from Shanghai and way-ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Mar. 18, British schooner *Floral Star*, Davison, 244, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.  
Mar. 18, Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, Nye, 1,407, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Mar. 19, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 652, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
Mar. 20, British steamer *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,652, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hongkong via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Yamaguchi, Mrs. Nabeshima and child, Mrs. Hayato, Kitajima, Sano, Uyeta, Sakamoto, Mr. E. H. House and servant, Messrs. Furukawa, Shibuya, Haraguchi, Iwatsuki. 17 Europeans, 2 Chinese and 64 Japanese in steerage.  
Per British steamer *Sunda* from Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Hon. J. Russell and Mr. C. D. Bottomley for Nagasaki. Mr. and Mrs. Waterhouse, Mr. Seriebckoff, and 8 Chinese for Yokohama.  
Per Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, from Kobe:—101 Japanese in steerage.  
Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Shanghai and way ports:—His Excellency Awoki, (Minister to Germany), Madame Awoki, General Stahl, (U. S. Consul) Miss H. Valliria, Mrs. Omoto and child, Dr. George Slys, Captain Edward Gates, Captain Waga-gawa, Messrs. Watanabe, Kitago, Iwahashi, Jenkins, Maitland, Draven Kelly, Gasper, Santa Marina, Gilman, Horre, Kagawa, R. D. Rolison, Moritera, Midsuno, Okada, Tamimaru and Koshiwara in cabin; 2 European, 3 Chinese and Japanese in steerage.  
Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru* from Kobe:—100 Japanese.  
Per British steamer *Gaelic* from San Francisco:—Rev. C. S. Long and wife, Paymaster R. Washington, U.S.N., Edward Cronin, U.S.N., Rev. G. Draper and wife, Messrs. Alfred McGlew, H. N. Bramwell, M. Isaacs, Donald Ross, W. B. Griffiths, Omiten Kanda in cabin, and one Chinese in steerage, for Yokohama, and Rev. D. W. Willetts, wife and child for Shanghai, and Capt. E. H. Bun, and 255 Chinese for Hongkong.

## OUTWARDS.

Mar. 15, British barque *Coldstream*, Morgan, 545, for Kobe, General, despatched by Simon, Evers & Co.  
Mar. 15, Japanese steamer *Hingo Maru*, Moore, 896, for Kobe, General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Mar. 15, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 946, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Mar. 17, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, for Shanghai and way-ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Mar. 17, Japanese barque *Kanagawa Maru*, Eckstrand, 606, for Nagasaki, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Mar. 18, Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, Pyne, 295, for Yokkaichi, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Mar. 19, Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Drummond, 1,240, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Mar. 19, Japanese steamer *Akitashima Maru*, Frahm, 1,146, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Mar. 19, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 521, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
Mar. 20, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, W. Walker, 1,603, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and way ports:—Mr. and Mrs. D. Arnat, Mr. and Mrs. Koidzumi, Mrs. Iwamura, Dr. W. A. Henderson, Col. J. G. Fair, Lieut. Behr, Messrs. Ishimaru, De la Costa, Hirayama, Sakai, Takahashi, Seki, Iwamura, Ikeda, T. Walsh, H. de Possel Deydier, J. M. Scott, R. N. Dey, J. G. Fair, jr., Moroto, Idei, Takenaka, Komoteda, Sasaki, V. Roehr, H. Schoning, Chin Kai San, Naka, Shima, and Goyee.  
Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—General J. Stahl, Messrs. D. Stratton, Seki, F. A. Copo, and L. Dubois.

## CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Tibre*, from Hongkong:—  
General ... .. 7,118 pkgs.  
Per British steamer *Sunda* from Hongkong:—  
Transhipment ... .. 254 pkgs.  
Cargo from Hongkong ... .. 7,338 "  
" " Nagasaki ... .. 24 "  
Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and way-ports:—  
Treasure ... .. \$ 1,600.00  
" ... .. Yen 73,473.00  
Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Shanghai & ports:—  
Treasure ... .. Gold Yen 13,000.00

## REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* reports: Left Hongkong at 9.30 a.m. on the 6th March. Light moonson and fine weather to Turnabout. Thence to Yokosima strong moonson and cloudy weather, thence to Kobe, light N.E. winds and fine weather, arriving at 7.15 a.m. on the 12th March. Left Kobe for Yokohama at 4 p.m. on the 13th instant, arrived at Yokohama at 12.30 on the 15th inst. experienced moderate N.W. winds and fine weather.  
The British steamer *Sunda* reports: Experienced fine weather throughout.  
The Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* reports: Left Kobe at 6 p.m. on the 14th instant, arrived at Yokohama at 3 a.m. on the 16th instant, sighted at 5 a.m. on the 15th the *Sunda* ahead, came up with and passed her at 4 p.m. Experienced light winds and very fine weather throughout.  
The British schooner *Floral Star* reports: Left Takao 1st March. Arrived at Yokohama 11th March. Experienced very strong N. E. moonson and dirty weather throughout.

The Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru* reports: Left Kobe 17th March at 8 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama 7.30 a.m. 19th March. Passed the Company's barque. *Kanayama Maru*, off Ome Saki, bound south. Experienced light easterly winds and fine weather throughout.

The British steamer *Gaelic* reports: Left San Francisco at 2 p.m. on the 28th February. Had fine weather to the Meridian, when we encountered strong westerly gales for four days; thence to Yokohama variable winds. Arrived at 5 a.m. on the 20th March. Passage 19 days.

## VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

## S A I L E D.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charlwood	LONDON	Yokohama
Nov. 5	Crossfield	"	"
Jan. 10	Meath (s.s.)	"	"
" 14	Ullock	"	"
" 24	Fliutshire (s.s.)	"	"
Nov. 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
Sept. 27	Clydesdale	NEW YORK	"
Oct. 3	Lucille	"	"
" 10	Columbia	"	"
" 23	L. J. Morse	"	"
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leouora	"	"
Nov. 7	Centennial	"	"
" 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
" 21	Mannul Llaguno	"	"
Dec. 1	Paul Revere	"	"
" 29	Susan Gilmore	"	"
Jan. 9	Alice Buck	"	Hiego
Nov. 5	Hesperia	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Dec. 18	Lydia (s.s.)	"	"
Jan. 18	River Lagan	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Oct. 5	Wm. H. Marcy	PHILADELPHIA	Hiego
" 26	Sea King	"	"
Nov. 10	H. H. McGilvery	"	Nagasaki
Dec. 20	Laertes (s.s.)	GREENOCK	"
Dec. 13	Bonanza	SAN FRANCISCO	Hiego

## L O A D I N G .

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Jan. 30	Glencagles (s.s.)	LONDON	Yokohama
" 30	Matchless	"	"
" 30	Sestos (s.s.)	"	"
" 30	Sunbeam (s.s.)	"	"
" 30	Glenfalloch (s.s.)	"	"
" 30	Glencoe (s.s.)	"	"
" 30	Harter (s.s.)	"	"
" 30	Ophelia	NEW YORK	"
" 27	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 27	Vale of Nith	"	"
" 30	Scottish Fairy	GLASGOW	"
" 30	Montgomeryshire (s.s.)	"	"
" 27	Cassandra (s.s.)	HAMBURG	"

## NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 20th March, 1880.)

		Discount on Yen Satz.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidary (New.)	Silver Subsidary (Old.)
	A. M.	Noon.	Closing.					
1880.								
Monday.....	Mar. 15	42½	42½	42	374	326	113	102
Tuesday.....	" 16	42	42½	42½	—	—	—	—
Wednesday.....	" 17	42½	43	43½	—	—	—	—
Thursday.....	" 18	43½	43½	43½	—	—	—	—
Friday.....	" 19	43½	43½	43½	—	—	—	—
Saturday.....	" 20	43½	43½	43½	—	—	—	—

## MISCELLANEOUS.

W. & A. GILBEY'S  
WINES AND SPIRITS.

W. & A. GILBEY have special facilities for carrying on an extensive Foreign Trade, having held for many years in their Excise Bonded Stores, for the purpose of their Home Trade, a stock of not less than 12,000 Casks of Wines and Spirits, which are equally available for Export. These stores are by far the largest private Duty Free Warehouses in the World, and are under the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially attached to these Warehouses.

THE EXTENT of W. & A. Gilbey's purchases enables them to give the best VALUE to the public, as a twentieth part of the Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom is supplied from their stock. In the year 1876 W. & A. Gilbey paid duty on 1,881,049 gallons of Wines and Spirits, and the average quantity bottled and sent out by them daily was 3,050 dozens or 36,600 bottles.

QUALITY is guaranteed by W. & A. Gilbey, and is the same whether the Wines or Spirits are obtained direct from their Head Establishments or from any of their Agents. The purity and genuineness of every article in this list are guaranteed in accordance with Act of Parliament, 38 and 39 Vict., Cap. 63.

W. & A. Gilbey have always adhered to the standard of Bottle Measure recently recognised by the Government, namely—

6 bottles contain one gallon; 12 half-bottles contain one gallon.

SECURITY is ensured to the purchaser, each bottle bearing W. & A. Gilbey's seal and label guaranteeing quality and measure, and the strength also in the case of Spirits.

## W. &amp; A. Gilbey's Head Establishments:—

England.—(Offices) Pantheon, Oxford Street, London; (Warehouses, Duty Paid) Oval Road, Camden Town, London.

Ireland.—(Offices) Upper Sackville Street, Dublin; (Warehouses, Duty Paid) Upper Sackville St., Dublin.

Scotland.—(Offices) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh; (Warehouses, Duty Paid) Haymarket, West End, Edinburgh.

France.—Principal Establishment, Chateau Loudenne, near St. Estephe, Medoc.

Excise Bonded Stores.—Warehouses, Nos. 1 to 5, North-Western Goods Station, and Bouny Street, Camden Town, London.

Distillery.—James Street, Camden Town, London.

Printing Department.—Poland Street, Oxford Street, London.

J. J. GARGAN,  
ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,  
No. 88, Creek Side.

Machinery of all kinds overhauled and Repaired.

House Building and Repairs Contracted for.

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 1679	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Gaelic	Kidley	British steamer	2,652	San Francisco	Mar. 20	O. & O. Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 1378	M. B. Co.
Sunda	Seaton	British steamer	1,029	Hongkong	Mar. 16	P. & O. Co.
Takasago Maru	Young	Japanese steamer	1,230	Shanghai & ports	Mar. 18	M. B. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	Mar. 13	M. M. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Feb. 26	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Chilli	Veal	British barque	445	Bristol	Mar. 13	Captain
Floral Star	Davison	British schooner	244	Takao	Mar. 18	Chinese
G. Broughton	Cleminshaw	British barque	803	Antwerp	Mar. 12	Simon, Evers & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	—	German schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Oct. 22	P. Bohm
Matinée	Lenard	American schooner	35	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	Russian Authorities
Merom	Lowell	American ship	1,200	New York	Mar. 11	Walsh, Hall & Co.
North Star	—	Russian schooner	64	Kurile Islands	Oct. 27	Fearon, Low and Co.
Otome	Jensen	Russian schooner	55	Nemuro	Feb. 9	Hohnholz & Co.
Otago	Isacsen	Russian schooner	46	Bonin Islands	Jan. 27	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
West Glen	Thompson	British barque	699	Antwerp	Mar. 10	L. Kniffier & Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
AMERICAN.—Alert ... ..	4	1,050	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ... ..	4	1,000	—	Gun-vessel	Vladivostok	Captain Schauce

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ... ..	Volga	M. M. Co.	Mar. 21st, at 7 a.m.
Hongkong ... ..	Gaelic	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 23rd, at daylight.
Hongkong via Kobe ... ..	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	April 3rd, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco ... ..	City of Peking	P. M. Co.	About Mar. 30th
Shanghai and way-ports ... ..	Takasago Maru	M. B. Co.	Mar. 24th, at 4 p.m.



## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—Business more or less at a standstill. *Yarn* weak, buyers hold off, and quotations are almost nominal. *Shirtings* dull at about former rates. *T-Cloths*, 7 lbs. best, advanced to \$1.80. *Lawns* improved to 88 cents. *Woollens* as before, other sorts unchanged.

## COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$31.50 to 35.00
" " Good to Best ... "	\$36.75 to 38.00
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... "	\$32.00 to 34.25
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... "	\$38.00 to 40.00
" " Good to Best ... "	\$41.00 to 42.00
" 38 to 42 ... "	\$40.00 to 42.00

## COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.65 to 1.95
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.90 to 2.75
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.20 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 34 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.80
Drills, English: 14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12 " 44 in. "	\$1.75 to 1.80
Prints:—Assorted... " 24 " 30 in. "	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.11½ to 0.14
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.62½
Do. 2½ to 3 lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.82½
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

## COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ... 35 " 22 in. per piece	\$8.25 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns:— " 12 " 42/3 in. "	\$0.85 to 0.88
Taffeta:— " 12 " 43 in. "	\$1.75 to 1.90

## WOOLLENS:—

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 yds. 32 in.	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Corda ... 29-30 yds. 22 in.	4.00 to 5.25
Mousseline de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in.	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 21 yds. 30 in.	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy, 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.55 to 0.60
Union ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb.	0.38 to 0.42

SUGAR.—Sales of some 4,500 bags at \$4.50 to \$4.60 are reported. Stocks are about 18,000 bags.

KEROSENE.—The market is inactive; we hear of sales amounting to about 8,380 boxes, at rates ranging from \$1.64-5. Stocks are estimated at about 320,000 cases.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... per picul	\$4.50 to \$4.60
Taiwanfoo in bag ... "	\$4.10 to \$4.15
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ... "	\$8.00 to \$9.00
China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fah. ... "	\$6.25 to \$8.00
Daitong ... per picul	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... "	\$2.50 to \$3.00
Kerosene Oil ... "	\$1.62 to \$1.65
Newchwang Peas ... "	\$2.20 to \$2.25

## EXPORTS.

SILK.—Our Silk market has been very depressed during the past week, business being almost at a standstill, and sales scarcely amount to 100 shipping bales. Holders at last appear to realize that they cannot entirely ignore the home markets, and they would in most cases accept a reduction of about \$20 per picul, on quotations of 13th instant. Prices are, however, to a great extent nominal and on really high class Silks, which are scarce, natives do not yet admit any but a very slight decline.

Stock about 3,000 Japanese bales.

Total export to date 16,393 bales against 16,714 bales at the same period last season.

	In London at 3/9½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.		In London at 3/9½. per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.
Hanks, —Superior, nom...			Kakeda, —Extra ...	\$720 to 740 24/5 to 25/	frs. 68 00 to 69 25
" Best ... \$665 to 680 22/8 to 23/2		frs. 62 50 to 64 00	" Best ...	\$670 to 690 22 10 to 23/6	frs. 62 80 to 64 50
" Good ... \$650 to 660 22/2 to 22/6		frs. 61 30 to 62 00	" Good ...	\$610 to 650 21/ to 22, 2	frs. 59 00 to 61 30
" Good Medium ... \$630 to 640 21/6 to 21/10		frs. 60 00 to 60 50	" Medium ...	\$770 to 790 26/ to 26 8	frs. 72 00 to 73 50
" Medium ... \$600 to 610 20 11 to 21 3		frs. 58 25 to 59 00	" Common ...		
" Common, In'r... \$550 to 570 18 11 to 19 7		frs. 52 30 to 54 00	Filatures, —Extra ...	\$720 to 750 24 5 to 25 4	frs. 68 00 to 70 00
Oshius, —Best ... \$620 to 650 21 2 to 22 2		frs. 59 80 to 61 30	" Good ...	\$660 to 700 22 6 to 23 9	frs. 62 00 to 65 25
" Medium ...			" Med. & C'n		
Hamatsuki ... \$580 to 610 19/11 to 21/00		frs. 54 80 to 59 00			

## EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72½
" Bank Bills on demand	3/9	" Private 10 days sight	73½
" Private 4 months' sight	3/10	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	91
" " 6 " " "	3/10½	" 30 days sight Private	92½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight	4.72	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	91
" Private 6 ms. sight	4.87	" 30 days sight Private	92½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	½ % prem.	Kinsatz	43½ dis.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.	Gold Yen	8 prem.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,**

No. 80, Main Street.

**JUST RECEIVED.**

**A** MERICAN ENVELOPES;—Card, Note, Letter, Official and Photograph sizes. Bond Paper, Envelopes, Note and Letter sizes.

WRITING PAPERS;—Note, Letter, Foolscap, Bill and Legal caps.

CLIPPER INKSTANDS;—Single and Double.

CARTER'S FRENCH COPYING INK—A deep violet black—warranted to take 5 to 8 perfect copies.

CARTER'S CARMINES and VIOLET INKS.

KNOWLTON'S COMBINED WRITING and COPYING INK. Flows as free as any FLUID, and will give two to four perfect copies.

KNOWLTON'S CHEMICAL WRITING FLUID—Equal to Arnold's.

Van Stans Stratena Cement.

**THE LITHOGRAM**

This wonderful invention is now in use by many of the leading firms in Yokohama, and is pronounced indispensable by all who have tried it.

SARGENT, FARSARI & Co. manufacture them and guarantee satisfaction.

Yokohama, March 17th, 1880.

**MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA,**

(HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

**P** RIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class, let at the rate of from 50 sen to 80 sen per day, and from 12 yen to 20 yen per month.

BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class.....	{ 1.50 yen per day, or 40.00 " " month.
3rd class.....	{ 1.00 yen per day, or 28.00 " " month.


All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates, for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.



**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.  
Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.  
May 3, 1879.

tf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITION, 1876."

**OAKEY'S**  
**WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH**

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO RAW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

**OAKEY'S**  
**INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS**

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

**OAKEY'S**  
**SILVERSMITHS SOAP**

(NON-MERCURIAL). FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

**OAKEY'S**  
**WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD**

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# THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF  
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. IV. No. 13.]

Yokohama, March 27, 1880.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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## THE PRESS AND A REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY.

IN virtue of the authority which the Government has reserved to itself over all Japanese publications issued within the empire, a warning is said to have been addressed to all printers and publishers that any work dealing with political subjects, such as the formation of a representative assembly, is liable to censorship. Should any treatise appear, which is deemed offensive or dangerous, it will be suppressed. It is certain that the pamphlet of a Mr. Uyeki, a member of the *Aikokusha*, or so-called patriotic society, has been so dealt with. Now it would be the height of absurdity and injustice to suppose that the authorities would have acted in the manner which they have seen cause to adopt, without due deliberation, and what they deemed sufficient reason. On the whole, ever since the promulgation, four years and a half ago, of the press laws which are now in force, they have, often under very trying circumstances, used their power firmly, but with wisdom and moderation. That the code formulated was urgently required must be admitted by all who recollect the degradation into which the newspapers of the country were falling, in their youth and unfettered freedom. It is also evident that the present comparatively high tone attained by the institution, is in great part due to the wholesome sense of restriction arising from the knowledge that impropriety, slander, licentiousness and sedition, would not be allowed to find free expression in any sheet which chose to prostitute its columns to any species of depravity. As the then conductor of the *Japan Mail* lucidly shewed, the press law was a necessity, and would not injuriously affect upright and high-minded writers. Subsequent history has fully justified his sensible predictions, which were in direct contrast to the diatribes about "a muzzled press" and so on, indulged in by other commentators. Had the very humanely designed "muzzle" of September, 1875,

never been contrived, the newspapers of Japan would probably by this day have become a raging, rabid, howling nuisance. Learning and discretion would have been reduced to a discount among its guides and contributors; and vernacular ephemeral literature would certainly never have been the vehicle for such articles as we have often had the pleasure of translating from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and other high class journals. We leave the question to the decision of impartial foreign readers, which state of affairs is preferable:—the actual orderly and generally well-conducted condition of an institution respectable and respected, a fair representative, informant, and instructor of the people; or the condition which might and must have been produced had journalism been allowed to drift into a sink of scurrility, defamation and obscenity?

Is it probable, we would ask, that a Government whose sagacity in its control of publications events have so fully justified; whose hand upon the press during the Satsuma rebellion,—when the national mind was wrought to great excitement, and the flame of partizanship, vigorous and fierce in its last expiring effort, had heated the nation's blood to a feverish glow,—was the reverse of oppressive:—is it probable, we ask, that such a Government would lightly and inconsiderately take measures to forbid or curtail the discreet and proper discussion of what all admit to be an important and an interesting subject? We have no hesitation whatever in replying in the negative to this query. We have above mentioned the suppression of a work on representative institutions by a mere agitator. It is not improbable that the warning here conveyed, coupled with that said to have been generally imparted to publicists, will be the means of saving unquiet scribblers, of the class to which Mr. Uyeki belongs, a great deal of useless trouble, and relegate them to more profitable idleness if not to a worthier toil. We have reason to believe that a stupid plot has been discovered by the police department, having for its aim and object the simultaneous issue, in various parts of the empire, of tracts or hand-bills calling upon the people generally to demand the prompt establishment of a representative assembly. Now, although the masses of the populace care as little for, and know as little about, the meaning of the term so loudly mouthed, as do many of those who declaim and scrawl about it, yet the Government can hardly be blamed for refusing to allow them to be disturbed in their avocations, and disquieted in their minds, by broadcast insinuations or assertions of administrative deficiencies, and advice to assemble in crowded meetings in order to listen to the conceited, mendacious and ignorant rant of a parcel of discontented and lazy lads, having a smattering of knowledge, an ingrained notion that they themselves should not work for their daily bread, and an ambition as futile as it is little justified. It is quite as well to realize fully, and once for all, whence the clamour arises that the difficult path along which the progress of the nation's destiny has been carefully traced should be traversed at lightning speed, and the goal reached, as it were, by one perilous bound. Such



precipitation is not required by the temperate and thoughtful, but none the less patriotic, organs of the higher intelligence of the community. Leaving out of account the governing and official classes, who in their several spheres are preparing the way for its ultimate attainment, it is not desired by the scholastic or substantial mercantile element, while the socially inferior traders, fully engaged in their daily transactions, so long as they have no oppression or misrule to complain of, have not even the time, not to say the thought, to busy themselves about the matter. And as for the toilers whose ranks are recruited from the peasantry,—the farm-owners and laborers, and other people employed in manual or menial pursuits,—most decidedly they care for none of these things. No, the agitators and would be demagogues belong to that division of the Japanese race of which Mr. Uyeki is a type. No longer able to hang about some baronial residence, to eat their daily rice in indolence, to swagger, two-sworded, through the streets and lanes, to the terror of the country-side: no longer able to plot and shout for a return to feudalism and the expulsion of foreigners: they or their sons have changed their attitude. Having picked up a few crumbs of western knowledge, and acquired some inadequate and distorted incidents in western history, they pose now as advanced patriots, and endeavour, by false reasoning, false statements, false comparisons, to create a fictitious excitement on behalf of the most extreme and sudden innovations. How can such people as these be expected or expect to apply aright the annals of Europe or America. Least of all are they able to realize or expound the gradual evolutions, through sacrifice, remonstrance, civil and external war, through the alternations of despair and hope, through oft threatening national ruin, and lastly through a number of fortuitous or providential circumstances working for her good, whereby England has attained to that near perfectness of a constitution, which is alike suited to the genius of her people and to which that genius has in turn adapted itself, but an imitation of which they, shallow sciolists, pretend they would have Japan acquire in an hour or a day. The fact is that their old instincts of idleness and arrogance cling to them still. Little care they for the general weal of their country. Prospective place, profit, plunder, positions of ease and pleasure, are the results which they foresee in the fruition of their schemes. It is against the demoralizing influence of such irrational and iniquitous dreamers that the Government, by its recent exercise of authority over the press, would protect the people of this realm.

And this by no means signifies that undue delay will be caused in the final grant, to the nation, of the fullest possession of constitutional liberty. To this end it is that the labours of the present administration directly tend; and it is as useless as it is wicked to attempt to interrupt, retard, or hasten the work. Initiatory means have been adopted, and progress has been made, in the establishment and deliberations of local assemblies of delegates from the people, in the periodical meetings of the provincial governors in the capital, and even in the recent ministerial change, which in a measure foreshadows the ultimate formation of upper and lower houses of legislature. A measure so vast and comprehensive as that which has been promised, and will accrue, to the nation, must be the gradual and natural achievement of circumstance and time. It cannot be accomplished by a mere mandate or a feat of political prestidigitation. By the period when progress has attained its fullness, and those whom the change shall benefit are educated to an appreciation of its advantages and the ability to enjoy them, it will have been effected without tumult or concussion. It should not be essayed otherwise or earlier; and it is wholly unlikely that the feather-brained and flighty politicians of the platform will have any

part in its organization, if, in a manner which they never imagined, they participate in the privileges which it will confer.

#### THE RETROSPECTIVE RAMBLER.\*

##### IV.

“THE Uncommercial Traveller,” as Dickens chose to call himself, made this observation:—“Since the introduction of the short time system, it has been proved that eighteen hours a week of book-learning are more profitable than thirty-six; and that the pupils are far brighter and quicker than of yore. The good influence of music on the whole body of children have likewise been surprisingly proved.”

Ah! that “book-learning.” It is becoming a fetish, among those who profess to aim at education upon which—rightly understood—it often acts as a damper. There is no superstition more complete than that which holds to the book-statement more than to the fact of nature; and yet the school-world is full of such superstition. Take some young student out into the open expanse of heaven, or a star-lit night, and teach him to trace the course of a planet through the constellations, or the path of the moon, and her changes, ten to one but he will hesitate to accept what is thus ocularly demonstrated from nature itself, and will prefer “what the book says.” And so with geology: not what nature exhibits but what Lyell or Dana describes (with diagrams) appears satisfactory to your book-worshipper; and the consequence is that the refreshment and re-invigoration which open-air studies might give are unknown and (what is worse) uncared for. Now, what Dickens calls the “Short-time System” guards against the formation of this morbid habit of print-and-paper learning, to the neglect, nay disparagement, of direct nature-lore; and it is worth a great deal, in any system of education, to have a foundation of *naturalness* laid in the earlier stages of instruction.

One of the most interesting of all the sights of Tokio is the Kinder-Garten attached to the Female Normal School, which the Empress so largely contributed to establish, and in which she continues to show so unfailing an interest. There the little ones are occupied, for full the half of the short school day, in bodily activity, or in looking at and describing *objects*, not in poring over books.

It would be well if this kind of training were carried much higher up into the advanced classes: then there would be fewer of those pale, meagre, dyspeptic, bloodless, nervous specimens of book-guiltiness who haunt the “halls of science,” wearing spectacles at the age of eighteen, and sitting up late at night to read small-print books by dim lamp-light.

What becomes of such students? After the strain of a successful examination, a fit of exhaustion ensues; a general collapse, and a sense of general dissatisfaction; from which, however, there may be a recovery, if favorable circumstances give speedy and healthful occupation. But if hope deferred (even for a short time) maketh the heart sick, then the enfeebled health and want of stamina are only too apparent: a heavy cold, then consumption, or typhoid, or dysentery; and then, a sad funeral, and a tombstone bearing an inscription which laments the loss to the world, of talents and culture that were so promising! Such losses, often repeated, constitute a heavy discount on any system of education, especially a state-supported system, in which it is entirely proper to keep a “profit and loss” account.

Tokio has another children's school which is not so well

\* See *Japan Weekly Mail*, September 20th, 1879.

known as the Kinder-Garten. Hidden away among the groves at Uyono, somewhere in the rear of the Educational Museum, not easily found, and not very good to look at when discovered, is an establishment where work is provided for the destitute poor, and some sort of an education for homeless children. It is rather a cheerless place, largely susceptible of improvement every way; but at the same time highly commendable as a practical effort to do something for those who cannot help themselves. The poor, uninviting food, is better than no food; the dreary chilling rooms are better than no shelter; and the lifeless teaching better than no instruction at all.

But how easily might all these discouraging features be changed! A little more money, and a good deal more human sympathy and personal interest on the part of well-to-do neighbours and right-minded officials, and this place, which is now enough to give its visitors a fit of the dumb-ague, might become a child's paradise, resounding with the merry shouts of happy childhood. To judge by the effect of a little donation, made for the purpose of furnishing a children's feast, on one of those oft-recurring holidays which Jimmu Tenno has beneficently bequeathed to the people of Japan, it would not be a hard matter to reach the hearts (through the stomachs, of course) of those poor little starvelings, so as to make them almost suppose that "life was worth living;" not to speak of preparing them for positions—naval, military or industrial—in which they might do the State some service.

If it is indeed true that "there is a time for everything under the sun"—and who will dispute it?—how is it that people make such wonderful mistakes as to the proportion of time which each thing may claim? From the days when "Jack" was first photographed in verse, under his two aspects of "all work and no play," succeeded by "all play and no work," there would seem to have been a constantly failing effort at adjustment on the *ne quid nimis* question. Too much spending makes the prodigal, too much saving, the miser; too much reading and learning, the book-worm and the pedant; too much hand-work and roaming abroad, the dunce and the vagrant; too much even of good food and drink, the glutton and wine-bibber; too much self-denial, the ascetic. But what we are chiefly thinking of is "too much book." In vain has Shakspeare told us of "Sermons in stones, Books in the running brooks, lessons in leaves, and good in everything:" in vain does Herbert Spencer insist that "in all its effects, learning the meaning of things is better than learning the meaning of words." Whether for intellectual, moral or religious training, the study of surrounding phenomena is immensely superior to the study of grammars and lexicons; in vain has it been demonstrated on the grandest scale, in the case of China, that mere book-learning dwarfs the mind. Still the rage for reading, just for reading's sake, enervates the thinking faculty of half the scholars of our day, and lowers the standard of oratory, of journalism and of conversation.

In the days when manuscripts were worth their weight in gold; when those who wanted to learn, were obliged to copy; when (as was the case in Japan, some years ago) forty ambitious students only owned one Dutch dictionary among them, and scrambled for its use like hungry men for a dinner; then there was more vigor of intellect in those who thought at all, than in these times when every body owns a "Webster," and text-books are so abundant that the trouble is to select those which impose least thinking upon the enfeebled student. If the present plan goes on, unchecked and unmodified, the civilized and enlightened nations of the world will lose all intellectual tone, and become bankrupt in force and originality.

This subject has its national aspect. It may be true in the sense Cicero intended, when he said, *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori*; but to be killed off by a national bad habit, or a faulty state-system of education, is not either sweet or fitting, much less profitable. Monasticism is reproached, by those, who make much of "heredity," with depriving the state and the world of what would have been the best elements of family life, if the monks and nuns who lived and died in unblest singleness had obeyed the first—the very first—commandment, and had left behind them children who would have inherited the nobler characteristics which were concealed in the cloister, while the outer world was left all the worse. In not having blended with it, the heroism which enables a man to conquer himself, and a woman to exhibit the devotion which sacrifices to a fiction all that the loving heart most longs for:—sympathy, domestic happiness, maternity.

Now, if a vicious system of religious education can work such ill results, even in the pursuit of so high an ideal as the attainment of personal holiness, what mischief may not result to a nation from persistence in a scheme of mental education which substitutes a feeble cleverness, for an energetic ability. Let a generation of half-learned sciolists, put in charge of the next generation of scholars, higher and lower, and what a poor set of incapables would soon afflict the land! And here comes in the patriotism again. If a man wish well to his country, and his warm-hearted sympathies embrace, not only compatriots who are his contemporaries, but his children and theirs, will he not watch with double jealousy the influences which—feeble now perhaps—will exert their full effect, it may be some thirty years hence, when they will have gathered strength, and become, for the moment, irresistible? If some men "build more wisely than they know," the converse may be also true: "many think more wisely than they build;" because they let others do the building, not feeling disposed to contend (as they ought to do) with the pushing, driving, unscrupulous "practical men," who carry all things before them by dint of mere persistence and self-assertion. It is true that against such pressure a reaction will surely take place; but the welfare of some myriads of the scholar-class for a dozen of years, is too serious a matter to be made the sport of ill-judged experiments, when the materials are at hand for the promotion of judgment, and the preparation of schemes which will surely work well in the main, if their great outlines are sketched in accordance with true principles; and unquestionably the world is old enough now to make it unnecessary for us to grope in the dark any longer.

China, in her seclusion, has had the advantage of a simple, definite system, thoroughly carried out for a long period, and the results have been marvellous: a nation so compact though so extensive, so coherent though so numerous, and withal so largely attaining one great end of government—security to person and property—is not to be found elsewhere on the face of the globe.

Japan, with her very different experience in the past, has now the distracting advantage of being in a position to choose either some one of the existing educational systems, or some scheme of her own construction; the materials for which may be first gathered eclectically, from any and every source, and then adapted to her present condition and circumstances. This needs the labor of a presiding mind—one mind, and that a good mind, well furnished, perceptive, resolute and judicious.

Such a one is not often met with; and, when found, is apt not to be appreciated by the men of his own generation; those whose wisdom it would be to co-operate with

him, but who are too often occupied in debating and demurring about what they only half appreciate, instead of giving the needed "aid and comfort" to that rarest of rare characters—a really good educator.

#### FISH PROPAGATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE following communication on the subject of artificial aid to fish-propagation in America has been obligingly forwarded to us. Systems similar to that therein described are also in vogue in Australia and New Zealand :—

In an interesting conversation, which I had last night with Professor Baird, the secretary of the Smithsonian Institute, president of the Fish commission, and a prominent authority on all questions relating to the artificial propagation of fish, he gave me a full account of the various methods employed by the Fish commission in their work along the coasts of America, and incidentally spoke of the methods employed by China and Japan, as well as other nations, in the same direction of work. He said that the science of breeding by artificial means, as practiced in this country, was entirely new and confined to us. The countries of Asia had long taken care of their fish and had resorted to various ingenious devices to economize their wealth of the waters. But under our system the eggs are taken from the breeding grounds, and, by steam, the processes of natural impregnation are imitated, so that the spawn is impregnated, and the fish born by the million and by the billion, if necessary, and laid down in what hereafter is to be their home. Now, it is a principle, which is as fixed as the very law of gravitation, that fish will return to the spot of their birth. Thus, take fish propagation in the valley of the Mississippi, for instance. The spawn will be deposited in the Allegheny river, we will say, or at the head of some other branch of the main stream. Then, young fish in due time, when hatched out, like young men of mettle, will set out on their travels to go to sea, but when they reach maturer years home-sickness overcomes them and they are bound to return to the starting place. This fact is utilized by science in the most extraordinary way. It has already succeeded in stocking many of the important American rivers with an abundance of edible fish, and brought into the market, and to the tables of citizens, the choicest fish known to the world, at a reasonable price. It provides employment for thousands of men, and increases to a marked degree the wealth of a nation. Thus, in California, the San Francisco market,—and, I presume, the same holds true of other large cities,—is chiefly supplied by shad which have been propagated in this way. So that in that single town, probably, the profits springing from the work of the commission more than pay for its entire cost. It can easily be seen that the process by which the fish are hatched by the million,—and each one is worth in ready money seventy-five cents or a dollar,—is of the highest economic consequence. Professor Baird is one of the most practical and thorough of scientific men. His methods are very simple, and his results bear out his theories. For a long time the commissioners have used the rudest methods, and their chief apparatus has been a fleet of four scows, which are so built as to allow of the scientific processes involved in the propagation of the fish, and which have been towed from place to place as their presence was found desirable. In a few weeks, however, a steamer, which has been built under a government appropriation specially made for the purpose, will be ready; and the professor thinks that, aided by this vessel, he can accomplish far more important results. The old scows formerly used were, of course, not sea-worthy, and so the commission had to dodge storms and hug the shore, in a way which interfered with the efficiency of the work; but this ship, an iron steamer, built by the Pusey and Jones Co. at Wilmington, Del., is a sea-worthy vessel, specially planned for the purposes of the commission, and can do service not only on inland waters but also at sea. The importance of this step will be made evident; for the professor, with that audacity which characterizes modern science, intends not merely to refurnish the exhausted streams of the country with edible fish, but intends also to increase our stock of salt-water fish indefinitely. Acting on the same invariable theory, that fish return after wanderings to the home of their youth, he plants such valuable fish as the cod in shallow waters,

and after their birth in these localities permits them to stray off, confident that when they become of maturer, and, hence of marketable, age, they will be found again in the shallows off the coast. The vast importance of this method will be readily comprehended. If we may have the banks of Newfoundland, so to speak, at various points along the coast, we can easily see that the wealth of mankind will be indefinitely enhanced. In fact, such a development has its philosophical as well as practical side. We all know of the theory of Malthus concerning an ultimate over population of the world; but if we may increase food in this indefinite fashion the good people of our race may continue to marry and give in marriage with the usual results, and without fear of a universal famine as the result of their industry.

The application to Japan is apparent. The fondness of the Japanese for sea foods, and the desirability of keeping the coasts and the rivers well stocked with edible fish, have long caused the Government, as I said at the beginning, to do its best in the artificial preservation and propagation of this valuable commodity; and the Japanese have by no means been blind to the advance made by our nation in this particular. On the contrary, Professor Baird tells me, that they have always shown the greatest interest in the labours and results of the commission, and that he has furnished them from time to time with our apparatus. But to attain any efficient result, the Professor thinks that the Government should enter on the work in the same broad and scientific spirit which marks the new work of our commission. The United States gladly gave him the funds for the construction of the ship needed, in view of the palpable advantage such facilities would bring to the work of the commission, and no doubt the Japanese would, with equal eagerness, adopt similar measures if the desirability of such action were brought to their notice.

The *Fish-hawk*, as the ship is appropriately named, is a vessel of several hundred tons burden, and cost the Government \$46,000. The recent rise in the price of iron, however, would make its present value \$60,000. This is about the only expense, or, at least, the chief expense, in the whole business, apart from the salaries of the officers; and, as I have shewn, the work of the commission increases the wealth of the country by millions of dollars. This is no exaggeration, and it can be substantiated by proofs of an incontrovertible character. On the 20th of April, there is to be an international fish exhibition at Berlin, at which most of the civilized nations will be represented,—I presume Japan among the number. Owing to the proverbial slowness of our national legislature we have failed, as yet, to make the necessary appropriation for a representation of our Government. This tardiness on our part has given great distress to Germany, and the cable has been freely used to hasten our Government. Yesterday, a bill was introduced giving the necessary authority and funds, but, under some technical rule, its consideration was postponed for a few days.

By special permission the United States are allowed to enter at the very last moment, if necessary, and, I trust, we may yet do so. It was largely to enable Europe to study our methods that the exhibition was organized; and the anxiety of those responsible for its success that we should be represented, is really painful and somewhat humiliating to us to observe. Probably we shall get there after the customary American fashion, in a hurry, and give an unsatisfactory and incomplete exhibit where we might show to great advantage, had we given ourselves sufficient time to suitably prepare.

H. R. E.

Washington, D. C., January 30th, 1880.

IT is really a pity that the value of the English rendering of Mr. Netto's brochure on "Mining and Mines in Japan" should have been diminished by the frequent faults of language and construction with which careless translation and exceptionally bad proof-reading—the fault in this particular, no doubt in considerable part, reflecting upon the office where the work was printed—have over-larded, and often obscured, its excellence. It is not perhaps much to find "abnormous" for "abnormal;" "quantum," repeatedly, for "quantity;" "cokes" for "coke;" "charcoals" for "charcoal;" "pessimistic" for "pessimist;" "expropriation" for "appropriation;" "net" for "net-work;" "summa" for "total;" and, "As curiosum I may here mention,"



for—well, perhaps the translator knows what idea he intended to convey. These lingual peculiarities might be allowed to pass without notice if they were not mere trifles when compared with those graver errors of arrangement, which are an extra and annoying task, imposed upon any reader who may really desire to discover the meaning of the sentences before him. For instance :

1. (p. 4)—Mr. B. S. LYMAN, formerly chief-geologist under the Kaitakushi, in his geological report on Yesso estimates the quantity of the there existing accessible coal at about 150,000 million tons, an amount, which would enable the said island during 1000 years to furnish the coal-supply at present derived from Great Britain. Although the time is still far off, that such quantities of coal, when supplied, could find use here, and although the average quality of the Yesso coals may be inferior to that of the English, there can from the above said be no question, that coal mining here has a great future.

2. (p. 5)—Besides at all events also a certain quantity of ore of antimony, the figure of which I, however, am unable to give. As to the form, under which the minerals won by mining occur, magnetic iron-ore, ore of antimony, sometimes also silver-ore are found in layers, the greater portion of the iron here produced is the result from the working of alluvial sands of magnetic iron. Gold and silver-ores, copper mostly only as copper-pyrites, lead as galena occur in lodes.

3. (p. 17)—The fuel is everywhere charcoal mostly hard one.

4. (p. 37)—Even when the new iron-works are set going, and the apprehensions, that have been entertained with regard to the extent of the deposits of magnetic iron-ore at Kamaishi, should, prove groundless, it still remains a question, whether the national iron-industry, in the face of the fact that coal and iron do not occur in each other's vicinity, that charcoal costs dear, that the means of communication are difficult and undeveloped, and being moreover hampered by a circumstantial administration, is able successfully to oppose foreign competition.

5. (p. 39)—The example, drawn from America, where the quick progress of some states for a great part is due to the railways, does for several reasons not hold good here.

6. (p. 51)—Although there, according to table III, in 1877 was an increase of 19.4% in the total mineral production, and of 40% in the net proceeds, when compared with the average of the working period in question, it is not to be expected, that Japanese mining, however susceptible of development in certain directions, will soon be able, even but approximately, to meet a billion-export of such a magnitude, so much the less, as there is no prospect of such a rapid increase in the production as the above mentioned, at least not in the nearest future.

These are a few passages, selected at hazard, typical of a translation, which, we are compelled to repeat, "abounds" in "grammatical, idiomatic, structural and lingual absurdities." Rather too common a fallacy is carefully cherished by the average English-speaking or English-writing foreigner, namely, that he necessarily possesses a more perfect mastery of the English tongue than can possibly be attained by any scholar who labours under the disadvantage of being only an Englishman.

IN the present complicated condition of European politics it is extremely unlikely that Russia would involve herself in a purposeless and unjustifiable quarrel with France. Hence there are not sufficient grounds for the supposition that the withdrawal of the Russian ambassador from Paris has any particular significance. It is asserted, in Renier's latest announcement, that the cause of the envoy's removal was the refusal of the French Government to order the extradition of one Hartmann, suspected of complicity in the attempt to assassinate the Czar by blowing up the train in which His Majesty was travelling. Now political offenders are specially exempted from liability to extradition, by the treaties of all those countries which have

international arrangements for the mutual surrender of criminals, who, having escaped apprehension in their own land, are discovered in the territory of the other contracting power. As the offence in which Hartmann is suspected of having been an accomplice, was as distinctly "political," as were those of a great many other people, more or less famous or infamous in modern history, and who lived and prospered in the foreign lands whose hospitality they sought, there is no reason why France should have made an exception in his disfavour. This is no doubt the light in which the Government at St. Petersburg will view the matter; and the return of the Russian envoy may be for explanatory purposes as regards the Hartmann case. Perhaps other matters of policy which demand the secrecy and explicitness of personal communication may also render expedient the ambassador's temporary presence at the court of his master.

IN a letter from Ceylon to Dr. Dickson, published in the *New York Herald*, Professor Nordenskjöld records with pleasure the kindness shown to himself and the members of his expedition by the "government, learned societies, prominent natives and foreigners in Yokohama, Tokio, Kobe and Nagasaki." The reception which the *Vega* party met with at Naples was most brilliant and cordial. All the ships in the bay hung out their flags, and in the harbor of Santa Lucia the fishermen's boats were bright with bunting. A salute from the Castello dell' Oro woke the echoes of the old town when the *Vega* steamed gallantly into port. There was an official dinner and a gala soirée at San Carlo, all the foreign consuls being invited. There was also a grand excursion to Pompeii and Vesuvius. Friends of the officers in this vicinity will remember that one of them, Lieutenant Bove, is an Italian. It is mentioned that he received permission from his commander to name several islands discovered during the voyage. He availed himself of the privilege by conferring upon them, respectively, the names of the King and Queen of Italy, the Minister of the Navy, Commendatore Negri, and other distinguished persons among his compatriots. He has also forwarded to the Minister several interesting ethnological curiosities, for disposal in the museum of the Geographical Society of Italy.

DEVELOPMENT in the trade between Japan and Corea is confidently anticipated in consequence of the opening of the port of Gensan. Japanese newspapers announce that the Mitsu Bishi Company have undertaken that one of their steamers shall ply between Japan and that harbor once in every two months, the Government granting a subsidy stated at ten thousand yen. At Fusan there appear to arise, periodically, slight trade troubles between the native and foreign dealers; but, on the whole, the transactions are no doubt satisfactory to either side. It is said that the Japanese residents already exceed fourteen thousand, of which number two-thirds are males. The formation of a Chamber of Commerce is reported to be decided upon, the site for its accommodation having been selected, and the necessary buildings being in course of construction.

THE many friends of Dr. David Murray, late of the Monbusho, will be glad to hear of his appointment to the secretaryship of the Board of Regents of New York University. *Harper's Weekly* remarks of the nominee:—"Dr. Murray is a son of New York, a distinguished teacher in his earlier years, subsequently a professor at Rutgers College in New Jersey, and more recently the organizer of the new system of education in Japan. He is a gentle-



man singularly fitted for the position of Secretary of the Regents, not only by his special attainments and experience among the schools, and his broad and generous comprehension of the subject of education, but by his remarkable administrative and organizing power. He and the State are to be sincerely congratulated upon his selection to be the executive officer of the board which manages the relations of the State to the academics and colleges."

#### MR. BRAMSEN'S CHRONOLOGICAL TABLES.

THE first feeling caused by an examination of this work is one of admiration, not unmixed with wonder, at the vast labour and research which it must have entailed; and we must say at the outset, that it is doubtful whether any scholar in the country, besides the author, is capable of critically examining the book. But be this as it may, we must confine ourselves to the humbler task of explaining its contents, endeavouring to indicate the labour given to its compilation, and its value to every one engaged in Japanese research.

Hitherto, the only Japanese chronological tables in a foreign language were those compiled by "E. M. S.," and we must not allow their great inferiority in every respect to the present work, to blind us to their value to students for several years past. By their assistance one could ascertain to within a year, the date of any event, as well as the names of the reigning sovereign and Shōgun of the period. It was not to be expected, however, that people would be satisfied for ever with this "rough and tumble" way of fixing events, and as an instance of the errors that have been made by a most careful scholar, when without reliable tables, we may quote from Mr. E. M. Satow's interesting translation of *Kinsē Shirakiu*, which was published in 1878. The translator has attempted to give the Gregorian as well as the Japanese dates for the events recorded, and, in connection with the murder of the Regent Ii Kamon, has the following note (p. 15):—

"In Sir R. Alcock's despatch to Lord Russell of the 2nd of April 1860, the attack on the Regent is said to have taken place on the 24th of March. As will be seen by reference to this despatch, Sir R. Alcock was still unaware of the result when he wrote, and it is quite possible therefore that he may also have been misinformed about the date, &c., &c." The truth is, that Sir R. Alcock was correctly informed, and that Mr. Satow is stating that the assassination took place on March 28th is incorrect. In fact every Gregorian date up to page 19 in Mr. Satow's translation is one day out. We repeat that our intention in mentioning this case has been to show how an important historical event could be misdated, and doubt placed on the accuracy of a British Envoy's official statement, by a leading scholar, simply from the absence of exact chronological tables such as those of Mr. Bramsen.

There has also been a series of tables compiled in the Department of the Interior, but owing to the error of using the Gregorian calendar throughout, instead of since 1582, and the Julian calendar before that year, the work is incorrect for the first 1,100 years. It may be thought by some that, with these tables already made, Mr. Bramsen's labour would be confined to making the needful corrections in the Japanese figures; but an examination of the two works will shew how unfounded such an impression would be. Their arrangements are exactly the reverse of each other. The Japanese tables start with the *European* dates, and give the Japanese equivalents for the initial days of *our* months; thus:—

1st January.....	4th year	12th month	25th day
1st February .....	5th "	1st "	27th "
1st March .....	5th "	2nd "	26th "
etc.	etc.	etc.	etc.

Now if anyone will try to transpose these figures so as to get the European day corresponding to the first day of each Japanese month—this being the arrangement of Mr. Bramsen's book—he will find that the calculations are in themselves more troublesome, than to calculate wholly afresh, with no other material than the Japanese calendar, giving the lengths of the months in each year, and then one starting date to commence with, which can be found by the cycle. Moreover, add to this that the Japanese dates contain many errors "possibly typographical," and that therefore, after

transposing, there would still be numerous mistakes to correct, and a number of days to deduct, varying according to the century, and it will be seen that in their present state these tables could be but of little assistance to Mr. Bramsen. Another defect which we have observed, in consequence of the arrangement of the *Naimusho* tables, is that, the Japanese months being on the average shorter than the European, frequently a month does not appear in them at all. In such cases no transposition could take place, but resort must be had to some other kind of calculation. Apart from the fact that this process would be very troublesome, the result of such transposition would of course be that any error or misprint of the tables would be reproduced in the present work; and on the question of its correctness we shall speak presently. It must be remembered that *one* day wrong at any one place means that the balance of the work would be one day out;—as witness the case of the *Kinsē Shirakiu* before referred to. Speaking now on the tables alone, it seems to us that the actual work of compiling them is very great, but that that of checking every item in them is still greater. With a starting day, and a most careful use of the old Japanese calendars, the transposition of a year from native to foreign dates can be effected without much difficulty; but it must be remembered that the process has to be repeated more than twelve hundred times, and that the whole has to be checked once and perhaps oftener. For the sake of curiosity we have gone through the process for a *nengō* of seven years, and can truthfully say that we have no desire to continue the experiment. We have thought it well to give at length this statement of a comparison between the methods and result of Mr. Bramsen's tables and those of preceding workers in the same field, in order to shew that his work is, to all intents and purposes, original and independent, and that his labours can in no degree have been lightened by those of his predecessors.

But now we come to what, after all, is the most important question:—Are the tables correct? Curious to see how they worked in with each other, we made the following experiment, which we describe for the benefit of those who may desire to test the tables for themselves. Choosing at random a date falling during the beginning of the period covered by the Chronological Tables, and another occurring towards the end—we find in the *Dai Nihon Shi*, volume IV., p. recto, that Kō-toku Tennō died on Haku-chi *nengō*, 5th year, 10th month, 10th day. Let us now take the commencement of the present period, Meiji, 1st year, 1st month, 1st day. These dates, according to Bramsen's tables, correspond with November 24th, 654 A.D. and 25th January 1868. By the aid of Tables 1 to 4, given opposite page 41, we ascertain, almost at a glance, that the *E-to* (number or name by the cycle) of the two dates are 49, *midzu-no-e*, *ne*, and 47, *ka-no-e*, *inu*; consequently, on the former of the two dates chosen, there were still twelve days unexpired of the sexagenary cycle, while the latter is the 47th of another unexpired cycle, and between these, of course, thousands of expired cycles. Adding now 12 and 47, we get therefore, as a necessary sequence, that the number of days between the two dates must be the sum of 59 plus some multiple of 60. If we now proceed to count the days from the first date, November 24th, 654, up to January 25th, 1868, the last, we get 1,213 whole years—of which 301 are leap years—and 63 odd days, from which however must be deducted the 10 days, which were expunged when the Gregorian calendar was introduced. This gives us a total of 443,099 days, which, as already said, when divided by 60, should leave 59 and this it does. This instance gives very clearly, not only the facilities with which the tables under review may be used, but also the implicit reliance that may be placed in their accuracy. Calculations similar to the above can be made by everyone for himself, for shorter or longer periods. We have ourselves made several both for before and after the adoption of the Gregorian calendar, and in all cases the results have coincided with Mr. Bramsen's tables. Before passing on from the tables, properly so-called, we may call attention to their general arrangement. At a single glance the day of any month of any year of any *nengō* can be ascertained, and this without any knowledge whatever of the old Japanese chronological system. A child could use them as easily as it uses its arithmetical tables. They are, moreover, very full, giving as they do the *nengō*, the year by cycle, and the year according to the era of Jinnmu Tennō.

Apart from the tables there are many points worthy of

attention, but we can only refer to them cursorily. Every student will thank the author for the index to the names of the *nenjō*, in which all forms of pronunciation, even improper ones, are given. Again tables 1-4, for ascertaining the *E-to* when the date is known, or *vice versa*, as well as plain directions for their use, will be appreciated by anyone having even a slight previous experience of the subject.

We have left but a very limited space in which to refer to the introductory essay, on the various systems of counting years, the subdivisions of the year, and the division of time prior to the introduction of the Chinese calendar. This portion of the work, however, will be read with much interest, even by those who may never require to use the tables. The ingenious and scientific systems of reckoning time used by the Chinese, are fully and clearly explained, and add another to the many proofs of a high civilization amongst them, at a time when almost all the rest of the world was in a state of the darkest barbarism. The lunar system and the cycle, though often mentioned and also explained, have never been done, as far as we can remember, in such a clear, exhaustive, and altogether satisfactory manner. In the chapter on the mode of counting time before the introduction of the Chinese system, an ingenious theory, supported by some plausible facts, is broached, to the effect that in those remote periods the standard of time—year, as we call it—was measured from equinox to equinox, that is, consisted only of six months. The chief fact in support of it seems to be that, after the accurate mode of counting time was introduced from China, the ages of the Emperors become suddenly only about half of those of their predecessors. It is doubtful if it will ever be possible completely to prove or disprove this theory, although it looks very plausible. As an instance of the pains that have been taken by Mr. Bramsen to render the book as complete as possible, we may notice that, in the directions for the use of the tables, simple rules are given as to precautions to be taken in transposing the dates into German, English, French, Russian and other dates, owing to the different times at which the Gregorian calendar was adopted in various countries; and also the last table of all, giving the dates both of the Julian and Gregorian calendars corresponding to each day of the Japanese month during which the latter calendar was inaugurated in Europe.

We are glad to see that the work has been translated into Japanese by its author, under the title of *Wa yō Tai reki hio*; and that it has been most favourably noticed by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. We observe, however, that, in this edition, all about the Japanese lunar system is omitted, and a popular explanation of the Julian calendar, its origin, principles and the drawbacks which led to the adoption of the Gregorian calendar, the advantages of which are dealt with in detail, is inserted. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* remarks with some glee on the fact of a foreigner being able to correct the work of a Japanese department, on what is almost wholly a Japanese subject.

Our work being now concluded, we were about to insert a sting in the critical tail, and refer to the omission of the Emperors' names with the dates of their reigns; but we have reflected that, after all, the book is intended to shew the different modes of chronology in Japan, and as the Japanese ceased counting by Emperors when the *nenjō* were introduced, it was as well to omit this. The succession and death of an Emperor are facts belonging to history, and may perhaps be deemed extraneous in simple chronological tables. Moreover, an additional column or two, such as this addendum would involve, might make the book ungainly, and the tables complicated; and the inconvenience resulting from the addition might outweigh the benefit derived. Again, the names of the Emperors and their reigns may be ascertained in numerous books, as in Griffis's "Mikado's Empire" and in various hand-books.

In fine, if a student cannot place confidence in this chronology, he had better seek another one; and it is because a most careful and detailed examination has convinced us of the absolute accuracy of Mr. Bramsen's tables, that we have been anxious to impart to others the modes we have employed in testing this accuracy, in order that they may try for themselves, and have the same confidence in, and admiration for, the work that has been forced upon us by this examination.

SHOSEI.

## JAPANESE PERSONAGES.

## IV.

## GENERAL YAMADA.

THE subject of this memoir, although still young,—not yet forty years of age,—has passed through stirring scenes of strife and peril which fall to the lot of few to experience even in the longest lifetime. General Yamada Akiyoshi is a scion of the Choshu clan, and was originally known as Ichi-no-suke. From his first admission into the ranks of manhood, he was a staunch and persistent advocate of the restoration of the imperial authority. He also, we regret to record, favoured the expulsion of foreigners; but his opinion on this subject has long since been changed; and the political errors of youth, when subsequently redressed, are, in his case, no more fit subject for animadversion, than would be a Liberal's condemnation of Mr. Gladstone for commencing his public career as a conscientious Tory.

In 1863, General Yamada visited Kioto with the object of assisting in the formation of a league to carry out the patriotic objects upon which his mind was fully bent. In the ancient capital he became intimate with the leaders of the party with which he had identified himself, and when the seven imperial ministers (among them was the present prime minister, Sanjo Sanetomi) fled from Kioto to Choshu for safety, taking with them the reigning emperor, then the heir apparent, Yamada accompanied the party on their journey, until immunity from all danger was secured to them. He then returned to Kioto and remained *perdu* in the dwelling of a secret sympathiser, watching the progress of events, and keeping the other leaders of his party acquainted with everything of importance that transpired in the imperial city.

At length concluding that the time for decided action had at last arrived, the subject of this memoir left Kioto in 1863, and returned to Choshu, where he organized a large military force, and assuming the command raised the standard of revolt against the Tokugawa dynasty. Nothing decisive following, he again visited Kioto in the ensuing year (1864) and there learned that Takeda Kōunsai had also refused further obedience to the Shōgunate authorities, and was in armed opposition to them in the province of Yashu at no great distance from Yedo.

Yamada was anxious to throw in his lot with Takeda, but was prevented from doing so by various unexpected obstacles. However, in the autumn of 1864, his desire for active service was gratified, a detachment of the Choshu army being sent to Fen-no-zan, whither he at once hastened. In conjunction with the celebrated leaders, Hisasaka Michitake and Maki Idzumi-no-kami, he warred with varying success against the armies of Aizu and Yechizen, which were opposed to the imperial forces.

Before this campaign was decided the allied expedition of the English, French, Dutch and American fleets sailed against Shimo-no-seki, and Yamada returned to Choshu to assist in the defence of his native province against the assaults of the foreigner. In the winter of the same year the Shōgunate Government determined to send an expedition against Choshu, which caused the seven imperial ministers to withdraw to Chikuzen, as many of the Choshu samurai were in favour of the Tycoon's Government and opposed to the reestablishment of the supreme imperial authority. In January, 1865, Yamada took the field against the malecontents, and in conjunction with Takasugi Shūmpu, Ota Nawokata, and other loyal subjects, he completely defeated the partisans of the Tokugawa usurpers.

In the following year the Shōgunate authorities despatched a strong force against their stubborn opponents in Choshu, and great preparations were made to give the assailants a warm reception. Yamada was appointed to the important position of commander of the Choshu artillery, and took an active part in the operations which followed. Prominent among his many services may be mentioned a night attack by sea which was ably designed and brilliantly carried into execution, and also a flank march towards the frontier of Geishu, which resulted in the enemy being cut off from his base of supplies, out-manceuvred and defeated.

When the final war of the restoration broke out at Fushimi in 1868, Yamada was appointed Head of the Staff

under Prince Higashi Fushimi,\* the Commander-in-Chief, and after participating in the campaign he returned to Choshu on board the man-of-war *Teibo Kan No. 1*. Leaving Choshu he took part in the operations against the rebels in Yochigo, and distinguished himself at the stoutly contested and sanguinary battles of Idzumo-saki and Niigata, and indeed throughout the whole campaign which resulted in the total defeat of the rebel forces.

While the operations in Yechigo were in progress, Enomoto Kawajiro, (now Admiral Enomoto Take-aki, the recently appointed Naval Minister) who held a command in the Shōgunate fleet, sailed from Yedo to Hakodate with a rebel squadron, Yamada was placed at the head of the land and sea forces sent to reduce Hakodate to submission, and succeeded in accomplishing the object of the expedition after a series of hard-fought engagements, in which large numbers of men were killed and wounded.

Returning to Tokio, in May 1868, Yamada was appointed *Daigo* of the War Department, and in the following year he was rewarded for his eminent services with a pension of six hundred koku of rice.

Early in 1870 Yamada was entrusted with the task of establishing and organizing the arsenal, military school, hospital, &c. at Osaka, and met with that success in this new field of labour which skill and energy always command. In July, 1871, he was appointed a Lieutenant-General in the army, and afterwards to the suite of His Excellency Iwakura, with whose embassy he visited America and the various countries of Europe. While abroad, Yamada attentively studied the military systems of the west, and returned to Japan in time to take part in the campaign against the Saga rebels in 1873. In command of a strong column of troops Yamada greatly distinguished himself, and the desperate valour for which he is celebrated was never more conspicuous than when he rallied his wavering troops under a tremendous storm of bullets in the decisive battle which crushed the rebel rising.

In February, 1877, the brave and popular, but misguided Saigo Takamori, the leader of the powerful Satsuma revolt and Field-Marshal in command of the Japanese army, yielded to the representations of false advisers and raised the standard of revolt in the south-west. Yamada had to take the field against his old superior officer, and took his usual prominent part in the sanguinary operations which resulted in the total defeat of the insurgents.

The return of peace to the country, so long distracted by the horrors of war, brought new and well-merited honours to the subject of this too brief memoir; he was decorated with the Japanese Order of the second class and succeeded His Excellency Inouye Kaworu, (now Foreign Minister), as Minister of Public Works. This office he retained until the recent changes in the Cabinet, when he was appointed to the honorable position of a member of the Privy Council.

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 27TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 3RD MONTH, 27TH DAY, DO-YO-NI.

### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

During the past week no European mail has come to hand. The French steamer *Tunais*, which left Hongkong on the 18th instant, at noon, had not arrived up to the time of our going to press. There must have been heavy weather on the China coast, as the *Sumida Maru*, which was to have left Kobe for here this evening, had not reached the former port

\* See Japan Weekly Mail of the 13th instant.

at noon to-day. Reference to our meteorological report will be interesting as shewing the great atmospheric changes during the past week.

Story says, of the magnificent bronze Daibuten at Kamakura, that it was formerly surrounded and covered by a temple, which, having been destroyed by an earthquake shock, was never rebuilt. It is now in contemplation, among devout members of the Buddhist sect, to erect another shelter over the image; and the cost of the undertaking is estimated at 35,000 yen. With great munificence Mr. Inouye has subscribed a large sum toward the project, he and some of his friends heading the list of donors with the guarantee of 5,000 yen.

The *Hiogo News* says of the Osaka exhibition, lately opened, that "it is located this year in the Minami Mido San, which, if it were well lighted, would be a very fine place for it, but unfortunately the very first thing that attracts attention is the want of that great desideratum—light. The grounds and buildings of this fine old temple are in themselves well worth a visit. The exhibits this year do not differ from those of former years; there is the same bazaar-like look, nearly every article being placed there for purposes of sale. The actual manufactures for which the city of Osaka is celebrated are very poorly represented. The same collection of objects of natural history that was exhibited last year is on view again. It has not been increased, but nevertheless, small as it is, it forms a centre of attraction. The prettiest exhibit is a case of artificial flowers, which are well executed and are very life-like. To those who have an hour or so to spare in Osaka, the exhibition is well worth a visit. The usual opening ceremony took place, the Governor and all the officers of the Fu being present."

An American paper gives the following description of the three magnificent horses which were lately landed in Yokohama from the *Gaelic*. "Barb, of Ethan Allen blood, is four years old, and was presented by General Grant to the Emperor of Japan by whom the General was so hospitably entertained while visiting that country. This horse a fine bay, with two white hind feet, with white star on forehead, long mane and tail, is fifteen hands high, has beautifully formed limbs, possesses good action and is very promising as to speed. This horse has been owned by General Grant since it was a colt. Kingsley is sixteen hands high, seventeen years old, is a rich mahogany bay, with no marks, and has a long mane and tail. He is a running horse, having a record of 1.44, and was sired by Harper's Longfellow. Black Hawk, Jr., is a jet black horse, with white hind feet, one white front foot, and white star on forehead, long mane, tail drags on the ground; he is fifteen and three-quarters hands high, is symmetrically proportioned, has elegant limbs, and has trotted a mile in 2.22 and 2.23, and has prospects of getting below 2.20. He is one of the most beautiful horses that man ever laid eyes upon. These horses came from the farm of General Beale, near Washington, where the Arabian horses presented to General Grant are kept. It will be remembered that General Grant was the guest of General Beale while visiting Washington. Kingsley and Black Hawk were purchased for the Japanese Government by its agent, Mr. Horace Capron, assisted by Mr. Edward France, at a cost of about \$4,000 each. Barb, the present of General Grant to the Japanese Emperor, is valued at about the same figure."

The *Obed Baxter* arrived at New York on the 14th of February, after a passage of 117 days, and the *Wylo* on the 16th having been 112 days on the voyage from Kobe.

No vessel sailed direct from New York, for either China or Japan from the 30th of January to the 20th of February ultimo. During that period, however, the following vessels cleared for Anjer to await orders:—

January 31st, <i>Enterprise</i> ,	21,874 cases keroseno
February 1st, <i>Egyor</i> ,	19,122 " "
" 11th, <i>Whittier</i> ,	44,750 " "
" 11th, <i>Oncata</i> ,	19,079 " "
" 14th, <i>Anahuac</i> ,	40,700 " "
" 16th, <i>Daniel Barne</i> ,	48,800 " "
" 20th, <i>Sheila</i> ,	40,500 " "
" 20th, <i>Marie</i> ,	14,700 " "
Total.....	249,525 " "



This shows a decrease of nearly 120,000 cases on the preceding three weeks and at last advices there were only two vessels on the berth for Yokohama and one, the *Adeone*, for China (Shanghai). The detailed list of exports from New York to Japan for the fortnight ending on the 16th of February is as follows:—

	value.		value.
Slates, cs. ....500	\$1,686	Bromide, cs. ....40	764
Clocks, ca. ....600	6,677	Hardware, ca. ....6	323
Books, ca. ....9	1,095	Rosin, bbls. ....50	306
Wax, bbls. ....5	102	Glassware, ca. ....91	1,037
Woodware, pkgs. ....3	100	Mattresses, ....4	45
Crockery, pkgs. ....4	67	Mf of iron, pkgs. ....6	85
Butter, lbs. ....50	7	Furniture, ca. ....3	80
Piano, ....1	300	Petm, gals. 400,010	45,141
Beer, bbls. ....10	120	Brass goods ca. ....32	1,580

Total .....\$59,505

A few days will now probably see the last of the other hunting fleet depart on the annual perilous cruise. The *North Star* left last Saturday and has been followed by other vessels.

The Pacific Mail Company's steamer *City of Tokio* left San Francisco for this port on Saturday, the 20th instant.

The P. & O. Company's steamer *Malacca* left Hongkong on Sunday last, the 21st instant, at 6 p.m. direct for this port.

We observe that the steam dredge, which has been employed at the Creek for sometime past, was towed down to Yokosuka, yesterday.

The *Indian Mirror* confirms the report that the King of Siam contemplates visiting Hongkong and China. If this turns out to be true, His Majesty may, perhaps, extend his trip so as to include Japan.

"The inexorable laws of supply and demand that have such a perfect control over matters of trade," says the *Philadelphia North American*, "are happily illustrated in the report of last month's work in the oil regions. Every one complains that oil is too low, that it ought to bring a higher price, and that the producer is making no money, and yet the little advance in the price made during the winter has at once worked an increase in the operations. Despite the deepness of the mud the sinking of wells goes on, and the capacity of those completed during the past month is fifty per cent. more than of those finished during November. The operations in the Bradford district are the largest for any month for over two years. With such an impetus given to production, it will be found very difficult to advance prices in the same time."

Under date of Lyons, January 31st, the *Bulletin des Soies* says:—The market has lost the feverish condition which characterized it during the last three years. There is a measured improvement, not a rise of 8 or 10 per cent in a week, but one of two or three per cent which is regularly repeated. Thus, fine organzines, which sold only two months ago for 65 to 70 frs, are now quoted 78 to 79 frs, and this advance has been obtained without leaving any signs of a reaction. Another good sign is to be noted: there is a greater difference between the prices of the raw and thrown silk, and this is a certain index that the manufacturers are buying. The crop of fine silks of Europe and the Levant was very deficient last year and this is now beginning to be felt, and the quotations for these have sensibly risen, and Japanese have also shared in the advance. The average rise, both for raws and thrown, since our last report, may be estimated at from 1 fr 50 to 2 fr. We quote Italian raws, 10-12, 72 fr; Piedmontese organzines, 20-22 and 22-24, 80 to 82 fr; Japanese, European spun, 10-14, 65 to 66 frs. Chinese Tantees, which have been put up by English speculators, are with difficulty maintained on the basis of 49 @ 50 frs for Black Lion No. 3 and 41 francs for 5ths. Great activity is reported from the Cevennes, and 78 francs are refused for classic marks. The Milan and Turin markets put up prices with every offer, and this prevents closing many transactions. The difference between raw and thrown has again reached the nominal point.

There is a general impression in the silk markets that the long crisis is at an end, but it is to be desired that a too rapid rise may not again throw us back to the former condition.

The market for manufactured goods is rather inactive: buyers

are still holding on the reserve, accustomed as they have been to see every rise followed by a decline. But the situation has completely changed, and there is no doubt but the spring orders will realize these hopes of manufacturers. The Conditioning House registered during the week 94,131 kilos, against 73,198 last week and 71,851 corresponding week of 1879.

The steamer *Genkai Maru*, with the next Shanghai mail, did not leave Kobe until to-day, and will therefore be due in Yokohama on Monday next, at daylight, to connect with the P. M. Company's steamer *City of Peking*.

It by no means follows that, because the so-called Jockey Club has died of inanition, there must be an end of racing in Japan. The probability is, on the contrary, that a very well organized race meeting, with large fields and good attendance, will be held some time near the end of May on the Race Course at Negishi. Particulars will, no doubt, soon be made public. Meanwhile it is not necessary to say more than that the matter is under consideration in the proper quarters, and that a club will soon be formed having at its head some of the princes and ministers, the foreign representatives, and official and private gentlemen, Japanese and foreign, of influence and note.

The *Hioogo News* writes:—"To those who would like to see a really good bout at fencing with the two-handed Japanese sword, we can recommend a visit to the Kompira temple at Osaka, where a tournament is now being held. We went there a few days since, and were much gratified. In the middle of a large space of ground, a wooden platform about three feet high and twelve yards square with a mat roof, has been erected, and there are seats and mats for about 1,000 spectators. At two corners of the platform chairs were placed, and these were occupied by two elderly gentlemen (ex-swordsmen), who acted as referees. When a match is going on an umpire, also a swordsman, has to move about and watch every move and decide which is a fair hit and which is not. This is a very difficult position to fill, and one in which none but a first-class swordsman can officiate. Eight or ten men with helmets and guards on assemble, they squat down on the edge of the platform, two are called out, and these have a set-to. When one has been fairly hit, the umpire proclaims it, the man retires, and another takes his place. During our visit we saw one small active man polish off six opponents before he was hit. There was a match between three Osaka and three Kioto men, during which the excitement was intense, and the power of the umpire and referees was taxed to the utmost. The Osaka men had the best of it. There was another kind of contest which caused great excitement amongst the spectators. Six men aside were chosen, one side having a red band round their helmets, the other side a white one; attached to the side of their helmets was a small piece of wood. At a signal from the umpire, these men charged each other with great fury, the object being for one side to cut these wooden labels from their opponents' heads. When a man lost his piece of wood (equivalent to losing his head) he had to retire. Both referees and umpire had to work very hard during this, it being their duty to order a man off who had lost his headpiece. Towards the last part of this we saw one man trying to defend himself as best he could, he being charged by four men at one time; he was overpowered and sent flying off the platform, amongst the spectators. When these men had retired we saw two men tossing and tumbling each other over upon the stage; they had lost their swords, and their object was to wrench each other's helmet off; after a long tussle neither seemed able to get the better of the other, and the umpire ordered them to stop. After this the first-class men came upon the stage, when some really excellent fencing took place, and what was very pleasing was that there was no nonsense about the contest. All were fair trials of skill—the best man to win. The arrangements for a match of this kind were perfect as far as judging was concerned. The Japanese have not many sports, and we shall be sorry to see such a national game done away with. By the native papers we are informed that there is some idea of prohibiting the science from being taught. The last war in Japan proved what a few skilful swordsmen could do amongst a lot of soldiers imperfectly taught the use of rifle and bayonet. We do not mean that the sword is a better weapon than the



modern rifle and bayonet, but as a physical exercise and as an amusement for soldiers it is most valuable. Beside giving a man courage, it makes him feel that he can both defend and depend upon himself."

We have been shown a piece of the aerolite which fell on the morning of the 18th February last. It was picked up at Fukuchiyama, in the province of Tamba, and brought into Kioto. The piece we saw was small, and only a little over an eighth of an inch thick. An analysis made at Kioto shows that it contains copper, silver, cobalt and platinum.—*Idem*.

Through the courtesy of the telegraph authorities we were informed yesterday, that telegraphic communication between Amoy, Hongkong and beyond, was restored at 8.30 a.m.

In order to prevent disappointment we may mention that the famous cherry trees are not yet in full bloom, and it is therefore premature to visit the Ueno gardens with the idea of witnessing the annual display. We are informed that about to-morrow week the trees will be in all their spring beauty.

The Irish agitator has not met with a favourable reception in America. The New York *Nation* writing of his visit says:—

Mr. Parnell seems to be getting into very troubled water as he continues his oratory. He said when he first came over that the Queen of England was the only sovereign in Europe who contributed nothing to the relief of Irish distress during the famine of 1847. This was promptly declared to be a falsehood by a cable despatch from Lord Randolph Churchill, the Duke of Marlborough's son, who gave at the same time the amounts contributed by the Queen and other members of the royal family—\$30,000 in all. Mr. Parnell now says that what the Queen did was to prevent the Sultan of Turkey from giving

more than she herself gave. He has since stated that the fund raised by the Duchess of Marlborough for the relief of Irish distress was not applied to the relief of tenants who did not pay their rent. This has brought another despatch from the same quarter, pronouncing it another falsehood; and it is also alleged that it is *his* organization which is guilty of intolerance in refusing relief to those who *do* pay their rent. In fact, they are "making it hot under the old flag" for Mr. Parnell. He replies to this last contradiction by alleging that one of Lord Randolph Churchill's ancestors was the first Duke of Marlborough, who rose from the dishonor of his sister, and another the "notorious Sarah Jennings," the mistress of the Duke of York, and that therefore the people with better ancestors must not mind what he says about the distribution of the fund. Mr. Parnell also adds apparently in corroboration of the above, that he has "the best and most recent information from the distressed districts," and his charge is "absolutely true." He has also got into a controversy with the *Herald* because that paper does not report his speeches; but it defends itself very successfully by alleging that he delivers only one speech, and that it always reports any changes he makes in it. This savage quarrelling over a work of charity is, however, a repulsive spectacle to all decent people on both sides of the water, and the only substantial result it can have is to diminish the amount available for the relief of distress both among those who do and those who do not pay their rent, and to disgust the civilized world with Irish patriotism.

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 22nd March, 1880.

The Russian Ambassador has been recalled from Paris, in consequence of the refusal of the French Government to consent to the extradition of Hartmann, charged with complicity in the attempt to assassinate the Czar, by blowing up the Imperial train.

LONDON, 25th March, 1880.

The Chinese Government have ordered 20,000,000 cartridges from the United States.

#### PARIS LETTER.

JANUARY 31st, 1880.

M. de Grandssagne carries his adoration for Donizetti to fanaticism. He sued the director of the National Opera for damages, or a complete representation of the work, for not giving the *Eucorite* in its entirety. The air "yes thy voice inspires me" that tenors, in the provinces regard as the *close* of the score, was eliminated and many of the prettiest bits of the music were amputated. Another barbarism; the orchestra ought to consist of 50 musicians as the com-

poser desired, whereas only a paltry 50 had been provided. The complainant, in the interest of the musical world, claimed the Opera in all its virgin charms, or fr. 500 compensation for a mutilated joy. The director had to make important researches in the archives, which it is said have led to the accidental discovery of some unknown fragments of a work by Meyerbeer, to get up his defence. The plaintiff, he asserts, is a disappointed composer, who seeks, in eccentricity, a popularity denied him by talent; tradition and usage justify directors in pruning down operas, which are too tedious, too cold, or too long; thus have been docked, the *Huguenots*, *Robert*, *Africaine*, *Prophète*, *Masaniello*, *William Tell*, *Fra Diavolo*, the *Dame Blanche* and *Crown Diamonds*, and the same condensation has been applied to the works of Molière; further, when the authors, their representatives, or the Government, sanction the measure, as has been here the case, directors are no longer responsible. And so ruled the judges, who dismissed the case and mulcted M. Grandssagne in costs, some 4,000 francs, but martyrdom in some shape or other is the fate of all reformers.

The feeling is gaining ground, that the dead-locks to which the cabinets are periodically subjected, will necessitate premature general elections. These will not, of course, in the least affect the existence, or even the stability, of the Republic; but they will regularise the political situation, compromised by republicans too timid, too bold, or too ambitious. The last elections had no other "ticket," but the maintenance of the *egal régime*, or the unknown, or what is tantamount to the latter, the choice between three unpopular and impossible pretenders. The deputies have declined to vote the unrestricted right of public meetings, as in the case of clubs, and the same limitation will be tagged on to the press-bill. Abstract liberty is an excellent ideal, but Frenchmen are not educated for its possession. In time they will of course become as law-loving as Englishmen, and as respectful of established institutions. The Senate contains quite a little hornets' nest of rancorous but questionable republicans, whose aim is to put a spoke in the wheels of every ministry of which they do not form an element. This explains the momentary check of Dr. Broca, a kind of French Darwin, being elected life-Senator. Before the next general election the Constitution will undergo some salutary revisions; for, oddly enough, it is the work of the late Monarchal Assembly. Ameliorations will be carried, electing all the deputies for a department by a common list (*scrutin de liste*), and abolishing the system of life-Senators, who compose one-third of the Senate. It is like a jouvence bath or an Antean touching of mother Earth, to send every representative periodically before his constituents.

Communists who decline to sue for pardon, waiting till France rather seeks forgiveness from them, intend to force the government to amnesty them. It is thus that a certain number of refugees, drawn by lot, will cross the frontier every month, and defy the authorities to execute the sentences pronounced. It is to be hoped the Republic which crushed the mad insurrection in 1871, will as firmly uphold the law in 1880! If not it will certainly disappear. The opinion as well as the feelings of the country, are against any kid-glove dealings with the ring-leaders of the Commune. The Republic is not responsible for the immunities extended to the criminal agents of the coup-d'état, and in censuring the MacMahon-de Broglie cabinets, for playing with conspiracy up to the verge of illegality, that verge, it should be remembered, was never overstepped; it was a case of gross moral culpability.

M. Grévy's Thursday dinners and receptions, are very brilliant successes; only the old dowagers of the Faubourg St. Germain, and the Mameluke partizans of the phantom-pretenders, continue conspicuous by their absence, an abstention that does not set the Seine on fire. At the last pleasant soirée, Mme. Grévy looked well; she wore a toilette of black silk, with head-dress of natural flowers. M. Grévy conducted General Marquis de Galliffet, Gambetta's right-hand *militaire*, and presented him to his lady. Mlle. Grévy, looking pale after influenza, was charming in white satin, trimmed with tulle and pearls. The prettiest of all the Graces present, was voted to be Mme. de Bachmteff, wife of the Secretary of the Russian embassy. Lord Lyons positively flirted with her—proof of the *entente cordiale* between the Tartars and the English. How does it arise that the most celebrated beauties are married ladies? Satin and silk are favorite materials for ball toilettes, provided they are as covered with flowers as the gardens of Alcazar, or display Valenciennes or point d'Alençon by the fathom. *Tubliers* are laden with embroidery; you can work your escutcheon—unless your ancestors, like those of Sydney Smith, were accustomed to seal their letters with their fingers—or initials on them, or even a drawing of a *château* or a moderately sized landscape; shoes may be rose-colored and trimmed with primroses or daisies, but then the wearer must possess that Castilian jewel—a tiny foot.

When Jeshurun waxed fat he kicked. The *Théâtre-Français* is so plump that it is accused of not even kicking: it nets so much money by acting old plays, as to neglect bringing out original ones, which it is bound to do on pain of losing a good state subvention, and what will the world do if France produces no new pieces? It promises Sardou's *Daniel Rochat*, a life-struggle between a model husband, who is a materialist, and his equally excellent and evangelical wife. Daudet's *Nabab* has been dramatised, and those who have not had enough of *Assommoir* life, can look forward to Zola's *Nana* being adapted to the stage; it will be a more æsthetic treatment of Upper Ten prostitution than Dumas' *Dame aux Camélias*. The Casino Theatre at Monaco introduced a *débutante* from Bavaria, Mme. Reicher, a very elegant and handsome lady, with a contralto voice capable of being made admirable after two years training in Italy and France. Faure sang in the *Enrôlée*, the *Jardin de l'Alcazar*, and *For so much Love*, in a manner that might win the applause of even M. Grandjean. Miss Jenny Howe, the American diva, has made a very fair début in *La Juive*; she appeared to be frightened at first, but later regained self-possession: the upper notes of her voice are faulty and she lacks passion, but she is superior to the hosts we have had of Polish and Russian *prima donnas*—of a night.

It is nearly even betting as to whether or not the Chamber of Deputies will prove protectionists or free-traders on the bill for the revision of the Customs' tariffs; the two camps have ardent representatives in the cabinet. France has never taken the women's question seriously to heart, because perhaps, they are the men, not the ladies, who stand most in need of rights. Something however, remains to be done for grown-up girls, in the sense of higher education; perhaps their physique is the cause why they cannot, like their German sisters, split wood, carry sand and stones on their heads, or mount ladders with hods of bricks, or plough, harrow, reap, and thresh corn. Arthur Young, however, states that in his Travels through France, he has seen "a woman and an ass yoked to a plough," and not at all out of fun. It is contemplated to establish lycées for girls, as exist for boys: not to make sweet girl graduates, but woman womanly. Heads are to be cultivated more, though Diderot observed that, we walk and work so little, and think so much, that in the end man will become nothing but a head; now a head, though a little thing, is everything. That old crusty bachelor Voltaire maintained that, to win men you must gain the women to your side, and the latter are all false. Schopenhauer could not be more ungallant.

Attention is being drawn to the number of children to be encountered any day in the gardens and squares, about the age of nine, who are invalids from their birth, dwarfed, paralysed, *monne* and silent. Mothers and nurses call them "children of the siege," and perhaps not incorrectly. Nine years ago—what a transformation between now and then—Paris surrendered after an heroically borne siege of four months and twelve days, and one month's bombardment—the "psychological hour." During that period 3,000 children died; imagine those born just before, but reared during the siege; born pending it, or soon after it; insufficient food; no fires; wet nurses, whom doctors lay down ought to be ever "gay," in a permanent state of alarm and melancholy about the fate of husbands and their own babes; wives wretched over the destiny of soldier-spouses, and all burning from absolution fever. No wonder the infants of 1870-71, carry the seal of that cataclysm in their shattered organisms. The Second Empire thus makes victims even after its death. May the Empress Eugénie, who boasted of having provoked the war, remember this when in Zululand, and that he whom she bewails had the intention, according to his confidant, de Cassagnac, to make a Boulogne descent on France like his papa, and so entail more useless bloodshed.

Few eminent men merit a statue better than Lamennais: its erection will take place in Bretagne; it was contemplated to erect it in his native town of St. Malo, where sleep Chateaubriand and the famous mariner, Duguay-Troniu; but political considerations decide in favor of Chesnaie close by, and where he passed his school-days. He was not ordained a clergyman till 34 years of age. When he had no visitors and suffered from ennui, he sought relief in playing the accordion; the first sounds of which brought up his servant man, who leisurely stretched himself on a sofa, and listened out the music. When Lamennais resigned the priesthood, he came to Paris, and his friend Liszt welcomed him. Victor Hugo, then not a millionaire as now, boasted he had three friends; "an old ballad-monger named Béranger; an old philosopher called Lamennais, and an old exile yelet Chateaubriand." With Béranger he went to make the acquaintance of a remarkable woman then living in an attic, Georges Sand, who was frightened at the size of his nose. Lamennais in 1847 gave lessons in philosophy to Prince Jerome

Napoleon. On one occasion, when Lamennais was delivering to his pupils a lecture on philosophy, the lamp which illuminated the room became suddenly extinguished. "Holla," said a student, "we now can discern nothing at all." "My friends, such is the way courses of philosophy generally conclude," replied Lamennais.

In Florence, barristers, artists, professors &c., act as volunteer teachers on Sundays to instruct, gratuitously, adults who cannot attend school during the week; before being named a teacher, six months probation is exacted: in France this philanthropy for the grown-up is exercised during the week-days as well.

While a policeman was inside the church arranging for the baptism of his baby, a man approached to admire the latter, but picked the nurse's pocket: she screamed; the policeman after a chase captured him, and being an old offender, entitles Bobby to fr. 50. In the Jura a sportsman short of game, blazed at a bear dancing in a village; he has been condemned to pay over fr. 2,000 damages; a publisher has been fined fr. 4,000, not for issuing an old French classic, but for putting all the obscene phrases in Latin; a man has thrown himself off the July Column; in his descent he struck against one of the Gallic cock ornaments, and was decapitated as cleanly as if by the guillotine. Visitors may remember a rather good-looking beggar—cripple,—who in default of limbs, paddled his own canoe, a sort of bowl, in and about the entrance to the Champs Elysées. He has just been married, in presence of a great crowd, to a good-looking young wench in the Madeline—a member of the Jockey Club paying the expenses. A like deformity did not prevent the poet Scarron marrying, whose wife later became Mme. Maintenon. In England such an object can not only wed, but become a member of Parliament too.

A red nose, whether produced by stimulants, indigestion, tight-lacing, or patent medicines, can be toned down by Turkish baths. Criticising two persons, a wit replied; "I do not compare—but separate them." Painters and sculptors decline to accept as models any females who wear stays. The municipality is to construct four monster warm swimming baths, tickets two sous; the age of the unwashed is over.

Deputy Lockroy, Hugo's half-son-in-law, is to have a duel with the communist editor and town councillor, Humbert, when the latter quits prison, in six months. Mistress, servant, and pork-butcher:—"Demand the price of, and examine his pigs' feet." "I could not madame, he had his boots on," said the maid on returning.

#### SYLVAN SOUNDS.

(From the Japanese.)

#### IV.

#### BIRD-SONG.

If the harp with silver numbers,  
Lure us from the lightest slumbers,  
How much more the choir of voices,  
When the woodland wild rejoices!  
Hark! From groves that bud and burgeon,  
Forests fringed and crowned with flowers,  
Hundred-voiced, the choral trembles—  
Thro' the depths of greening bowers,  
Birds of high and low degree,  
Plaining soft, or wild with glee,  
Sweetly trilling,  
Loudly shrilling,  
All the fragrant silence thrilling,  
Flit on wings of melody.

F. B. H.

Tokio, March 24th, 1880.

#### JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

#### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

Their Majesties the Emperor, the Empress and the Empress Dowager, visited the Fukiage Park on Monday morning last, they witnessed the game of *Naba-same* (shooting with bows and arrows at a target from horseback while the horse is in full gallop), and also *Iwa-o-nomo* (shooting at dogs).

His Majesty the Emperor has presented 1,000 *yen* to each of

the *Fu* and *Ken*, to increase the funds for taking precautionary measures against another outbreak of cholera.

Governor Matsudaira, of the prefecture of Miyagi, visited the Police Department on the 19th instant.

The Governors of Yamaguchi, Awamori, Guma, Shiga, Nagano, Okayama, Saitama and Yamagata *ken*, and the Secretaries of Gifu, Ishikawa, Wakayama, Nagasaki, Miye, Hiroshima, and Hiogo *ken*, have all returned to their respective prefectures.

Judge Araki, the President of the Fukushima *Saibansho*, arrived in Tokio, on official business, on the 19th instant.

The Post Office at Yedo-bashi, Tokio, will in future be styled the Central Post Office, and business connected with the Chief Post Office will be transacted in the Home Department.

The local assembly of the prefecture of Kanagawa is shortly to be held at the Town Hall.

We (*Nichi Nichi Shinbun*) hear that His Majesty the Emperor will shortly visit the prefecture of Yamanaishi and Kioto, and also the province of Yamato, where His Majesty will perform the usual rites at the tombs of the Imperial family. His Majesty will return to the capital by the Isé road.

His Excellency Yoshi-i, the Assistant Vice-Minister for Public Works, accompanied by two subordinate officers of the Department, left for Kiushiu on the 24th instant, on an official tour of inspection.

A special meeting of the local Assembly of Tokio was held on Monday evening last, to consider the advisability of extending the gas mains.

President Kishira, of the *Dai-shin-in*, having recovered from his recent indisposition, will return to his duties about the first of next month.

Mr. Watanabe, Chief Secretary of Kagoshima *ken*, returned to his post on the 24th instant, and Mr. Kawada, Chief Secretary of Shiga *ken*, leaves for his prefecture on the 28th instant.

Three officers of the Imperial Household Department are to be despatched to inspect the route to be followed in the intended Imperial progress towards the province of Yamato.

His Excellency Yoshida, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Government of Washington, will leave for America by the mail steamer on the 30th instant. Mr. Kawase, Commissioner to the Melbourne Exhibition will leave by the same steamer.

His Excellency Matsukata, Minister of the Interior, accompanied by Mr. Yendo, Chief Superintendent of the Board of Trade, having left for Osaka on the 24th instant to attend the ceremonial distribution of medals among the successive exhibitors at the Cotton and Sugar Competitive Exhibition, His Excellency Miye was appointed Acting Home-Minister during his absence.

Prince Matsura-ura, who gave the entertainments of *Yaba-same* and *Juu-o-mono* in the presence of Their Majesties the Emperor, the Empress and the Empress Dowager in the Fukiage Park the other day, was received in audience by Their Majesties on the 23rd instant.

Prince Yamauchi, the *ex-Daimio* of Tosa, is going to give an exhibition of tilting in the presence of the Emperor, the Empress and the Empress Dowager. The combatants will be mounted and divided into two parties of thirty men each, armed with lances and shields, and will tilt against one another after the manner described by Scott in his account of the great tournament of Ashby de la Zouche, *temp.* Richard Cœur de Lion.

The Princess Fushimi gave birth to a son on the 18th instant.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says:—"We hear that on the 22nd instant an Imperial edict was issued to the Heads of all the Departments informing them that, as His Majesty the Emperor attends the Daijō Kwan every day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., thus paying personal attention to the administration of affairs, all the officers are therefore cautioned to perform their functions with great diligence."

His Imperial Highness the infant Prince is to be presented to His Majesty the Emperor on the 28th instant.

Mr. Matsudaira, Governor of the prefecture of Miyagi, left for his post on the 23rd instant.

The Presidents of the different *Saibansho* are shortly to meet in Tokio, to consider the provisions of the new codes about to be issued.

His Excellency Yanagiwara, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. Petersburg, has been appointed Acting-Minister to the Court of Stockholm.

It is now under consideration to establish a Japanese Legation in the capital of Corea.

His Excellency Sanjo, Prime Minister, is going to entertain the Junior Prime Ministers, the Privy Councillors, and the new Ministers and Assistant Ministers of the various Departments of State, on the 3rd proximo.

Judge Nakasawa of the Nagoya *Saibansho* returned to his post on the 24th instant.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The War Department contemplates despatching a number of officers on a visit to Vladivostock, &c.

The Tokio Garrison will go into camp on the Narashino plains in the province of Shimosa, on the 1st proximo.

Major Kajiyama has been appointed an attaché to the Japanese Legation in Peking, and Captain Furukawa has been ordered to Teheran.

The *Heiji Shinbun* (*Army and Navy Gazette*) says:—"The *Tenkuba Kan* will sail for Vancouver's Island about the middle of next month, and on the return voyage will call at San Francisco and the Sandwich Islands; it is expected that the cruise will occupy about three months. The *Tenkuba Kan* will be commanded by Captain Sagaura, and the crew will consist of about two hundred and eighty men, inclusive of thirty naval cadets. The *Hiyei Kan* will sail on a cruise in the Indian Ocean early next month, and, when returning, will visit Cochin China. Commander Ito takes charge of the *Hiyei*, and the crew will consist of about two hundred and eighty men. Some officers of the Home and Finance Departments will take advantage of the cruise of the *Hiyei* to visit foreign lands.

The *Amaki Kan*, in charge of Commander Taki-no, is about to be despatched to various ports on the coast of Corea. This vessel will carry a crew of one hundred and forty-five men, and will be absent about six months.

His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, the newly appointed Minister for the Navy, accompanied by Rear-Admiral Hayashi, the Commander of the Eastern Admiralty, proceeded to Yokosuka on Wednesday last, in the *Soria Maru*, to inspect the men-of-war lying there.

The injury to Admiral Kawamura is not very serious, and it is expected that he will have quite recovered in about a fortnight.

A telegram has been received stating that Lieut-General Takashima who was recently sent to Europe, will return home early next month.

The *Seiki Kan* will sail for the Persian Gulf, about the middle of next month, under the command of Captain Ogata.

There will be horse races at the Military College, Tokio, on the 17th or 18th of next month.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Nine hundred and seventy-two persons visited the Competitive Exhibition of Cotton and Sugar in Osaka, during the week ending on the 13th instant. The Exhibition will be closed on the 5th of next month.

The *Takusago Maru* brought the sum of 13,000 *yen* in gold coin from Kobe, consigned to Nishimura Kisaburo, a resident of Yokohama.

The German man-of-war *Prinz Adalbert* left Kobe on the 18th instant and arrived at this port at 3.30 a.m. yesterday.

During the gale on the 19th instant two boats were capsized off Shinagawa. They carried a cargo of about five tons of coal each, which was, of course, lost, but the crews escaped with a ducking.

The Exhibition at Kioto was opened on the 15th instant.

Nakamura Rokuzo, a native of Hizen, in the prefecture of Nagasaki, who has been under arrest, charged with complicity in the assassination of the late Hirosewa, *Sangi*, was on the 22nd instant adjudged innocent and set at liberty.

There will be an exhibition of fencing in the Police Department, Tokio, on the 30th instant.

A barque, named the *Hikaku Maru*, was launched on the 25th instant from the Kawasaki dockyard, Tokio.

The Government have arranged with the Mitsui Bishi Company for a steamer to be despatched regularly every second month to Gensau-shiu, Kau-kiu-dai, Corea. A return service



will also be established. The Company will receive an annual subsidy of ten thousand yen towards the cost of maintaining the line.

Messrs. Okura & Co., and the Kiodo and Senyu trading associations are going to establish branches in the new open port of Gen-san-sin, Corea, for the sale of Japanese produce. Mr. Shioda, the vice-manager of the Senyu trading association, will proceed to that port early next month with a stock of goods to commence operations.

Mr. Kawasaki, a resident of Chitose-machi, Honjo, Tokio, sent in an application, on the 24th instant, for permission to establish a bank, under the name of the Kawasaki Bank, with a capital of 300,000 yen.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 21st March, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$10,112.35
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 898.50

Total.....\$11,010.85

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 9,262.85
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 928.86

Total.....\$10,191.71

Miles open 18.

#### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

#### WHY FOREIGN GOODS SHOULD NOT BE USED.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

FOR a long time our exports and imports have not balanced each other, and for several years we have desired to secure the sole control of our tariff, and as long as our imports exceed the exports our people suffer great misery, and so long as we are deprived of sole control over the tariff, our national treasury can never be well supplied, thus we labour under two great disadvantages. Now, we import a large stock of goods, because they are very cheap, and why are they so cheap? Because they are not sufficiently taxed, and if we do not tax them sufficiently, certainly we must then tax our own produce, so as to make up the deficiency in our revenue occasioned by foreign articles not paying sufficient duty. When we do this our own articles will certainly rise in value, and imports will decrease in accordance with natural laws. We believe that the true cause of the poverty of our Government and people is simply because foreign goods are admitted into the country without paying fair duties. Our Government, of course, desires to increase the duties, but it is unable to do so, and why? Because although we urgently desire it the Treaty Powers decline to consent. We are quite right and justified in requiring this increased taxation, while foreigners are quite wrong and acting unjustly in refusing to agree to our proposals. The reason why, although knowing themselves to be on the wrong side, they still depend upon their great power, and do not listen to us, is because they look down upon us with contempt. Ah! is it right for the people of an independent country to be treated with such contempt, and to patiently suffer such injuries, leaving the heavy responsibility entirely in the hands of the Government, and paying no more attention than if they were looking at a fire on the opposite bank of a river? What means then should we adopt to get rid of the contempt and injury under which we now suffer? Shall we close the ports? No, the exigencies of commerce do not allow us to do so. Shall we appeal to the force of arms? No, our circumstances forbid it. Shall we burn down the foreign settlements? The example of the late Mr. Hayashi gives us a lesson. Shall we encourage our industries so as to get rid of the imports? That cannot be accomplished speedily. There are not means for saving us from our present difficult position, and we have now arrived at the conclusion that the best thing to be done is for the people to enter into a mutual agreement not to use imported goods.

Foreigners have seized the control of our tariff, and act as if they will never restore it to us, but use it in the same way as they would a fleet to attack our interests, and employ the importation of goods as ammunition for firing upon us. We should be setting up a very strong fortification if we refrained from using imported goods, and we could then rest quiet, never attempting hostile measures. When the foreigners saw such a resolution being steadily carried into effect they would soon cease to trouble us, because when they found their profits at an end, they would speedily abandon the position they have taken up merely for the sake of gain. This is the only means of conquering the enemy in a peaceable manner, and it can be very easily accomplished. Nothing can, in our opinion, be better calculated to strengthen and enlarge our national influence than the scheme we have propounded.

Now, the Government is the reflection of the people, and if the latter grow in power, the former naturally become strengthened, then how can it be possible for foreigners to despise us? They have, of course, entered into trade with us for their own benefit, and if we do not purchase their goods, they cannot help suffering losses which they will be unable to avenge upon us; and therefore, through this simple process, we can get rid of the two grievous injuries which the country is suffering under at present. Therefore, we wish to see our countrymen enter into an agreement without delay to carry our proposal into operation.

However, it is true that, of the imported goods, there are several articles which are absolutely necessary to us; such as arms, books, machinery and surgical instruments. All these are essential for improving our knowledge, cultivating science and art, protecting our country, and maintaining the health of the community. Although we are now obliged to adopt defensive measures, still we ought not, in consequence, to check our progress; and therefore we must continue to import all those articles that we have specified. What we now propose not to use are, luxuries, superfluities, provisions, liquors, and clothing, all of which we can produce ourselves without depending upon importation. It is true that these things are very nice, convenient and cheap; therefore if we wish to dispense with them every individual will suffer more or less inconvenience in his household affairs. If a man has no hopes in the far distant future, he cannot sustain present trouble. Sweet things injure the stomach, and people being aware of the fact, do not constantly consume them. Now, foreign articles are to us as sweet things, and their constant use has caused the excess of imports over exports, made the specie of the country find its way abroad, lowers the value of the paper currency, raised the price of provisions, clothes, and other things necessary for life, and ultimately brought about such great complication that the people will find much difficulty in obtaining a livelihood. If the inhabitants of this country become cognizant of such an unfortunate result, not only will they refrain from using imported goods, but they will endeavour to destroy the import trade altogether. To this end we must practice economy, accumulate wealth, and replace foreign goods with the products of our own industrial undertakings.

We have now for a long time been accustomed to use imported goods, and it may be that without them we shall be unable to supply all our wants, but we now produce many things made after the foreign style. No doubt if we compare our imitations with the genuine articles, the former are inferior both in quality and appearance, and also rather dear in price. However, if we make use of our own productions, and have some patience, we can supply our requirements, and the increased demand will encourage the manufacturers to make their goods as neat, beautiful, convenient, and cheap as possible. Thus our native made articles will equal or surpass the foreign ones in several respects, and this will not be the only resulting advantage. When our industry becomes prosperous other enterprises will be encouraged, and we shall find the native manufacturers in active competition and discovering new inventions. Therefore, by refraining from the use of imported articles, we can get rid of the two disadvantages we have already mentioned, and, moreover, we can derive great benefit from encouraging new enterprises. Should not our countrymen then willingly enter into and keep the agreement we have proposed? Until a few years ago the use of imported goods was confined to the upper classes, but now they are used even among the



poor people in the far interior; and to judge the future from the present we see plainly that all the inhabitants of Japan will, without exception, be using imported goods in a few years time. The country is in a sufficiently serious condition at present, but when the use of foreign articles becomes the universal custom, the miseries inflicted upon the nation will be far greater than we can now even imagine, and if we do not take precautionary measures at once against such a result, the disease will become irremediable. Therefore if our proposal be successfully carried out, the existing discontent and excitement will pass away,—a result which cannot otherwise be attained, unless by a righteous revision of the treaties, and a restoration of the balance of trade.

Someone criticising our proposal may say:—"The idea is good enough, but very narrow-minded. The suggestion reminds me of a person who drinks out of a river to gratify his thirst, and cannot notice any decrease of water when he can drink no more, because the suggestion made, would, if carried into effect be too long in showing any result, when rapid action is necessary to remedy the evils under which we suffer. Besides it gives the Government an opportunity to issue more irksome orders which the people will be obliged to obey." To objections of this nature we would reply:—"We are quite aware that our suggestion may be considered narrow-minded, but then, as under present circumstances nothing can be liberal and magnanimous from the commencement, some one will be found to gradually enlarge it. It is our duty, as the initiator of the idea, to improve and extend it. The words issuing from a man's mouth, resound in all directions; and if such is the case with mere words why cannot the same be the case with our suggestion? Having heard of a similar scheme being already in operation in the provinces of Mino and Owari, we were highly pleased, as it coincided well with our own views. With our proposal others will comply also, and when we circulate it more extensively the whole country will join, and we firmly believe that our countrymen will eagerly pursue an upright course. Moreover, the whole population of the country have now begun to regard the condition of national affairs with anxiety, and the only thing they regret is, that they have no means of removing the existing embarrassments. Even if some people can ameliorate the present state of affairs they have not the means of doing so independently, but if a leader comes forward who shows them how to carry out a promising scheme, the whole people will at once hasten to put it into operation. If our opponent is unaware of all these things, what reason has he for saying that our scheme is narrow-minded and useless, and treating our suggestion with contempt? He is a jealous and worthless fellow, who not only does not follow an upright course himself, but wants to prevent other people from doing good. The present is a very critical period for this country, and, if we find out any means of saving it from its embarrassments, let us at once carry them into effect, whether great or small, liberal or narrow-minded. It is wrong for us to wait for the leadership of the Government. Cannot everyone see the present state of our people? Whenever a new law is issued by the Government, they always canvas its advantages and disadvantages, and if our proposal was founded upon an order which would deprive the people of their comforts and conveniences for a time, they would not adhere to the agreement, unless they sincerely wished from their hearts to do so. If the Government issued such a proclamation, the people would consider that they were deprived of their freedom; then the bold would cry out openly against such a law, and the cowardly, secretly opposing it, would blame the Government. It is very easy for the Government to pass a law ordering the people to do anything, but the mere promulgation of a law can have no influence on the minds of the people, just as a marionette can never dance better than a human being. We are now, as it were, on a stage, acting in competition with other nations, and we are about to give a practical performance of the restoration of our sovereign rights, and the promotion of our national prosperity. Therefore unless we unite the valour and power of the whole country, how can we hope to make head against the powerful and unscrupulous foreigners? This is a matter in which the Government cannot interfere, because it might injure our relations with foreign countries, and perhaps be deemed a violation of the treaties of peace and commerce. Accordingly we have no desire to see the Government interest itself overtly in this ques-

tion, and even if it wanted to interfere, we should certainly advise it to refrain from doing so.

A long time ago, before the United States of America became an independent country, England governed them, and when war broke out between England and other countries it resulted in England finding her national debt increased, and being obliged to levy fresh taxes. This was done without the consent of the Americans, who took an oath that they would never use the newly taxed articles. Then came a war which lasted eight years, and laid the foundation of the independence of the United States. We wish our countrymen to bear in mind how these events reflect upon the present state of Japan; and, if they do so, we feel confident that an unconquerable spirit of patriotism will spring up in their minds.

## LAW REPORT.

### IN THE FRENCH CONSULAR COURT.

Before H. PIERRET, Esq., Consul.

Messrs. E. BLANC and A. DEVEZE, Assessors.

Saturday, March 20th, 1880.

Nagasaki *Kencho* vs. P. HYVER.

(Adjourned from the 13th instant.)

This was a claim for the recovery of \$66.64, ground rent due for lot No. 42A, at Sagaramatsu, Nagasaki.

#### JUDGMENT.

The Consular Court of France in Japan, at Yokohama, judging publicly and in last instance:

Having read the petition addressed to the Court in the name of the Prefect of Nagasaki, dated November 26th, 1879, for the recovery from P. Hyver, owner of the ground No. 42A, Sagaramatsu, situated on the foreign concession at Nagasaki, of the sum of \$66.64, as the annual rent due for said ground on June 30th, 1879.

Having heard the parties and their conclusions, the Nagasaki *Kencho* being represented by Mr. Isaono Hiasa-hiro, officer of the Kausagawa *Kencho*, and Mr. Hyver being assisted by Mr. A. Harmand;

Considering that the title-deed, delivered originally by the Japanese authorities to Hyver, states that the annual rent of \$66.64 is to be paid in advance, in default of which the ground, with the constructions erected thereon, is to return to the Government;

Considering that Hyver, in his defence, alleges that the Japanese authorities are not entitled to claim the rent as long as they refuse to deliver to him a title-deed instead of the original document, which is not in his possession;

Considering that, by judgment of the Consular Court of France, at Yokohama, dated October 24, 1877, Hyver has been put in possession of the ground mentioned above, of which he had been formerly dispossessed by Miss Labastie, and Mr. Teissier, her grantee; his assertion that, not having the original title-deed in his hands, he is in fact dispossessed of the property, is not to be admitted,—this the more so as he continues to have the free and entire use of it, and that he is still carrying on the "Hotel de l'Univers" erected on the premises;

Considering that the Japanese authorities, in delivering to Hyver a duplicate of the original title-deed, have done all they could to secure to him the benefit of the judgment rendered in his favour;

Considering that the said authorities, contrary to Hyver's allegations, could not state in the duplicate that it was in lien and instead of the original document, as this latter is not lost or destroyed, but in possession of a third person as security for a loan contracted for the benefit of Mr. Teissier before he was dispossessed;

Considering that neither the Japanese authorities nor the Consul of France have to decide as to the validity of the claim of said creditor, who being of another nationality is under the jurisdiction of another tribunal; a fact of which Hyver has been informed by a letter from the Consul of France, dated December 16th, 1878.

Considering that the observations made by Hyver attributing the non-execution of the judgment of the 24th of October, 1877, to a mistake made by the Consul of France are not admissible, and that the pretended non-execution of

said judgment does not interfere with the right of the *Kencho* to the payment of the rent of the ground.

Therefore recognizes the claim of the Naga-saki *Kencho* against Hyver :

Orders Hyver to pay to said *Kencho* the sum of \$66.64.

In default of which Hyver will be dispossessed of his rights to the property, which is to return to said *Kencho*, with the constructions thereon as stipulated in the title deed ;

Orders Hyver to pay the costs of the proceedings.

### FIGHTING FITZGERALD.

The portrait of Fighting Fitzgerald has been painted by enemies as vindictive as any that ever slandered the dead, and is therefore distorted in every feature.

George Robert—his baptismal name—was born in 1749. Through his father, a fair specimen of the profligate and reckless Irish landlords of long ago, he was the heir of Torlough, an estate near Castlebar, then worth 4,000*l.* a year ; and also the representative of the Desmonds, the eldest branch of the haughty Norman-Irish Fitzgeralds. His mother came of a race so conspicuously eccentric that the saying ran concerning it—"God made men, women, and—Harveys." Separating from her husband after two years of miserable married life, she remained for many years one of the gay leaders of gayest London society. She was the sister of that splendid singularity, the Earl-Bishop of Derry.

Brought up in England from infancy to his sixteenth year, George Robert was for a time an Eton scholar. In 1766 he was gazetted to a lieutenancy in the 69th regiment, then stationed in Ireland. Here, while yet a mere boy, he fought several duels, in which he displayed not a little generous feeling, and in one of which he lost a portion of his skull. In February 1770 he made a love-match with one of the daughters of a redoubtable Irish personage, the Right Honourable J. Conolly—otherwise known as "the Great Commover." Thus he obtained a fortune of 39,000*l.*, and eventually became the brother-in-law of an Irish viceroy.

Ten thousand pounds of the money was handed over to the owner of Torlough, who was then, as ever, in pecuniary difficulties. In return he signed deeds securing George Robert 1,000*l.* a year in the present and the reversion of his estate, whole and unimpaired. This settlement was the main cause of our hero's faults and misfortunes, and ultimately of his doom.

Immediately after his marriage George Robert resigned his lieutenancy and went to France. At this period his appearance was singularly striking, nor did it ever undergo any change. The portrait painted of him at twenty remained perfectly true to the last.

He was under the middle height : "his person very slight and juvenile ; his countenance extremely mild and insinuating. The existing taste for splendid attire he carried to the utmost. The button and loop of his sword-knot, and his shoe-buckles were brilliant with diamonds. His coat and vest were as rich as French brocade and velvet could make them. He wore a muff on his left arm, and two enamelled watches, with a multitude of seals from either fob." Another writer describes the muff as "drawing the eye of the public by its uncommon size ; it fell from his chin to his toes !"

Indeed, his fondness for glittering baubles and ultra-finery amounted to a passion. At a later date, when his house at Torlough was sacked by the mob of Castlebar, he estimated his loss, in jewels and embroidered robes, at upwards of 20,000*l.*

Among the articles pilloined on that occasion he mentions—"a casquet containing a complete set of diamond vest buttons, two large emeralds, a hat band with five or six rows of Oriental pearls worth 1,500*l.*, a large engraved amethyst, a gold watch and chain studded with diamonds, several other gold watches and seals, a great number of antique and modern rings, gold shoe and knee buckles, silver shaving apparatus, several pairs of silver shoe and knee buckles, with 6,300*l.* worth of other jewels."

This diminutive, youthful-looking, and ornate Fitzgerald was pronounced "an effeminate little being" by those of his own sex who did not know him. As to those who did—"He was so light, foppish, and distinguished, none could think he was the man who had fought more duels than any other of his time."

The dames, without exception, pronounced him "a fascinating creature." Nor was the opinion confined to them. One who owed him no goodwill, Sir Jonah Barrington, allows that "a more polished and elegant gentleman was not to be met with." And the renowned "Dick" Martin, who met him pistol to pistol and got the worst of the encounter, confessed the strong impression made upon him by "the elegant and gentleman-like appearance" of his antagonist.

Even polished Paris admitted itself surpassed in all that was graceful and splendid by this extraordinary young Irishman. "Qui est ce seigneur ?" asked the Parisians of one another, on seeing him for the first time. "D'où vient-il ? Il n'est pas François. Quelle magnificence ! Quelle politesse ! Est-il possible qu'il soit étranger !"

Let us now conceive this dazzling outside as covering the best and boldest rider, the dearest swordsman, the surest shot, and the most reckless gambler of the day : let us conceive him with literary tastes, an author, and a patron of authors ; with as much subtlety as daring ; with intensest pride of race and intensest contempt for all that was vulgar ; and with a repugnance that was absolutely passionate for the gross vices and carnalities and the coarse amusements of his era—and we shall have some idea of what "Fighting Fitzgerald" really was.

Received with enthusiasm by the Parisians, our hero plunged headlong into what was then the all-absorbing pursuit—gambling.

Thanks to it and to his inordinate taste for splendour, not a farthing of his twenty thousand was left by the end of the first year. As to his amity, he never received a penny of it.

He might have found a home with the Bishop, who could see nothing but perfection in him ; or, had he so desired, nothing would have been easier than for his numerous powerful friends to have thrust him into a lucrative sinecure. But he could not bring himself to quit delightful Paris and its whirl of refined excitement. So he sent his wife home to her friends, and remained in the gay capital, relying on the gambling skill he had acquired by this time for the support of his splendour. And here he showed to the fullest that strange capacity for rapid and complete transformation of character which seems peculiar to the Celtic race. In an incredibly short space of time he was all over the cruel and remorseless gambler, yet still as brilliant and fascinating as ever.

Among our hero's chosen associates was the Comte d'Artois—afterwards Charles X.—who was then the votary of every pleasure, and notably as keen a gambler as Paris could boast of. The Prince had pocketed a very royal share of George Robert's fortune ; and when that was gone, continued to pocket an equally royal share of his dashing young friend's winnings. On one occasion Charles happened to win three thousand louis, which Fitzgerald would not pay down. The latter vanished therefore for a time from the presence of the Prince. A few days later he reappeared, with his purse replenished, but forgot to pay his debt of honour. Nevertheless, he presumed to take a part in the game that was going on betting, in his usual plunging style, "a thousand louis against the Prince's card."

Raising his head, Charles remarked very coolly, "You owe me three thousand louis ; are you prepared to pay ?"

"No."

"Then how dare you bet in my presence !"

Suiting the action to the word, his Royal Highness took Fitzgerald by the shoulder, led him to the stair-head, and dismissed him with an ignominious kick.

George Robert was now in an unpleasant position. As a man who had been publicly dishonoured, he was excluded from good society. Nor could he set himself right by crossing swords with the Prince, who was beyond the reach of a cartel, even from the head of the house of Desmond. To a common mind there was no getting out of the predicament, except by flying from the land or from life. Our youth, however, was not the possessor of a common mind. Disclaiming both the alternatives, he hit upon a means of setting himself right with everybody, and that too with *celat*.

Louis XVI. was a mighty hunter of the deer, and Fitzgerald, the *beau idéal* of horsemanship, was a constant follower of the royal pack. Shortly after the affair of the kick, the deer took a course not at all in harmony with the views of the mass of the hunters, making straight for the Seine.

Along the bank ran a road, fenced from the river by a wall some three feet high on the land side, but having a descent of fourteen or fifteen feet towards the current, which here ran deep and strong. The deer leapt the wall, swam the stream, and gained the forest on the other side. So did the dogs. But all the hunters pulled up, with a single exception—Fitzgerald.

He dashed at the wall with a cheer and cleared it, amid the astonishment of the gentlemen and the screams of the ladies. Everybody concluded that horse and rider must surely be drowned. In a few minutes, however, the gallant horse was observed breasting the river and making straight for the opposite shore, which it reached in safety with its rider. The latter did not even lose a stirrup in achieving the harebrained feat.

Fitzgerald became more popular than ever with the courtiers. But though he had effaced his ignominy from every other mind, he could not forget it himself. As soon, therefore, as etiquette would allow he transferred himself to England.

Here he appeared under very favourable circumstances. The Harveys held high place in society, of which his mother, Lady Mary Fitzgerald, was one of the leaders. But our hero's most effective recommendation to the more exclusive London circles was the great reputation that had preceded him across the Channel. And a conspicuous item of that reputation was the fact that he had already, fought *decisive* duels, though not yet twenty-four !

He soon became a favourite of fashion ; and, moreover, a social leader himself—gathering round him a body of golden youth who formed themselves in most essentials on him. And foremost among those exquisites were the "wicked" Lord Lytton, and the officers of the elegant regiment of the day, Burgoyne's Light Horse.

In company with these curled darlings, he frequented all brilliant assemblies, surpassing everybody else in glitter and deep play, and treating whoever and whatever he encountered at variance with his delicate tastes with merciless ridicule and scorn. The last peculiarity involved him in a number of scrapes, including one duel, from all of which he extricated himself in a way that added to his brilliant reputation. At length an event occurred which showed his darker side, and brought forth in very bold relief his more repulsive characteristics as a gambler and a duellist.

Shortly after his arrival in England a youth known as Daisy Walker—the son of an honest tradesman who had left him 20,000*l.*—had a cornetcy purchased for him in Burgoyne's Light Horse by his rather injudicious guardians. The plebeian, who was still a minor, was very much looked down upon by the exquisites of that refined corps. Nevertheless they condescended to introduce him to all the fashionable follies of the day, and especially to win his money.

Ere many months had flown the Daisy was in difficulties. All his ready money had passed into the purses of his acquaintances, and with it bills to a large amount. Fitzgerald, a constant visitor at mess and one of the largest winners, held some of the bills to the nominal value of 3,000*l.*

Walker's guardians now interposed. Removing their charge from the regiment, and indeed from fashionable society for the remainder of his minority, they compounded for his debts, Fitzgerald receiving

500*l.* for his share. Our punctilious gentleman took the money, but not as Walker's guardians intended. In his eyes debts of honour were not to be compounded for like rascally trade debts; and he held himself ready to claim the residue of his account whenever the Daisy should furnish him with a occasion. This was all very French; and our hero was intensely French in most respects.

Walker chafed a good deal under the restraint imposed by his guardians, and the moment it was removed hurried back to his old haunts and habits. Fitzgerald kept him well in view, but made no move until he happened to surprise the Daisy making a heavy bet on a forthcoming race. No sooner had Walker booked his wager than Fitzgerald—following the august example of the Count d'Artois—met him with a claim for 2,500*l.* Walker refused to pay, and, for the next six months, was made supremely uncomfortable by the persecutions of Fitzgerald.

The Daisy was not remarkable for valour, and did his best to avoid Fitzgerald, who, on his part, was equally assiduous in hunting up the Daisy; and a game of hide-and-seek was maintained between the two which furnished the lookers-on with a good deal of amusement. Walker could not keep away from fashionable resorts, but he attended them in fear and trembling—always keeping a sharp eye on the door and hastening to retreat at the first indication of the approach of his terror. But he could not avoid his fate. The two met at length on Ascot racecourse, and Fitzgerald caned the Daisy, who was now compelled to challenge him. The duel, which had a good many sides, including a ludicrous one, was fought in the Low Countries towards the end of 1774.

Walker, being entitled to first shot, fired and missed; because, just as he pulled trigger, Fitzgerald flung himself into his favourite duelling attitude, and thus greatly diminished his height. It was now Fitzgerald's turn, and Walker prepared himself for the shot with very evident trepidation. Our hero saw what was passing in his mind, and resolved to take advantage of it. Instead of firing, he affected to consider his pistol somewhat out of order, and spent some minutes in hammering the flint with a key. The pistol being adjusted at length, he then turned and lectured Walker's second concerning his neglect of some of the rules of the duello. The second received the rebuke with due humility, and hastened to rectify his error. All this time, be it observed, the poltroon was waiting to be shot at. At last all was right, and Fitzgerald, taking a very deliberate and ostentatious aim, lowered his pistol and apologised in very graceful terms for having used his cane on Walker. The latter and his second—being evidently unacquainted with the law of the duels, which insisted that a caning was always to be apologised for before the caner could take a shot at the caned one—indulged in a feeling of relief, which was rather premature.

Having made his apology, Fitzgerald resumed his fighting air and demanded his 2,500*l.* or the resumption of the duel at the point where it had been interrupted. Walker was much inclined to comply, but his sense of the overwhelming disgrace which must attend submission mastered his terror, and he refused to pay. Levelled his pistol, but lingering on his aim, Fitzgerald offered to bet anybody a thousand guineas that he would hit Walker wherever he pleased, but of course received no reply.

"You won't take the bet?" cried the duellist; "then here goes at his right shoulder!"

The bullet struck the spot indicated, but did not penetrate, thanks to a couple of thick coats which Walker wore. However, it inflicted a contusion which disabled the arm and terminated the duel, though the quarrel itself was kept up much longer.

On his return to town Fitzgerald reiterated his demand for "his" money or another meeting. Both alternatives being rejected, he attempted to renew the quarrel on other grounds, proclaiming everywhere that Walker had been "padded" on the late occasion, and had thus escaped injury by fraud. This device proving as ineffectual as the others, and society frowning on the system of hunting his victim about which our hero had resumed, the latter published an account of the affair which certainly hit Walker very hard, but which also revolted most people by the cynical frankness of its avowals, gambling sentiments, and duellistic practices which, though common enough on the Continent, had not yet obtained currency in England.

In short, the Walker business—displaying as it did so many un-English qualities in our hero—ruined him for ever in London society. Nobody cared to consort with him afterwards. He therefore took an early opportunity of returning to France and to close gambling partnership with an old comrade, Major Baggs, like himself an ex-officer of the 69th, and the original of "Captain Duff Brown" in Charles Lever's novel, *Jarrington*.

There was then a mania among French fashionables for English horses and for horse-racing as it was in England; and Fitzgerald (in addition to his gambling speculations) took to supplying his Parisian acquaintances with the one and to initiating them into the practices of the other, making full profit the while out of their sublime ignorance of both. Somehow or other, few people can have much to do with horse transactions without contracting some of the peculiarities of the low-lived horse-dealer, and ere long George Robert became rather too well known for such peculiarities. A bit of sharp practice of this kind enabled him to fasten his acquaintance on another Irish celebrity of that day, Archibald Hamilton Rowan, who happened to be then in Paris.

Rowan, who was very unwilling to have anything to do with Fitzgerald, but whose easy good-nature would not allow him to repel the other's advances, has left an account of this acquaintance. It is the only notice extant of this portion of Fitzgerald's career, but it is sufficient. A better picture than it gives of our hero as he then was could not be desired. This perfection, however, is not due to any artistic skill on the part of Rowan, but to the fact that Fitzgerald was one of those people whose attitudes are always picturesque in the highest degree, and who interest us in any portrait, however coarsely drawn, which has the merit of fidelity.

Not long before, a Mr. Sandford, a very young man and a stranger in the French capital, was fastened upon by Fitzgerald, who was always on the watch for such victims, and led him to supper at the most dangerous house in the city—that kept by Baggs. Play of the deepest kind succeeded the supper, and Sandford lost a large sum. Then came a dispute between the plunderers respecting the division of the booty; and this developed rapidly into a mortal quarrel, the true cause of which neither cared to avow. Baggs, who considered himself the party aggrieved, found a more decent pretext, asserting that he had lent Fitzgerald much money from time to time, and that the latter refused to acknowledge the debt.

One evening, when Fitzgerald was quitting the theatre with Rowan, he encountered Baggs in the lobby. There was a short but sharp dispute between the gamblers. In the end George Robert drew his glove over Baggs's face, an insult to which Baggs replied by dashing his hat in the other's eyes.

Here the guard appeared and laid hold of the Major, while Fitzgerald slipped out and was driven off by Rowan. Several days passed, Baggs remaining under arrest and Fitzgerald finding shelter in Rowan's hotel. At length the Major was released, and it was arranged that the parties should meet on Austrian territory, in the vicinity of Valenciennes, and fight the quarrel out. Baggs was to be attended by a Captain O'Toole, and his opponent by a Mr. Hodges, and the parties were to leave Paris on the same day.

The day came, and Baggs and his second started as arranged. Hodges did not appear, but sent his principal a note in which he apprised him that he had just been seized by a severe attack of gout, and could not move. A messenger was despatched in the hope of arresting Baggs, but the Major was gone. Fitzgerald now appealed piteously to Rowan to save his honour; and the latter, who had no desire to mix himself with the affair, consented, though reluctantly, to act as second.

Here occurred a difficulty which, as Rowan significantly remarks, explained the sudden attack of gout which had prostrated Hodges—Fitzgerald had no money, and no means of raising any. He drew a bill for 100*l.*, but nobody would cash it until Rowan was induced to endorse it. Ultimately the good-natured second had to pay the money.

The pair set off in pursuit of Baggs and O'Toole, and soon reached Valenciennes. A suitable piece of ground was soon met with, and the distance—eight paces—measured. Baggs knew too well with whom he had to deal to let him have his pet distance, five paces. When the parties were placed in position, Baggs beckoned his second and whispered a few words. The next moment O'Toole drew Rowan aside, and, apologising for the remark, said he had reason to think that Fitzgerald was *plastronné*—a word meaning padded, or plated. What followed was remarkable.

Overhearing the remark, Fitzgerald threw off his coat and vest, "exhibiting himself," writes Rowan, "to our great astonishment, with his shirt tied round the body by a broad ribbon, *couleur du rose*, while two narrower ones closed his shirt sleeves round the upper and lower joints of the arms." George Robert gave an explanation of this which we omit. It did not satisfy Rowan; and it does not satisfy ourselves. The Major was afterwards examined to the same extent, and no further, though he invited Rowan, in his bluff, English way, to "Feel, sir; feel." The duel then went on.

"Baggs sank on his quarters," writes Rowan "something like the Scottish lion in the Royal arms, while Fitzgerald stood as one who has made a lounge in fencing. They fired together, and were in the act of levelling their second pistols, when Baggs fell on his side, saying 'Sir, I am wounded.'"

"But you are not dead," said Fitzgerald.

"At the same moment he discharged his second pistol at his fallen antagonist."

"Baggs immediately started on his legs and advanced on Fitzgerald, who throwing the empty pistol at him, quitted his station, and kept a zigzag course across the field, Baggs following. I saw the flash of Baggs' second pistol, and, at the same moment, Fitzgerald lay stretched on the ground. I was just in time to catch Baggs as he fell, after firing his second shot. He swooned from intense pain, the small bone of his leg being broken. Mr. Fitzgerald now came up, saying—

"We are both wounded; let us go back to our ground."

Such a proposal could not be entertained; and the wounded duellists—for Fitzgerald had been hit in the thigh—were carried off the field.

"I could not help asking him," adds Rowan, meaning George Robert, "how he came to fire his second pistol. His reply was: 'I should not have done it to any man but Baggs.'"

Our hero was long confined by his wound, which left him slightly lame for the rest of his life. When he recovered he went straight to Ireland, which he reached towards the end of 1775.

Thanks to his uncle, the Bishop of Derry, with whom he was always a favourite, he was able to make a suitable appearance in Dublin. Here he fixed himself for some years, and met with the greatest success; and here, again, he displayed that capacity for rapid and complete change of character which we have already remarked. In untoward circumstances he had flung aside his nobler qualities and conformed to degradation, until it seemed as if that, and no other, had been his native state; and in success he cast off the baseness which penury had fastened to him, and resumed his old self with the same facility and completeness.

For the next three years he was in most things the superb representative of the haughtiest race on the island. His house in Merriem Street was the resort of all that was high-bred in Dublin society. He was the idol of the mob too; for in addition to his dash, glitter, and fighting reputation—things always dear to the Irish—he took impetuously to patriotism, which was then a passion with all that was great and noble in the land, as well as with the masses.

He took the lead wherever he went; outshining all that was brilliant; humiliating all the swaggers—notably those legal and pugnacious celebrities, Barry Yelverton and Fitzgibbon—two men



who remained ever after his mortal enemies; and winning, it is said, no less than a hundred thousand pounds during this short period.

Whatever he might have been elsewhere, he always gambled in princely style in Ireland. His stake was never less than fifty guineas—his sideboard was heaped with rouleaus to that amount: while he seldom stirred abroad without having a hundred of them carried along by a couple of servants in gorgeous liveries.

There was no sharp practice now, but much wild wagering, on which tradition still loves to dwell.

Other traditions tell how he dealt with the "bucks," a plague then infesting the streets of Dublin, and, indeed, the street of every town in Ireland. These "bucks" were half-bred young fellows of some means and high animal spirits, whose sole occupation consisted in making town-life intolerable to quiet people. Parliament was more than once compelled to frame penal enactments with the view of restraining their peculiar rufianism; but as there was no properly constituted police to enforce them these statutes were of small effect.

Among the tricks of the Dublin bucks was this. One of them would take his stand in the middle of a crossing on a dirty day, and, drawing his sword, thrust everybody who wanted to pass into the mud. It was a common thing to see half-a-dozen or more of these unpleasant sentries lining a leading thoroughfare all ready to afford each other support. Nor were they content with merely obstructing the passage. They knocked off hats, ripped up garments, and pricked the limbs of the wearers with the points of their weapons, and broke ribald jests on them the while—to the vast amusement of the ragamuffins who used to collect in the vicinity. If anybody tured on one of these bullies the rest would rush up and form a circle round him; then seizing him by the collar and the arms they would prick him about the legs until they considered him punished sufficient.

Fitzgerald proposed to some of his brother exquisites and fire-eaters that they should clear the streets of the metropolis of these pests. It was just the sort of proposal to suit such daring spirits, and an association was immediately formed to carry it out. After Fitzgerald himself the most conspicuous members were three Sligo notabilities—Mat Ormsby, Abram Fenton, and Pat O'Hara, one of whom, round whose knees the writer has often played, attained the patriarchal age of ninety-seven. Like their leader they were consummate swordsmen, and dandies of the first water—the Dandy being in all essentials the antipodes of the Buck—a distinction which people who write about the Ireland of the past are very apt to forget.

The association set to work most heartily, and in this way. Whenever a fine afternoon followed a showery morning they would rally forth in knots of four or five, each being followed by a lusty valet carrying an oak sapling. On reaching the haunts of the bucks the servants kept the rabble off while the exquisites did the work they had undertaken. For a couple of months few days passed without three or four affrays between the bucks and the dandies, in which the former invariably came off second-best. Ere long the mainstay of the bucks, the mob, turned against them too. This meant that defeat was sure to be followed by hooting and pelting with mud and stones. Then the pleasant pastime of blocking the thoroughfares in broad daylight was abandoned. Oddly enough, the man who had the chief hand in putting down the bucks for the time, is the one who more than anybody else is credited with their brutal tricks.

Had Fitzgerald confined himself to Dublin the probabilities are that he would have remained to the last a social leader, and been remembered only as the fitting companion of Charlemont, Alvanly, Flood, Ponsonby, and the rest, who made the choicer circles of the Irish metropolis in those days the most brilliant in Europe. But his evil fate drew him down to semi-barbarous Mayo, where he—the essence of Parisian refinement—was as much out of place and as much misunderstood as he would have been among the Zulus.

On his return to Ireland, George Robert found his father—who was evidently in his dotage—in the hands of three very dangerous persons. These were, Charles Lionel, our hero's younger brother, who saw nothing before him but poverty, should the settlement of the estate on George Robert remain unchanged; a woman whom old Fitzgerald had taken from a life of lowest infamy and made his mistress; and a relative, Patrick Randal McDonnell by name, who was a low-lived attorney, profligate in his manners and utterly unscrupulous in his profession—a pettifogger of the genuine old rascally stamp, and such a one—so given to violence and fraud, to impudent perversions of the law and to daring contempt of it when it suited his purpose—as was not then to be met with out of Ireland. He was, besides, the recognised leader of about the most truculent and lawless mob in the island—that of Castlebar.

These three exercised unlimited sway over old Fitzgerald, simply because they allowed the depraved appetites of the weak old senile lunatic full swing. And they used their power in obtaining for themselves and their supporters, among whom were some of the leading men of the neighbourhood, the most valuable portions of the property on long leases and at nominal rents. The leases of course were illegal, but the accomplices stuck to the plunder as long as they could.

Our hero took the necessary legal proceedings to secure his rights. While these were in progress the old man, who was enormously in debt, was arrested and carried to a Dublin sponging-house. George Robert interposed at once and procured his father's release, by paying down £1,000, and rendering himself responsible for the rest of the old man's just debts. In return the latter ratified the original settlement. And shortly afterwards the Court of Chancery constituted George Robert custodian of the estate. However, by this time the old man was back again in the hands of the trio, and our hero had literally to fight his way into possession, storming the family mansion in the course of the business, and at the risk of his life. This was in 1778.

George Robert now set up for a model landlord, and did a great many wise and good things. But he set up also for a political and social reformer of the most advanced order: he declared against the oligarchy that ruled the country; he denounced alike the tyranny and greed of the landlords, the indolence of the tenants, the treatment of the very poor, the extravagance of everybody who had anything to spend, and the universal lawlessness; he settled a colony of thrifty and industrious Presbyterians from the north on his lands, and provided them with a clergyman and a meeting-house: and he interfered, when no other man of position dared to do so, in aiding the officers of the Crown to arrest a multitude of people in and about Castlebar, guilty of the then very common offences of obtaining the premiums offered by the Lieutenants by fraud and perjury. Thus he set against him the great landowners, the squires, the fanatical lower classes, and the dangerous rabble of his county-town. Every one of them regarded him as an interloper who was to be put down, no matter how.

But such was the dash, energy, and terrible reputation of Fighting Fitzgerald, and such his powerful connections, that not a man, far or near, dared to oppose him openly. The best among them cowered before him as though he had been their sovereign. And it must be allowed that he bore himself towards most of them—especially those whom he regarded as upstarts—with all the scorn and insolence of an Eastern despot, which only rendered the general hatred the more intense.

The only way in which his enemies could reach him was by inciting his brother, the mistress, and the pettifogger to annoy him in every way: and this was done to an extent perfectly inconceivable. Over and over, murderous ambushes were laid for him, and over and over were the wild fighting squires of Galway urged against him; but he escaped the first, though not always unscathed, while his sword was invariably an overmatch for the swords of the second.

Tired out at last, he seized his father by force with the view of paralyzing the trio. It was a lawless act, but hundreds worse were daily taking place around him: and considering the circumstances under which the deed was done, nobody really blamed him. In our own day the law would have assisted him in it; but there was little law to be had in such cases twenty miles outside of Dublin in those days, and none at all in Mayo. So far as that sort of thing went, Cromwell's equivalent for Connaught still held good. The deed was illegal, however, and that was all his enemies wanted.

A warrant was granted against him for kidnapping his own father but the difficulty was to execute it. For Fitzgerald had erected and armed a formidable battery commanding the approaches to his house, and—this being the volunteer era of Ireland—had organised a military force among his tenantry, who, being mostly Presbyterians and strangers, hated of the natives, were devoted to his person.

He was arrested at last by surprise, in the grand-jury room of Castlebar, on the first day of the summer assizes of 1780, and tried instantly—the presiding judge being a member of one of the powerful country families. It is hard to square the proceedings that followed with modern ideas of what such things should be. George Robert was convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of 1,000*l.*, and to be imprisoned for three years—the latter portion of the sentence being intended to keep him from taking any part in the forthcoming general election of 1782.

Irish prison discipline was then very lax. Three days after his commitment, our hero—who had the run of the gaol—walked up to the principal entrance, threw down a bag of guineas to be scrambled for by the warders, and walked quietly out while they were rolling in a heap on the floor. He remained at large for fifteen months, during which he kept his father tight in his clutches; hunted, gambled, and duelled to the top of his bent; and carried things in general with a high hand over everybody.

At length the general election drew nigh, and the Government, giving way to the pressure put upon it by the Mayo magnates, sent a strong military force against Turlough. There were three companies of foot, a troop of horse, and a battery of artillery under a field officer. It found the fort dismantled, and George Robert and his father gone. Three weeks later the latter turned up in Sligo and the former in Dublin. Our hero was arrested instantly, and kept in prison till the general election, when he was released at the intercession of his high-placed relatives.

The old man was now dead; but the trio, who had managed him so long, continued to pester George Robert still, being encouraged, of course, by the leading men of the county. His imprisonment had somewhat tamed our hero, who became a good deal more circumspect than of old, though still remaining quite sufficiently headlong. This emboldened the pettifogger. Among other courses the latter took to bringing charges of attempting his life against Fitzgerald—four of them in as many months. They were all transparently false, and failed egregiously. Moreover, he instigated the mob of Castlebar to rob Fitzgerald, harry his lands, maltreat his tenants, and take pot-shots at himself. In short, McDonnell got up a feud of the right old Irish fashion between the men of Turlough and the mob of the county-town which stood about four miles off.

At length the pettifogger and two of his accomplices, towards the close of 1785, had the audacity to kidnap one of Fitzgerald's servants and to hold him close prisoner in one of their houses for eighteen days, doing their best the while to bribe or intimidate the man into turning false witness against his master in support of one of McDonnell's murder charges.

The man escaped, and Fitzgerald lost no time in obtaining warrants for the arrest of the three, who went into hiding for several weeks. Their whereabouts being discovered at last, they were cleverly captured by a party from Turlough, early on the morning of February 24, 1786. Fitzgerald directed the prisoners to be marched to Castlebar, and the party started immediately.

On the way occurred a circumstance which Fitzgerald's enemies



have succeeded in throwing into deep obscurity. A shot was fired at the escort, one of whom there is reason to believe was killed by it. Thereupon the Torlough men—fery spirits all, who had little regard for human life, and who heartily detested two of their prisoners—turned upon these two, McDonnell being one, and slew them. They then retraced their steps to Torlough with the remaining prisoner. George Robert heard their story with amazement. Disregarding those about him, who entreated him to fly, he despatched a mounted messenger to Castlebar with the news, and sat down quietly to wait the result.

They soon came in the shape of a party of soldiers and a raging mob. The former took possession of George Robert, and left the mob to sack his house at their ease. This was done very effectually; plunder to the value of 30,000*l.* being carried off, nor was any inquiry ever made concerning it.

Our hero was lodged in his old quarters about noon that day. Two hours later a troop of assassins—connived at by the local authorities—entered the gaol and assailed the prisoner, whom they wounded in fifty places; nor did they depart until, as they thought, they had "done his business." Unfortunately for him, they were mistaken.

He was now completely in the hands of his enemies, and these from the greatest to the smallest, took full advantage of his situation. Under pretence of preventing a recurrence of the outrage, he was confined so rigorously as to render the preparation of his defence really impossible. Meanwhile care was taken to suppress everything—men and facts—that told in his favour, and to twist the matter fatally against him.

The assizes came on at length, the presiding judge and the prosecuting counsel being his old enemies, Yelverton and Fitzgibbon, and the high sheriff an enemy more pronounced than either, the Honourable Denis Browne.

The ringleaders of the prison outrage in February were tried first, and though the case against them was proved to the hilt, they were every one acquitted.

Then George Robert was arraigned with two others. The theory of the prosecution was that the slaughter had been premeditated, and that a plan of rescue had been got up to give a colour to it; but not a particle of reliable evidence was produced in proof. On the contrary, much of the testimony was improbable, and the more material portions were contradicted by circumstances that could not lie. In short, there was nothing whatever to connect Fitzgerald with the deed. Still he was condemned, and left for immediate execution, as were his companions in misfortune.

At six in the evening, an hour after the hanging of the others, he was led to the hill of Castlebar, where a new gall was in course of erection. A part of the scaffolding was utilised as a gallows. George Robert was dressed in a faded suit of the Castlebar Hunt, his vest soiled and unbuttoned, his shoes and stockings coarse and dirty, and his hat bound with a hempen cord. A more striking contrast to his former elegance could not be conceived. His step, however, was firm, and his demeanour self-possessed and courageous.

The execution—greatly prolonged by bungling, which many thought intentional—was very cruel and trying to the doomed man. The first rope broke with his weight; and as nobody could be induced to supply another, they were obliged, after waiting about an hour, to use a rope from the building. This proved so long that Fitzgerald's feet touched the ground. And it was only when a storm of indignation from the spectators apprised the high sheriff, who stood by, that this vile work was being carried too far for even the mob of Castlebar to put up with it, that the rope was shortened and the tragedy brought to an end.

The dead body was transported at once to Torlough, and "waked" for a few hours in an out-house. At midnight it was borne to the grave, "dug on the wrong side of a ruined chapel in a lonely part of the estate." Here it was buried without coffin in the dress described.

What right-minded people thought of the trial and execution may be gathered from the following remark made to the judge on his return to Dublin: "Come from doing Connaught justice, my lord! Yes, George Robert Fitzgerald was a murderer, and—he was murdered."

Many years later his brother, Charles Lionel, made it a death-bed request that he should be buried in the grave of the celebrated duellist. When this was opened, the body of George Robert was found almost perfect, a fact which told strongly on the superstitious minds of the people, but which may be accounted for by the chemical properties of the soil. However, it is beyond dispute that not a single one of the ringleaders in the prison died a natural death. —*Cornhill Magazine.*

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XLII.

#### SHIDZUKA'S WATCH.

From sunset until nearly midnight the little band of friends and liegemen who had accompanied Yoshitsune to his retreat, kept the wassai bowl circulating without intermission from hand to hand. Ignorant, for the most part, of the events described in the last chapter, or careless if not ignorant, these knights and vassals were more than willing to promote so unwonted a revel. Benkei himself and the few that shared his confidence were not entirely

without misgivings, but after all it seemed little likely that Friar Tosa would make any immediate attempt to carry out his evil design. If it had once been possible, however, to entertain a hope of deterring him by an exposure of the suspicion under which he had fallen, that hope was now no longer tenable. The false oath he had taken—an oath of doubly solemn import for one in his position—proved him to be a man altogether beyond the reach of scruple or hesitation. Partial failure would in all probability have the effect of rendering him even more desperate, and under any circumstances the destruction of those that might attest his perjury could not fail to be regarded by him as a considerable gain. On the other hand it seemed almost certain that he would await a fresh opportunity, since the present was forfeited by the presence of his victim, and it was in the faith of this assurance that Yoshitsune's most devoted followers gradually allowed themselves to be absorbed into this tumult of carouse which their chief shewed so unusual a desire to promote.

As for Yoshitsune himself, it is not difficult to understand his feelings. They were in part wrathful; in part reckless. He had refused to credit any evidence of his brother's treachery until confronted with Friar Tosa, and then the instinctive aversion aroused in noble natures by the contact of baseness, had suddenly made him wise, to the momentary destruction of his trust in everything just or loyal. In his patient exile and brave struggles against early disaster, Yoritomo had shewn himself well worthy of the marvellous success he now enjoyed, but at the same time the world was not wrong in attributing the attainment of that success to his younger brother's prowess no less than to his own merits. Of this Yoshitsune did not affect any false ignorance. He had imperilled his life a thousand times, and was still ready to sacrifice it at any moment for the sake of his father's memory, but never once had his efforts been weakened by any feeling of envy or emulation. What he had done was done loyally and without a thought of self-aggrandizement, for believing that the confidence and affection he so largely bestowed were at least in part reciprocated, it never occurred to him to apportion the results achieved by his victories. He was willing to resign everything in his brother's favour except the right to fight for their common cause, and the merit of having helped to restore the fair fame of the House of Gen. Is it wonderful then that finding his youth of patient purpose and his manhood of real effort rewarded by contemptible envy and mistrust, he was roused for a moment to unreflecting anger and utter carelessness for a life that seemed so little worth living? This fabric of rebuilt power could not hope to have more stability than that upon whose ruins it had been created, such weakness being already discernible in its mainstays, and if all that had hitherto been achieved was destined presently to prove abortive, what profit could there possibly be in tarrying to witness so miserable an issue? Better be merry for a time with the comrades he had essayed beyond the possibility of mistrust, and in the contemplation of whose fidelity he might even lose sight of the shadow that loomed in the future. If his brother had really conceived so foul a scheme and entrusted its execution to so base an instrument, it was scarcely worth while to take precautions that could only serve to preserve him for renewed attempts. He himself at least would be loyal to the last, nor let the world find cause to question his faith by seeing him suspicious.

They were but a small band that mustered that night at the castle; some thirty men in all, neither in case of attack would it be possible to obtain succour for a considerable time but, as we have said, the main part knew no reason to anticipate danger and the rest either despised or wilfully ignored it. Before midnight moreover they had drunk so deeply that it mattered little whether they were many or few. Man after man had laid down to a sleep of utter oblivion, and in the whole castle there was but one left to keep watch—that one was Shidzuka, Yoshitsune's young wife. Entrusted by her husband with every secret of his life, she knew from first to last the story of Yoritomo's past confidence and his present mistrust. She had heard too all the particulars of Friar Tosa's arrival from Kamakura; his summons to the castle; his interview with Yoshitsune, and the solemn oath he had sworn in support of his innocence. But she was not for an instant deceived by her husband's profession of belief in that oath. She saw on the contrary that, disgusted beyond measure at a combination of treason

and perjury scarcely conceivable to one himself of so loyal a nature, he had lapsed for the moment into reckless indifference, and she observed too with no little alarm that the same carelessness seemed to have overtaken not only the knights that ought to have kept guard, but even the ever watchful Benkei and Saburo themselves.

The castle was in fact to all intent left completely defenceless. Of what avail was it that amongst the garrison were numbered men whose names will be remembered so long as their country exists? Or that one brave girl sat with beating heart and strained nerves expecting every moment to hear the shout of onset? Even though her anxious ear detected the approach of danger in time to give warning, that warning would fall unheeded, or at best rouse soldiers scarcely capable of resistance.

At midnight the moon sank below the hills and a spring rain began to fall in fitful dashes. Sometimes it descended with a gentle pattering that served as an accompaniment to the monotonous ripple of the river; sometimes it hurled itself down in headlong haste, making the silence resonant with its tumultuous din, and it was only in the intervals of its violence that any other sound was distinguishable. Nevertheless, though Shidzuka felt that her watching, in any case little likely to be of much service, was rendered well nigh completely useless by this mischance, she relaxed nothing of her painful vigilance, hoping always against hope, that either the thunder of the rain upon roof and pavement or some passing vision of the perils they were neglecting, might rouse the sleepers from their death-like lethargy.

Every hour that passed thus was a decided gain, not merely as an added respite but also because time alone was needed to restore the garrison's numbed faculties to their wanted wariness. Yoshitsune would surely return cityward on the morrow, so that the real danger was limited to that one night, for however little disposed he might himself be to anything like precaution, such an attempt as that supposed to be contemplated by Friar Tosa could only be feasible under exceptional circumstances like the present. On the other hand this fact was probably well known to the friar and if so would surely have the effect of hastening his action, so that even the undisturbed passage of the moments was not an unalloyed advantage since it might in reality signify the gradual approach of peril.

Revolving these things over and over in her mind, Shidzuka maintained her attitude of unwearying watchfulness until the first ray of dawn appeared on the eastern horizon. The night had seemed so long that unconsciously she had learned to esteem it interminable, and when across the stillness that succeeded the rain's pattering there came to her ear the feeble note of a half-awakened mavis, it sounded like a message of safety sent specially by the gods. She moved to the verandah and opening the shutters looked out into the still impenetrable darkness. The silence was almost oppressive. Nothing lived or moved around; only the outlines of the hills separated themselves little by little from the darkness, and the river, swollen by the rain, surged and murmured in its channel as though the messengers from the clouds had reminded it of their freedom and its own captivity.

Shidzuka knew that the moment on the confines of darkness and daylight was the one most commonly chosen for the delivery of an assault, and it seemed to her that if only the light just glimmering in the east might find time to whiten the foam of the stream's eddies, all cause for apprehension would be past. Possessed by this fancy she turned her eyes towards the dark line of rushing water with breathless intentness. As yet the movement of the current alone was discernible, and that rather by the sounds of its progress than by any certain appearance it presented. Little by little, however, whether her sight adapted itself to the darkness, or the twilight really grew brighter, she thought she could discover the shadowy mists brooding by the river's margin, and at the same time the murmur of the current appeared to assume a more regular and distinctly marked cadence. To this latter fact she paid at first slight attention. Indeed the calm influence of the hour and the gradual return of confidence were beginning to convert her watch into a drowsy unconsciousness, and in another moment the fruits of all her brave vigilance had been lost, when suddenly a breath of air stirring in the south gave a new import to these soft sounds.

She sprang to her feet, and without waiting to seek any confirmation or contradiction of the terror that had fallen upon her, ran rapidly across the garden and mounted the watch-tower. Her senses were now so sharpened by apprehension that neither darkness nor distance had power to baffle her, and the briefest possible interval saw her speeding back to the castle with the newly acquired certainty that a large body of horsemen were approaching the southern barbican. The hour, the direction from which they came and the occurrences of the preceding day, made it impossible to doubt that they were enemies, while to oppose their attack there was no force at hand, except a score of men as yet unarmed and sleeping a sleep from which it might be more than difficult to arouse them.

Shidzuka's first idea, of course, was to warn her husband. She fancied that he at least would be easily moved by her voice, and she depended on his summons to muster the rest of the garrison. Even then, however, there would scarcely be time for the knights to buckle on their harness, and man the barbican before the attack commenced, so that the safety of the whole party might depend on the gain or loss of a moment. Realizing all this as she sped back from the watch-tower, the extreme peril of the situation presented itself so vividly to her mind that when she reached Yoshitsune's side and sought to speak his name, her lips refused to adapt themselves to any articulate utterance. She essayed various devices to rouse him, but the heavy lethargy induced by the fumes of the wine resisted all her efforts, and in her despair she fancied herself destined to witness his murder and know that her own weakness had brought it about. Already it seemed too late to hope, for the sounds of the approaching terror had been so borne in upon her mind during the moment she tarried in the watch-tower, that the plashing of the river, the rustling of the wind and even the deep respiration of the sleepers now went to multiply these menacing echoes until all the air was filled with the clash of weapons and the clatter of approaching hoofs.

Truly the perjured priest's evil design had attained the very verge of completion. The only conceivable obstacle that remained in his path was his own ignorance of the facile victory that awaited him, for the less resistance he encountered in his approach, the more he might anticipate on his arrival. In this, however, there was scanty comfort, seeing that the end must in any case be the same: a brief struggle more terrible perhaps in its details than complete submission, and then, the fatal blow. But would Yoshitsune recover consciousness before that blow was struck, or would his sleep pass undisturbed into the everlasting unconsciousness of death? These were the speculations with which Shidzuka was now tormented. She had heard it said that the sound of clashing arms has power to recall any true knight's senses even from the delirium of disease, and if so, she was perhaps destined to see her husband start up at the last moment with empty hands, and fall under a hail of crashing strokes, without the power to punish one of his craven murderers, though they were nothing but untried shavelings and he, the peerless soldier no arm had ever yet overcome. No! this at least should not be. She would be his sword-bearer, and if haply he awoke to a knowledge of his peril before the worst had come, from her hands he should receive the blade all Japan had learned to dread.

Eager to achieve this purpose, she turned towards the alcove, and was about to possess herself of Yoshitsune's sword and glaive when a new idea presented itself. Two paces from where her husband lay, his armour—cuirass, casque, greaves and gauntlets—hung suspended from the lacquered mail-rack. Seizing all this with the strength of phreusy, she raised it above her head and cast it clashing to the ground.

The result was almost more than she had hoped. Yoshitsune sprang to his feet, not confused or startled as one might have expected, but so composed and in such perfect possession of every faculty that Shidzuka could not persuade herself he had slept at all. He did not ask any question, but after a brief scrutiny of his girl-wife's terror-stricken face, seized the alarm-horn and blew a blast that echoed from end to end of the castle. In a moment every soldier was on foot. Accustomed to deliver or repel an attack at an instant's notice, these veterans were not to be perturbed by any summons however sudden. Every man set himself silently to buckle on his harness, and though Yoshitsune

did not wait to be accompanied to the barbican, he had scarcely reached it before half the garrison were ready to range themselves at his side.

Friar Tosa had reckoned fully on surprising the castle, for he fancied that his enemies would count their avowed knowledge of his designs more than sufficient to deter him. At the same time he knew his force to be fully four times that of the garrison, so that he was resolved to persevere in his attempt, whatever resistance he might experience. Instead, therefore, of sharing the hesitation which the sound of the conch caused his followers, he urged them to increase their speed, so that the hundred cavaliers dashed up to the castle gates, just as Yoshitsune and his men took their posts within.

The drawbridge was up and the gates were already closed, but the place, as we have said, was not designed to withstand any serious attack. Its narrow mont and low parapet made it accessible at many points, and the danger was that the friar might divide his men into three or four bands and deliver simultaneous assaults. The mere capture of the place, was not, however, the assailants' object. Unless they carried off its master's head, their whole attempt would be worse than useless, and knowing this Yoshitsune understood that their efforts would be directed chiefly towards setting the castle on fire, and so compelling its garrison to sally forth and encounter an overwhelming attack in the open. He would not himself have shrunk from this meeting, however unequal the forces engaged, for he longed to come within striking distance of his treacherous foes and their forsworn leader, but as a general he was constrained to consider his followers' safety and if possible defeat the enemy's design. At the same time this could only be achieved by sending a force to engage the assailants in rear, and the paucity of the garrison's numbers rendered such a proceeding impossible, so that it became a question whether, after all, an immediate charge might not be the best chance of escape.

Yoshitsune would probably have acted forthwith upon this idea could he have mustered all his men at once, but he observed, somewhat to his surprise, that little more than half the number had as yet reached the barbican. While he paused, the attack commenced, and soon he had no leisure to think of anything but preserving the place from immediate capture. Three times the enemy advanced to the assault under cover of a flight of arrows that made it impossible to man the parapet, and three times he was driven back leaving not a few of his men dead or disabled before the gate. Friar Tosa himself led every onset, exhibiting a strength and skill that more than justified Yoritomo's choice of such an agent, and when his followers retreated after the third attempt, eight only of the thirteen soldiers garrisoning the barbican, remained capable of wielding a sword.

If this continued, the fall of the castle was only a question of time. Every attack must inflict greater loss upon the defenders and less upon the assailants in proportion to the constantly increasing disparity of their numbers. Moreover, at any moment the much dreaded dispersion of the enemy's force might be carried out, and indeed even now it appeared to be in contemplation, for a movement evidently having reference to some redistribution of their band was already discernible among them. Yoshitsune looked round upon his men still standing stoutly in their places, but scarcely outnumbering the corpses of their comrades that lay at their feet. He knew that he could count on their support so long as any one was left to grasp a weapon, but he knew also that for his sake alone they were imperilling their lives, and he experienced an intense reluctance to accept such a sacrifice at their hands. Better far ride out alone among these priests and hirelings and sell his life at a cost that would be long remembered, than involve so many others in his ruin for the sake of deferring what could not ultimately be avoided. The end for which he had lived was, after all, accomplished, and if his death were really essential to Yoritomo's peace of mind, why should he shrink from it now, any more than he had done when the issue was the fall of a fortress or the fate of a skirmish?

But first he would fain say farewell to his old comrades Benkei and Saburo. He had missed them sorely from his side hitherto, but still he never doubted that they were close at hand until a careful scrutiny convinced him that they had not yet joined the defenders of the barbican.

Never before had they failed him in his hour of need, and never before had he known how insignificant his strength seemed without them. Had it, however, been a mere question of the aid they might have rendered, he could easily have pardoned their tardiness, but as it was, it gave him no small pain, for he knew what the thought that they had been absent at such a time must afterwards cost the men themselves. Yet on the whole it was perhaps better so. They would never have consented to be disassociated from the step he was about to take, and though he deemed it little likely they would survive him under any circumstances, still it would be easier to die with the knowledge that he had not led them to certain destruction.

These reflections and the resolve they induced were all the work of an instant. The Genji knights had no conception of their leader's design, and when he ordered them to open the gates, they immediately prepared to take part in the sortie this proceeding heralded. Neither did Yoshitsune venture to declare the truth. He knew his liegemen too well to believe that they would suffer him to ride alone to his death, and so telling them merely that he proposed to advance and treat with the enemy, he forbade any to follow him and sheathing his sword passed deliberately through the gate.

When Friar Tosa observed this extraordinary proceeding he was at first inclined to doubt the evidence of his senses, but seeing presently that the solitary cavalier who came forward so unconcernedly was Yoshitsune himself—not an envoy sent to treat nor yet a common soldier whose life was of comparatively small value, but the one man who could never be expected to forgive this treacherous attack nor ever himself to expect to be spared by those that had so much injured him—he at once concluded that this manoeuvre was the preliminary to one of the wonderful stratagems for which Yoshitsune was famous. Instead therefore of leading his men to the charge immediately, he admonished them to be wary and on no account suffer themselves to be inveigled from their position until he gave them permission, lest they should fall into an ambush or by some other accident forfeit the victory they had almost won. The consequence of this was that not only were the garrison's suspicions dissipated by their chief's unmolested advance—for they had begun to grow uneasy as he left the castle further and further behind him—but also that the enemy forfeited their opportunity by that moment of hesitation. For at the very instant that Yoshitsune drawing his sword rushed forward to his death, as he fancied, Friar Tosa's men found themselves furiously assailed in rear by the foe they dreaded most after the Genji chief himself. Indeed so exactly coincident were the two events, that one might not, reasonably, have supposed them to be the result of accident, and it is scarcely wonderful that the priest's followers were overtaken by a fatal panic under the circumstances.

The thing had, however, fallen out simply enough. Benkei and Saburo knowing the attacking force's numerical superiority, and foreseeing that if the assault were delivered from several quarters at the same time it could not possibly be withstood, had immediately adopted the only apparent method of preventing such a contingency. They had not communicated their design to Yoshitsune, fearing that the peril it involved might induce him to oppose it, but passing out of the castle by the back gate, had made their way along circuitous streets and lanes till they found themselves in the enemy's rear. That they should have reached their destination and delivered their charge at the exact instant of Yoshitsune's advance was of course nothing more than a happy accident, no less surprising to themselves than demoralizing to their foes, but even after the event there were many of the garrison who refused to be persuaded that the whole affair was not the result of an extraordinarily perfect design. As for Friar Tosa's party, they scarcely made any resistance. Few of them even paused to consider what had befallen them, but fled away at once to escape the death the newcomers' swords dealt here and there with such terrible rapidity. The friar himself, giving no further thought to the men who had failed to accomplish his purpose, made the best of his way to the cloisters of Kurama, hoping to find a temporary refuge there among the hills, but the cenobites were faithful to the affection they had bestowed on Yoshitsune in his boyhood. They pursued the perjured priest, captured him, and led him the same day to the castle of Horikawa.



The crime he had committed was one that no honest man could regard without aversion: assassination undertaken solely for the sake of guerdon, and a false oath sworn under conditions that made the perjury doubly heinous. Among the knights and nobles who hastened to congratulate Yoshitsune or to guard his castle against any fresh attempt, there were many not more devoted to his interests than to those of Yoritomo, but not one that would have sought to shield the priest from the punishment his foul deeds merited.

He was led bound into the castle garden and placed before the room where Yoshitsune and his knights sat. Wounded, disgraced, and in all probability about to die a painful death, his bearing was just as stout and defiant as when he rode up to the castle gates in the grey of morning with the assurance of speedy victory and the realization of Yoritomo's magnificent promises in the near future.

Yoshitsune looked at him long and fixedly but without any evidence of anger. Much as he loathed the man's doings he could not but admire his unflinching courage, neither might he forget that even while he sat in judgment on his would-be murderer, Yoritomo was praying at Kamakura for the success of the agent his false suspicions had armed.

"Friar Tosa, the curse of the gods and the contempt of your fellow-men are your guerdon in this matter. It was not the cenobites of Kurama that overtook you in the valley of Sojo, but the sentence of heaven."

The priest laughed jibingly at this solemn address. "You know well, my lord," he retorted, "that all these things are the device of your brother, the Lord Constable, and that in condemning me you accuse him. As for the misfortunes that have overtaken me, there are heavier ones in store for those that judge me, I trow."

Yoshitsune was not easily moved to anger or resentment, but this insolent speech and the painful allusions it contained caused his face to flush a deep crimson. He made no sign nor even trusted himself immediately to reply, but Benkei who had restrained his wrath up to the present with infinite pain, perceiving these symptoms of displeasure in his master's countenance, took off his sandal and struck the priest heavily on the mouth.

Friar Tosa neither winced nor changed colour. "Strike on," he said quietly, "it is your turn for the moment. Your blows cause me no bodily suffering since the face they fall on is not mine own but that of the chief whose messenger I am. The time is not far distant when they shall be returned with fitting interest."

Benkei raised his hand again but before it descended Yoshitsune spoke: "Yours is a stout heart, Friar Tosa, and it were little fitting that service so well rendered should be punished by those who know how to value it. You are free to return to Kamakura at once if you please."

The knights looked at each other in astonishment, but no dissentient voice was raised, for the priest's gallant bearing found ready sympathy among these brave men. His bonds having been loosed and his swords restored to him, Friar Tosa did not, however, show any anxiety to depart. Kneeling at Yoshitsune's feet, he prayed that yet another boon might be added to the favours he had already received. "Say on, Friar Tosa," was the answer. "If it be within the limits of my power, your request is already granted."

"My Lord, when I left Kamakura, I never for an instant believed it possible to succeed in what I had undertaken. The sword is not yet forged that shall achieve this deed, nor the man born that shall wield it. I knew well that my life was forfeited, and with that certainty I shrunk from nothing that might acquit me of hesitation. How then can I go forth again into the world, a perjured priest and a disgraced soldier? Take therefore, I pray you, the life I have lost the right to keep, and let me hope that the gods may pardon me for the sake of this sacrifice."

"It shall be as you desire, Friar Tosa," said Yoshitsune with evident reluctance, "for though I would fain turn you from your purpose, I may not gainsay its fitness. Tomorrow," he added, turning to a knight who sat beside him, "let the friar be taken to the plain of Rokugo and there beheaded, but I charge you that beyond this deed to which we are constrained by his own desire, no insult be put upon him in life, nor any indignity offered to his remains after death."

(To be continued.)

## DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

A ship whose course, or long or short,  
Is terminated at this port.

1.

It sparkles upon Scottish legs.

2.

Not oval quite, but doubtless eggs.

3.

A record brief of bygone day.

4.

What people oft sit down to play.

5.

Try it reversed, you will be right.

6.

I give you but a ray of light.

7.

Of noble family in Spain.

8.

You seek to find me out in vain.

9.

Plainness itself,—say what more plain?

JUMBUCK.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF MAR. 20TH, BY "QUAM."

<i>Hyperborean</i>		<i>Exploration.</i>
H	i	E
Y	e	X
P	a	P
E	i	L
R	i	O
B	a	R
O	r	A
R	o	T
E	l	I
A	m	O
N	n	N

Correct answers received from Senex, 30 & 2 Bisques, and Zulu. Others incorrect.

## NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	April 9th*
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	Mar. 25th†
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 30th‡
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	Mar. 29th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 28th§
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Mar. 29th

\* Left San Francisco, 20th March, *City of Tokio*.

† Left Hongkong, 18th March, *Tanna*.

‡ Left Hongkong, 21st March, *Malacca*.

§ Left Hongkong, 23rd March, *City of Peking*.

## NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	Mar. 30th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	April 17th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	April 10th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	April 4th
HAOKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	April 3rd
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	April 11th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Mar. 31st

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

## LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

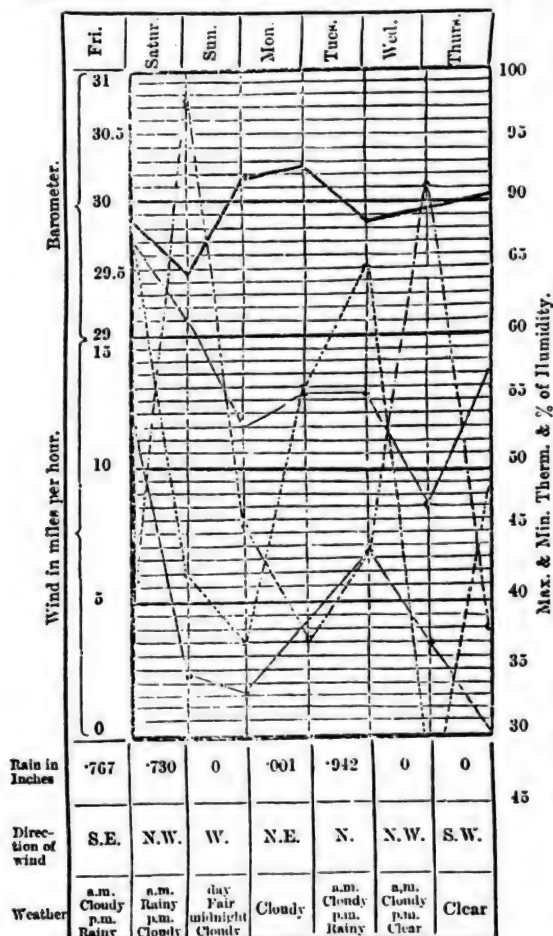
Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 19TH, 1880.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. &amp; min. thermometers.

Dotted line—represents velocity of wind

.....percentage of humidity

Max. velocity of wind 41 miles per hour on Saturday, at 4 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

A glance at the chart will show that the week has been one of extraordinary fluctuations in all of the meteorological elements. The highest barometer was 30.357 inches on Monday at 7 a.m., and the lowest was 29.178 inches on Saturday at 7 a.m., the range being 1.179 inches for the week. This is greater than the range for the entire month of March of last year. A minimum temperature of 30° was reached on Thursday, which is lower than the minimum of the month for last year. The minimum percentage of humidity which cannot be shown on the chart, was 45, on Wednesday. A total of 2.44 inches of rain fell during the week.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Mar. 20, British barque *Oleander*, Joass, 342, from Newcastle, N.S. W., Coals, to Walsh, Hall & Co.  
 Mar. 21, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 598, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 23, American ship *Centennial*, Bearse, 1,287, from New York, Kerosene, Order.  
 Mar. 23, Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, Pyne, 295, from Yokkaichi, General, M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 23, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 800, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 26, American ship *L. J. Morse*, Ames, 1300, from New York, Oil etc., to Adamson, Bell & Co.  
 Mar. 26, British barque *Lady Boreen*, T. Pain, 891, from Newcastle N.S.W., Coal, to Mollison, Frazer & Co.  
 Mar. 27, German corvette *Prinz Adalbert*, Maclean, 3,995, 11 guns, from Kobe.  
 Mar. 27, Japanese barque *Sakurajima Maru*, Cheetman, 551, from Nagasaki, to M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru* from Kobe:—Mr. Cook and 120 Japanese.  
 Per Japanese steamer *Shario Maru* from Kobe:—Messrs. Lees and Townsend, and 230 Japanese.

## OUTWARDS.

Mar. 20, German schooner *North Star*, Jansen, 707, Otter hunting, despatched by Hohnholz & Co.  
 Mar. 21, French steamer *Volga*, Guirand, 1,502, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 21, Japanese steamer *Tamara Maru*, Carrow, 558, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 23, British steamer *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,652, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.  
 Mar. 23, Japanese steamer *Kokonyo Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 23, American schooner, *Matinée*, Lenard, 35, for the Kurile islands, Captain.  
 Mar. 24, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 653, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 23, German schooner *Mary C. Bohm*, Petersen, 72, Otter Hunting, despatched by P. Bohm.  
 Mar. 24, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 25, Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, Nye, 1,407, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 25, British barque *Chili*, Baade, 445, for Hakodate, Coals, despatched by P. Bohm.  
 Mar. 26, Japanese steamer *Kinshia Maru*, Davidson, 690, for Yokkaichi, General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 30, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 597, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 27, Japanese barque *Kinokuni Maru*, Nicol, 960, for Nagasaki, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 27, British steamer *Sunda*, Scaton, 1,029, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer *Volga* for Hongkong:—Messrs. R. H. Remington, A. Guitassen, and L. Harris.  
 Per British steamer *Gaelic* for Hongkong:—From San Francisco: Captain E. H. Burr; and 255 Chinese in steerage. From Yokohama: Mr. H. M. Blanchard.  
 Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—His Ex. Matsugata, (Minister of Home Department), Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Cobden and infant, Mrs. McDonald, Mrs. T. Walsh, Miss M. Fry, Mrs. D'Ifanger, Rev. C.W. Willit, wife and child, Messrs. Enno Kinsuki, Suzuki, Ono Shige-aki, Tani Kinsichiro, Namiki, Suyehiro, D. Reynolds, Kondaiha, Mori, Watanabe, Yokogawa, Sahai, Nakagawa, M. C. Bouger, Master Bouger, Nishimura, Funakoshi, Shishido, M. Funagawa, Watanabe, Ishii, Kunishi, Hayashi, Tanimura, Komuro, Okumura, Taneta, Nagai, Ten Sen, T. C. Parker, Tanaka, O. Reimers, C. Dresser, C. Croun, R. Washington, and A. Doudabes.  
 Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong, &c.:—Mrs. Schraub and child, Mr. Waterhouse and 3 Chinese.

## CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—  
 Silk for France... .. 182 Bales.  
 Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong, &c.:—  
 Silk ... .. 29 Bales

## REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Shario Maru* reports: Left Kobe at 5.30 a.m. on the 24th instant, arrived at Yokohama at 7.30 p.m. on the 25th instant. Experienced strong N. winds first part of passage later westerly winds and fine weather.  
 The German corvette *Prinz Adalbert* reports: Left Kobe 18th March. Experienced first part of passage westerly winds, latter part, very strong S.E. and N. E. winds and dirty weather.

## NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 27th March, 1880.)

	Discount on Yen Sat.		Gold Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
	A.M.	Closing.				
1880.						
Monday.....	Mar. 22 44	44½	43½	374	326	113
Tuesday.....	" 23 45	45½	45	—	—	—
Wednesday.....	" 24 44	44½	45½	—	—	—
Thursday.....	" 25 46½	46½	46	—	—	—
Friday.....	" 26	—	—	—	—	—
Saturday.....	" 27 46½	46½	46½	—	—	—

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16/79	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru		Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13/78	M. B. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	Mar. 13	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Centennial	Bearse	American ship	1,287	New York	Mar. 23	Order
Floral Star	Davison	British schooner	244	Takao	Mar. 18	Chinese
G. Broughton	Cleminshaw	British barque	803	Antwerp	Mar. 12	Simon, Evers & Co.
Lady Bowen	Pain	British barque	891	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Mar. 26	Mollison, Frazer & Co.
L. J. Morse	Ames	American ship	1,300	New York	Mar. 26	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Merom	Lowell	American ship	1,200	New York	Mar. 11	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Oleander	Joass	British barque	342	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Mar. 20	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Otome	Jensen	Russian schooner	55	Nemuro	Feb. 9	Hohnholz & Co.
Otago	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Bonin Islands	Jan. 27	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
West Glen	Thompson	British barque	699	Antwerp	Mar. 10	L. Kniffier & Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
AMERICAN.—Alert ... ..	4	1,030	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
GERMAN.—Prinz Adalbert ... ..	11	3,995	4,800	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Maclean
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ... ..	8	1,069	300	Corvette	Vladivostock	Captain Schance

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ... ..	Tibre	M. M. Co.	April 4th at 7 a.m.
Hongkong via Kobe... ..	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	April 3rd, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco ... ..	City of Peking	P. M. Co.	About Mar. 30th.
San Francisco ... ..	Gaelic	O. & O. Co.	About April 17th.
Shanghai and way-ports... ..	Genkai Maru	M. B. Co.	Mar. 31st, at 4 p.m.



## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—*Iron* dull and depressed, no buyers and quotations nominal. *Shirtings* dull at former rates. *Velvets* unchanged. *Lawns* the turn dearer. *Woollens* small business at last quotations.

## COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$31.00 to 35.00
" " Good to Best ...	"	\$36.00 to 37.50
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ...	"	\$31.00 to 33.50
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ...	"	\$38.00 to 40.00
" " Good to Best ...	"	\$40.50 to 41.50
" 38 to 42 ...	"	\$40.00 to 42.00

## COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece	28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.65 to 1.95
" " 8½ lb. "	38½ " 39 in.	\$1.90 to 2.27½
" " 9 lb. "	38½ " 45 in.	\$2.20 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. "	24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.80
Drills, English: 14-16 lb. 40 "	30 in. "	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— " 13 "	44 in. "	\$1.70 to 1.75
Prints:—Assorted... " 24 "	30 in. "	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Saleens Black	32 in. "	\$0.11 to 0.14
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds.	30 in. "	\$1.40 to 1.62½
Do. 2½ to 3 lb. 24 "	30 in. "	\$1.55 to 1.82½
Do. 3 lb. "	24 " 30 in. "	\$1.75 to 1.90

## COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ...	35 " 22 in. per piece	\$8.25 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns:— " 12 "	42/3 in. "	\$0.85 to 0.88½
Tafachelass:— " 12 "	43 in. "	\$1.75 to 1.90½

## WOOLLENS:—

Plain Orleans ...	40-42 yds. 32 in. ...	5.25 to 6.28
Figured Orleans ...	29-30 yds. 31 in. ...	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ...	29-30 yds. 31 in. ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ...	30 yds. 32 in. ...	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Cords ...	29-30 yds. 22 in. ...	4.00 to 5.25
Mousseline de Laines:—Orange	24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajime	24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen	24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy..	48 in. to 52 in. ...	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ...	54 in. to 56 in. ...	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents ...	54 in. to 56 in. ...	0.55 to 0.60
Union ...	54 in. to 56 in. ...	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs. ...	per lb. ...	0.38 to 0.42

SUGAR.—Stocks are about 15,000 piculs only, but Chinese are offering freely to contract. Tenders for spot cargo are only \$4.60 per picul.

KEROSENE.—The ships *Centennial* and *L. J. Morse* have arrived, augmenting our stocks by 90,600 cases. This, coupled with the fact that there are some 300,000 cases now overdue, has had a depressing effect on prices.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ...	per picul...	\$4.60
Taiwanfoo in bag... "	"	\$4.10 to \$4.15
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ...	"	\$8.00 to \$9.00
China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fah..	"	\$6.25 to \$8.00

Daitong ...	per picul...	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ...	"	\$2.80 to \$3.00
Kerosene Oil ...	"	\$1.60 to \$1.62½
Newchwang Peas ...	"	\$2.20 to \$2.25

## EXPORTS.

SILK.—During the week under review our Silk market has continued quiet and sluggish.

The wish to meet buyers has become rather more universal amongst the Japanese, and the decline in prices mentioned in our last report has become more decided; a further drop, however, can scarcely be quoted yet.

Sales of about 100 shipping bales are reported; consisting principally of Kakedas and Filatures for America.

Stock about 3,200 Japanese bales.

Shipments to date, 16,575 bales against 17,264 bales at the same period last season.

	In London at 3/9½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.		In London at 3/9½. per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.
Hanks,—Superior, nom...			Kakeda,—Extra .....	\$720 to 740 24/5 to 25/	frs. 68 00 to 69 25
" Best .....	\$665 to 680 22/8 to 23/2	frs. 62 50 to 64 00	" Best .....		
" Good .....	\$650 to 660 22/2 to 22/6	frs. 61 30 to 62 00	" Good .....	\$670 to 690 22 10 to 23/6	frs. 62 80 to 64 50
" Good Medium .....	\$630 to 640 21/6 to 21 10	frs. 60 00 to 60 50	" Medium .....	\$610 to 650 21/ to 22/2	frs. 59 00 to 61 30
" Medium .....	\$600 to 610 20/11 to 21 3	frs. 58 25 to 59 00	" Common .....		
" Common, In'r... ..	\$550 to 570 18 11 to 19 7	frs. 52 30 to 54 00	Filatures,—Extra .....	\$770 to 790 26/ to 26 3/8	frs. 72 00 to 73 50
Oshius,—Best .....	\$620 to 650 21 2 to 22 2	frs. 59 80 to 61 30	" Best .....	\$720 to 750 24 5 to 25 1/4	frs. 68 00 to 70 00
" Medium .....			" Good .....		
Hamateki .....	\$580 to 610 19 11 to 21 00	frs. 54 80 to 59 00	" Med. & C'n .....	\$660 to 700 22 6 to 23 9	frs. 62 00 to 65 25

## EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight .....	3/9½
" Bank Bills on demand .....	3/8½
" Private 4 months' sight .....	3/9½
" " 6 " " " .....	3/9½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight .....	4.70
" Private 6 ms. sight .....	4.85
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight .....	Par.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight .....	½ % dis.

ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight .....	72½
" Private 10 days sight .....	73½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand .....	91
" 30 days sight Private .....	92½
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand .....	91
" 30 days sight Private .....	92½
Kinsatz .....	46½ dis.
Gold Yen .....	8 prem.

## SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—The *Oleander* and *Lady Bowen* have arrived with coals from N.S.W., and the former is reported chartered for coal from Nagasaki. The barque *Chili* has been sold, and sailed for Hakodate the day before yesterday. The *Floral Star* is bound for Newchwang. The *Merom* is said to be chartered at home. The other vessels in port are disengaged.

A number of Otter schooners have left, and the remainder are about to start for the Northern Islands.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,**

No. 80, Main Street.

**JUST RECEIVED.**

**A** MERICAN ENVELOPES;—Card, Note, Letter, Official and Photograph sizes. Bond Paper, Envelopes, Note and Letter sizes.

**WRITING PAPERS**;—Note, Letter, Foolscap, Bill and Legal caps.

**CLIPPER INKSTANDS**;—Single and Double.

**CARTER'S FRENCH COPYING INK**—A deep violet black—warranted to take 5 to 8 perfect copies.

**CARTER'S CARMINE and VIOLET INKS.**

**KNOWLTON'S COMBINED WRITING and COPYING INK.** Flows as free as any FLUID, and will give two to four perfect copies.

**KNOWLTON'S CHEMICAL WRITING FLUID**—Equal to Arnold's.

**Van Stans Stratena Cement.**

**THE LITHOGRAM**

This wonderful invention is now in use by many of the leading firms in Yokohama, and is pronounced indispensable by all who have tried it.

**SARGENT, FARSARI & Co.** manufacture them and guarantee satisfaction.

Yokohama, March 17th, 1880.

**MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA,**

(HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

**P** RIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class, let at the rate of from 50 sen to 80 sen per day, and from 12 yen to 20 yen per month.

**BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—**

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class .....	{ 1.50 yen per day, or 40.00 " " month.
3rd class .....	{ 1.00 yen per day, or 28.00 " " month.

*All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or small quantities.*

**GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS** supplied at fixed rates, for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood of HAKONE.

**Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged from this year.**

**MATSUZAKA HOTEL,**  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

  
**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
CELEBRATED  
STEEL PENS.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITION, 1876."

**OAKEYS**  
**WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH**

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER and BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

**OAKEYS**  
**INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS**

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKES'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

**OAKEYS**  
**SILVERSMITHS SOAP**

[NON-MERCURIAL],  
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTROPLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

**OAKEYS**  
**WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD**

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 14. BOXES.

**JOHN OAKES & SONS**  
MANUFACTURERS OF  
EMERY, FINEST CLIN, BLACK LEAD, CABINET GLASS PAPER, &c.  
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.

July, 1879.

52ins.

**THE GREATEST  
WONDER OF MODERN TIMES  
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

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VOL. IV. No. 14.]

Yokohama, April 3, 1880.

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## TRANSLITERATION.

MR. F. V. Dickinson's paper on "The Kana Transliteration System," read before the last meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan, does not appear to us to be a contribution of any importance: the arguments therein adduced are to a great extent inconsistent, and often trivial; and the matter has, upon the whole, hardly been seriously treated by the author. Thus, while taking the field against the principles upon which the etymological scheme set forth by Mr. E. Satow is based, and pronouncing himself in favor of a phonetic system, Mr. Dickinson still says: "The sound of long *ō* I prefer to write so, whether represented in Kana by *au*, *eu* or *ou*; but where *ō* is represented in Kana by *ofu*, as in *omofu*, I think 'ou' (or 'oia') may be written . . . . In cases like *yoku*, contracted into *yō*, I see no objection to the form *yo'u*." We are thus left to choose among three different ways of expressing the same sound, viz.—*ō*, *ou* and *yo'u*, the use of these forms to be decided by—etymology! Further, without anticipating any confusion through writing all the different syllables *chō*, *shō*, *jō*, etc. alike, Mr. Dickinson is apprehensive that *omou*, as a contraction for *omoku* (heavy) will be confounded with *omon* (to think). He acknowledges, at first, that they are both equivalent to *omō*, yet he adds that the introduction of *u* in one of them, thus *omouu*, would "preserve a useful eye-difference without introductions of phonetic confusion. Indeed, he says, the 'u' in 'omouu' might be of service in conserving a slight difference of pronunciation between 'omō' (heavy) and 'omō' (to think)."

After perusing the lengthy arguments of Mr. Dickinson, one is disappointed, on arriving at the *résumé* which he

gives at the end, to find that the difference between his "natural scheme" and the system followed by Dr. Hepburn consists in absolutely nothing but the aforesaid—anything but natural—modes of writing long *o*, and the spelling *tenu*, instead of *tsū*. Well may one exclaim, *quel bruit pour une omelette!* and wish that Mr. Dickinson, being, as he says, "without any authorities at hand and writing chiefly from memory," would have abstained from "inflicting upon the Society the paper, which he feels to be a crude presentation of imperfectly thought-out conceptions."

While thus unable to find that Mr. Dickinson's paper has contributed at all to a solution of the present difficulty, its appearance has again drawn attention to the vexations, but all important, question of transliteration, and we may therefore be permitted to pass a few remarks on the subject. At present we think the question should be confined to this:—Should we adopt a phonetic or an etymological (historical) system? This once decided, we shall again have to consider what particular system of the many that have been propounded we are to follow; but this latter point necessitates a detailed investigation, which under the present circumstances would be premature and wholly fruitless. We shall therefore merely consider, at large, the main differences between the two principles now advocated, and endeavour to shew which of them ought to have the preference.

The present divergent opinions as to what principle is to be adopted, arise entirely from a different conception of what should be the aim in transliterating Japanese words. Living, as we do, in a country, which we cannot exactly say why, does undoubtedly possess a certain charm, inducing us to take more interest in the history, politics literature and social life of its inhabitants than is, we believe, generally evinced by foreigners in China for the country in which they reside, it follows that there are many of us, who without laying pretensions to even an attempt at study of the Japanese language, yet have occasion daily to read, and sometimes to write, Japanese words in Roman letters. If we go a step further, we shall find that there is a numerous class of foreigners who, without having mastered the written language, have yet sufficiently advanced to occupy themselves with, and write about, matters pertaining to Japan; and we shall not be wrong in saying, that within this class will be found most of those who have contributed to our general knowledge of Japan and its inhabitants. These two classes of foreigners require such a system of transliteration as they, themselves, can use with facility, and with certainty of being understood by others who are unacquainted, or at least not thoroughly conversant, with the Chinese characters.

Besides these, however, there are the real scholars, those who have made a specialty of the study of the written language, and who are as much at home therein as, or even more than, the educated Japanese. Specialists often



become selfish, and by concentrating their minds on one particular object are apt to overlook the interest of others, who are not similarly engaged. So with our leading Japanese scholars: thoroughly acquainted with the Chinese signs, and of course also with the *Kana*, and experiencing no difficulty themselves in using an etymological system, they choose a mode of writing which, in their opinion, is scientifically correct, as all that is written in it may at any time be re-transposed into the *Kana*. They forget, however, that for every one scholar there are scores of foreigners in this country, who, though requiring a system of transliteration, have no knowledge of the written language, and to whom positively nothing is gained by a system possessing the specified characteristics. We say, that the scholars who support the etymological system, forget others; for we should be sorry to think that they, with full knowledge of the actual circumstances, have made up their minds to entirely disregard others, and to sacrifice the requirements of the majority to what is in reality but a fancy of their own. For, what object can they after all, have in view? It would seem that to scholars, intimately acquainted with the *Kana*, there could be no object in transliterating according to the way in which the words are written in that alphabet. If they make notes for their own use, during their studies, or publish anything for the information of other scientists, who possess the same degree of knowledge, it must surely in every respect be simpler to use the *Kana* characters, than the lengthy, artificial Roman substitutes. Thus, to a person, who has the necessary knowledge, it is decidedly more natural, shorter and plainer to write *chi*, than *chi*, *chi*, *chi*, etc. If on the other hand these scholars write for the public in general, then the introduction of their etymological system will only have one effect: their publications will as a rule not be read, or if read, will not be understood; and in any case the pleasure of reading will be marred by the irritation caused by meeting with what to the general reader must have the appearance of hieroglyphics. Thus, when in a popular treatise on Japanese pictorial art, we find every page stocked with such information as that *Teu Deñsu* or *Miyauten*, and *Zhiyosetsu* were celebrated painters in the fifteenth century; that the former, according to *Honten Gucashi*, was a novice at *Toufukuzhi*; that his superior's name was *Daidan*; that his first painting was a portrait of *Fudon*, and that later on the *Shiyangun*\* became his patron:—then, we say, the large majority of readers, seeing that they are unable to read these names, commence by skipping them; and on perceiving that, by so doing, they retain nothing of what they read, and that the whole article might, for that matter, apply equally well to any other country in the world, or be a pure fiction, they lay the book aside in disgust. It is really astonishing that this consideration alone does not suffice to induce the few supporters of the new system to abandon it.

We repeat, that unless the aim is that of simplification, by representing in as short and precise a form as possible, the pronunciation of Japanese, there can be no object in transcribing into Roman letters. Merely to substitute a fixed combination of Roman letters for every single *Kana* character, irrespective of its position in relation to other characters, is, so to say, but to add another complicated series of signs to the already existing *Kata* and *Hiragana*; and from this to the invention and substitution of quite a new set of arbitrarily chosen characters, is but a

\* We surmise that the words quoted stand for *Chō Denan*, *Miōchō*, *Jōetsu*, *Hunchō Gashi* (?), *Tōfukuzhi*, *Daidō*, *Fudō* and *Shōgun*.

very short step. And what is gained? Nothing, absolutely nothing. Those only, who already are perfectly familiar with the Chinese characters, can write in such a system, and the only result would be to give these people the additional, though to them perhaps not very difficult, task of learning the series of Roman equivalents, chosen to represent the *Kana* characters.

That it shall not be said that we are exaggerating the difficulties connected with the use of an etymological system,—we believe its supporters maintain there is nothing very difficult about it,—we will, for argument's sake, suppose that foreigners in Japan generally succeeded in learning the *Kana*, all its combinations, and the Roman equivalents assigned to each *Kana* character. They would consequently be able to read words romanized according to the etymological system; but let it come to writing, and they will be entirely helpless. In illustration of this we can choose no better instance than one adduced on a previous occasion by a leading opponent of this system. The syllable *tō* is written in *Kana* in six ways: *to-ho*, *to-o*, *to-u*, *to-fu*, *ta-u*, *ta-fu*; while *kiō* may be spelt in four ways: *ke-u*, *ke-fu*, *ki-ya-u*, and *ki-yo-u*. Anybody who knows this will, as said above, be able to pronounce these Roman combinations correctly, when he sees them. But ask him to write a common word as *Tōkiō*; he has then to choose among *To-ho-ke-u*, *To-o-ke-fu*, *To-u-ki-ya-u*, *Ta-fu-ki-yo-u*, or any of the twenty-four combinations, that may be formed from these syllables. The only way of deciding which combination is the correct one would be, first to ascertain with what Chinese characters *Tōkiō* is written, then to look up these characters in a Chinese-Japanese dictionary to see how they are spelt in *Kana*; and finally, —as even dictionaries are unreliable in this respect,—to verify, if possible, the *Kana* spelling by one of the handbooks specially compiled for the purpose of assisting Japanese in deciding how to spell in the *Kana*. But this operation is just what we maintain not one in fifty foreigners in this country can perform.

What we want, then, is a purely phonetic system, equally easy to write as to read. If the supporters of the etymological system still mean that, for scientific purposes, it is absolutely necessary to transcribe Japanese words into Roman letters, in strict accordance with the *Kana*, then let them do so by all means; but they should confine the use of such a system to purely philological works, always remembering that to the majority it is perfectly unintelligible, and therefore quite inadmissible in any treatise or compilation, that is intended to be read by others than philologists.

#### THE PLEASURE GROUNDS OF TOKIO.

THE religion of Japan has bestowed one great boon upon the people of its larger cities, which will be prized more and more as the capitals become crowded and busy with enterprise. We refer to the temple groves, with their fine old trees and open grounds, occupying some of the healthiest sites, and close to the most populated districts. It is to be hoped that the increase of manufacturing effort will be accompanied by the exercise of a wise discretion in placing these useful but obnoxious hives of industry, such as English towns abound in, outside the city itself. The example of Paris and other attractive continental cities should be followed, rather than that of certain prosperous towns of the nation which Adam Smith first dubbed a "nation of shopkeepers," where the foundry and the factory, smoke and reek amidst the most crowded haunts of the people, poisoning the air with their injurious

vapours. Tokio possesses one bad precedent in the iron-works erected at Akabane, in a frequented part of the town, and close to the fine wood and temples of Shiba. Were the people of this country to realize the vast trouble entailed in reclaiming, for the health and enjoyment of a population, but one small piece of open pleasure ground in cities which have been allowed gradually to encroach upon space, they would be more proud and jealous than they are of these lovely groves and gardens which still exist in abundance in the towns of Japan.

The modern capital has yet another relic of feudal grandeur which it has to thank for much of the open space and pure air that it continues to possess, in spite of its constant increase in population. The growth of the city of Yedo, from what was originally but a village, dates from the foundation of its large military stronghold,—the castle and residence of the Tokugawa Shoguns. The castle, with its spacious enclosures, wide moats and steep escarpments, forms the kernel of the city which has gradually congregated around it. The inner enclosure was reserved for the keep and the large palace and garden of the Shogun; and the outer enclosures between the serpentine walls were divided into large areas of land bestowed upon the Daimios, who were compelled to maintain a mansion at the capital, and to prove their allegiance to their leader by spending several months of the year in person at his court. Thus the parts within which the merchant and labouring classes could encroach were comparatively limited; and though of late years many of the large Yashikis have been destroyed, and their grounds have become covered with people's dwellings, yet green trees, grassy slopes, and gardens with clear stretches of free space, remain in the very heart of the metropolis. The open grounds of these yashikis, and the groves surrounding the temples, have undoubtedly combined to obviate evils which would otherwise have manifested themselves more frequently, than they have in a city deficient in water supply and drainage.

Some year or so ago, many of the commoner houses which had gradually occupied the temple grounds at Shiba were swept away, and preparations were commenced for converting this comparatively neglected but picturesque spot into a fine public garden. The clearing of the wild underwood and surface drainage which have accumulated in the gloomy shades of the old wood, where the pedestrian can even now at times start the woodcock, will rob the place of some of its romance; but the preservation of the fine old trees, and the contemplated laying out of the site as a park, are to be looked forward to as of great advantage to the people. Nevertheless, the low position of Shiba and other disadvantages of locality will prevent it from ever becoming as important a recreation ground as Uyeno. One of the most pleasant haunts in Tokio is this latter park. All such resorts in Japan have their particular season imparted to them by the blossoms for which they are famed. There are Uyeno and Mukojima, which vie with one another in the growth of the cherry-blossom. Kameido boasts its fine show of *wistaria*, and the plum, the peony, and the chrysanthemum all provide a fashionable season for the favourite spots where they respectively abound. Uyeno is just now in the glory of its prime, the cherry-trees which have here grown to such size and in so many varieties being now in full bloom. The visitor to this summer resort may see crowds of gaily dressed holiday makers flocking through its walks, and feasting their eyes on a rich show of the favourite spring flower of the country. Since the last days of the revolution have robbed Uyeno of its grand old temple and gateway, much care has been bestowed upon the improvement of the place and its conversion into a so-called park. But the Japan-

ese idea of a park is somewhat different from ours, the people being more fond than we are of scenery in its wilder garb, and less anxious to trim and pare nature into a formal and artificial arrangement. They have never delighted in geometrically disposed flower beds, and plants arranged in regular patterns; for their gardening is but scenery on a small scale, with all its variety and pleasing irregularity of mountain, stream and foliage. All the art and skill of the gardener has been directed to the training of miniature trees and shrubs into the fanciful shapes worn by the vegetation of the wildest and most picturesque mountain scenery, rather than in producing formal designs in colour upon flat overcrowded flower beds of mathematical precision, and the clipping of foliage into shapes artificially regular.

The want of anything like formality at Uyeno is one of its charms. One enters through an avenue of old trees stretching their crooked trunks and arms around, with a really rustic carelessness. On the right, grassy slopes and stone steps lead up to a tree and temple-clad platform abounding in the *sakura*, which are sprinkled among the dark foliage, some single blossomed, some double blossomed, some weeping-*sakura*, and some so old and hoary that one wonders at the rich display which their aged branches make. On the left a glance through the fine trees reveals a lotus-strewn lake below, having a stretch of land, crowded with tea-houses which overhang the water, leading out into the expanse. At the end of the promontory is a pretty temple sacred to Benten, the island goddess. Upon this lake took place, among other pyrotechnic displays, that famous one before General Grant on the evening of the fête which was honoured by the presence of the Emperor. Further on is the wide open space surrounded by trees, on which on the same occasion were held a number of ancient sports in the old style and costume. And even though fire and war, as before remarked, have denuded Uyeno of its immense temple and gateway, the park still abounds in fine specimens of Japanese architecture. Next to the old bronze Daibutsu, approached by wooden *torii*, is an avenue of stone lanterns leading to the small temple called To shogun which is noticeable as one of the finest examples of colour decoration in the city;—rich gilding setting off bright strips of colouring to the panels, beams, and richly bracketed cornice under the eaves, and giving to the whole a very gay but harmonious effect of colour. The temple abounds in elegant carving; and the interior is rich in mural paintings of flowers, birds and mythical and religious representations. And here we are reminded that one sees in Japanese buildings what is not so common in countries where stone or marble is used as a medium of ornamentation; namely the intimate combination of carving and painting. The bright plumage of birds, the ripeness of fruit, and the varied verdure of foliage are all shown in colour upon the deeply cut carvings in the panels and posts.

Not far from this temple are the shrines of the Shoguns with their *haiden*, or oratories, attached. The tombs being arranged in threes, one oratory serves for each triplet. These buildings, richly carved, and painted in black, gold, and colours, surrounded by the paved courts, fences, belfries and font-sheds, such as are found before all Buddhist temples, form a valuable collection of monuments well worthy of a careful visit from those who have not seen them. To the native public they are still a fund of wonder and interest, for until late years all these mausoleums, upon which such lavish expenditure has been bestowed by luxurious generalissimos, have been hidden from the public gaze. These shrines, and the still more ornamental sepulchres at

Shiba, are now visible for a trifling donation to the priests in charge; and reports are current that they are soon to be thrown more completely open to the people. And such art treasures of a civilization now changing are to be found set amidst the scenery of a fine park, presenting the attractions of varied foliage, and flowers, airy elevation and open space.

It will not be long before Shiba will also be a well cultivated pleasure garden, thus affording to the people of the capital two large resorts for recreation and healthy enjoyment.

#### RAILWAYS.

THE triumph of railways as a means of communication was fully established long before most of us were born; but it is still not too late to point out again the inestimable benefits that a country like Japan, which is practically without roads suited to the requirements of a commercial community, can and must derive from the adoption of some such railway system as obtains in the unsettled territories of the United States, and the sparsely populated colonies of Great Britain. The future of railways in Japan, a country teeming with inhabitants and natural products, is full of promise; provided that enormous sums of money are not squandered in the construction of lines out of all proportion to the business to be done. That the traffic may be reasonably expected to increase as communication is opened up with the interior of the country, is conclusively shewn by the returns furnished by the railway authorities giving the results of the two short lines now working. Taking, for example, the Kobe and Ootsu Section, we find that, during the week ending on the 21st of March last year, there were forty-seven miles open for traffic, and the gross earnings amounted to 12,694.16 yen, or 268.81 yen, per mile. This year at the same date fifty-five miles were open, and produced for the corresponding period 20,248.96 yen or 368.07 yen per mile, which is equivalent to £47.10, at the present value of kinsatsen and taking exchange at 8/9. Let us now see how these figures compare with the receipts from railways in other countries. From the published returns it appears that, during the year 1876, the average gross weekly earnings, per mile per week, of the railways in Great Britain and Ireland were £68.07; in India (State lines), £8.72; in New South Wales, £27.00; in Victoria, £30.00; in New Zealand, £12.80, and in Tasmania, £12.80. It will thus be seen that Japan occupies a very favourable position as regards income from her railways; for, although as might naturally be expected the earnings on the Japanese lines are considerably below those of Great Britain, still they compare very favourably with those of the other countries quoted. Judging then from results, there can be no question that, supposing even ordinary economy has been exercised in the construction and working of the railways at present open, the Government must be in receipt of a return on the outlay incurred which undoubtedly should encourage the rapid extension of the benefits of railway communication to all parts of the empire. One thing, however, should not be overlooked, and that is the initial expense, which can now be adapted to the requirements and financial position of the country. One of the greatest blunders that can possibly be perpetrated is the making of railways with too great a regard for the future and not sufficient consideration for the immediate present. No business can stand against a capital outlay which is out of proportion to the business to be done. It is familiar to all that the successful manufactories and trading enterprises of every country have been the result of small first outlay

and gradual development of business. In many well known instances where a new enterprise has been commenced with a large capital and huge buildings, failure and disaster have been only too frequent, even in cases which had all the advantages of modern machinery, a skilled staff, and good business connections. The man of business who begins in a small way, keeps his premises and capital fully occupied; and success is the outcome of the demand exceeding the supply. To build a railway many times too large in all its belongings, is simply to postpone the day of its becoming remunerative—a postponement which is for ever adding all sorts of burdens to the capital account. Here, in Japan, the authorities have the varied experience of other countries to guide them; and there certainly seems a very wide margin between £39,000 a mile, which has been the average cost of the English lines (including land), and slightly under £4,000 a mile, which is the estimated total cost (including of course rolling stock), of some of the railways in the Australian colonies.

AN advertisement in this paper conveys the pleasant intelligence to the sporting community that a Race Club has been formed, and that, as we announced last week was probable, a race meeting will be held in the latter part of May. The rules of the new institution have not yet been completely drafted; but they will be made public very shortly. We may state that they are being designed with great liberality, and a desire to secure to the community full participation in the rivalry of the turf. It will be provided, for instance, that any horse-owner can compete, if the nomination is made by a member of the Club. Membership, too, will be as open as possible, the ballot being confined to a very large number of associates. The draft programme contained in the advertisement is sufficient to show that a good gathering is confidently expected; and, although the unavoidable lateness of the time selected may be urged as a drawback, yet it must be remembered that some of the most successful race meetings ever held in this neighbourhood have occurred in the early part of June. It only remains to trust that the hopes and anticipations of the founders of the new society may be verified; and that no dispute may arise in their councils, similar to that which resulted in the ruin and death of three racing associations.

WE call the attention of our readers to the announcement of Mr. Crane's Concert on Tuesday evening next. A long residence here has made him known to all the community, and he has been always foremost in giving his services at all times for the benefit of our local charities, or for the public amusement in connection with the late Amateur Dramatic Corps. What a pity it is that we should have to write the word *late*; but, if all accounts be true, that lethargic institution has at last slept to wake no more. This being the case, amusements are likely to be scarce here, and we hope that a large audience will shew their appreciation of Mr. Crane's talents at his farewell concert on Tuesday. Himself no mean proficient upon the violin and violoncello, he will be assisted in the execution of a well-chosen programme by some of our best known local professors and amateurs, who with characteristic modesty have withheld their names from publication; and all lovers of the divine art may look for some good music, worthily performed on this occasion.

ACCORDING to Renter's telegram received this morning, the end of this month will witness the decease of the parliament of 1874. Without endeavouring to foretell the result of the approaching general election, we may yet



predict that the constituencies will, as a rule, return men to represent them who are jealous of their country's honour and influence. And these characteristics need by no means be accompanied by that rant and riot which have gone so far to create that modern English institution which has come to be known as "Jingoism." Not but what even the vulgar and stupid excitement of the tavern and the music hall has done some good in its way. It was certainly a kind of demonstration of patriotism, and a factor in the position taken by England in recent European troubles, when her enemies in her own household would have urged her to a line of policy which would for ever have excluded her from part or interest in the affairs of the continent. As it is, she has resumed her place among the great powers, and the world is grateful to her for an attitude which, when the history of the past decade comes to be written, will appear on the whole to have been modest, firm, self-reliant, and benevolent. It must not be supposed that, in or out of the House of Commons, the opinion of party is confined to the extreme notions which principally find expression. There is a very extensive and largely occupied area between the extreme fanaticism of imperialism, and that other aberration which would keep the United Kingdom a secluded group of islands, and its inhabitants a selfish class of recluses. Many members of parliament are entirely independent, and prepared to support any Government, conservative or liberal, which will maintain the same and position of their country by a policy of justice and moderation. And such representatives have a very large following in the most influential ranks of society—in the middle classes. The views of this school have lately been ably expounded by Mr. Cowen, M.P. for Newcastle-on-Tyne, who is recognized as a very advanced liberal, but nevertheless disdainfully disclaims participation in the views of the Manchester school; and would have his country something more and greater than "an emporium for cheap wares." He has even anticipated the verdict of the future, and accorded to the Government that praise which it has merited for its dealing with the Eastern Question. Well may the *Times* remark: "We must contrast the present state of Europe with what it might have been, and not improbably would have been, if England had held her hand just at the decisive moment. The crisis is now past, with all its dangers and difficulties and opportunities for error in every direction. It was not the less real enough two years since, and it will be seen to have been real enough when the country comes to reflect upon it, and to do justice to those who took the conduct of it and brought England safely through." And, whatever may be the political creed of a Government which is capable of such achievements, it will never lack the support of that portion of the community of which Mr. Cowen is a type, and which represents the best wealth and intelligence of the nation.

WRITING from Shanghai on the 7th of November last, a correspondent of the *Times* explains the demands which the foreign diplomatic body was then urging upon the attention of the Chinese Government. Referring to the abolition of the British postal agencies in Japan, he contrasts the condition of postal matters in China with that obtaining in this country; and surmises that the attempts made along the coast last year by the Imperial Chinese Customs postal service to introduce a European system of receipt and delivery may result in the establishment of British agencies in ports where none at present exist. He thinks that foreign diplomats at Peking have little reason to "dread any activity in the direction of peaceful reform by the government." Why activity in the particular direction indicated should be "dreaded" is not explained; and so we

are left to our previous enjoyment of the opinion that it might not only be desirable, but encouraged as far as foreign powers are able to encourage it. However, we are told that the energies of the envoys will long be confined to stimulating the Government to abide by treaty stipulations, and to settling the different points supposed to have been finally adjusted by the Chefoo Convention which are described as the regulations of a code of etiquette between the native officials and the diplomatic and consular officials of treaty powers; the new arrangement regarding the *lehin* on opium, which formed the subject of former letters; the recognition of the different foreign settlements in China as the limit of exemption from *lehin* of all classes of foreign goods, which is a recognition of the legality of the impost elsewhere; and, generally, the rectification of the conditions of foreign trade and the inland transit of goods of foreign origin or *en route* to foreign countries. The writer, after indicating that it has been recognized that the only means of securing permanent reforms in China, or of accomplishing a satisfactory settlement of these points, is a unanimity of opinion among themselves and joint remonstrances to the Chinese Government, goes on to show how and by whom joint action had been determined on, and its course defined. "A conference of the Ministers for England, Germany, and the United States is now being held in order to attain a common understanding, and it would be difficult to select three more suitable or more experienced men. The American Minister was twelve years Consul-General and Judge in Shanghai, during which time he must have been able to test thoroughly the practical working of existing treaties, and to appreciate the points where commercial and judicial reforms are most needed. The German Minister is known to have great influence with the Chinese Government, and to have obtained concessions from them by unaided firmness of mind which the Ministers of other Powers have failed to obtain even when supported by the material aid of fleets. Sir Thomas Wade, Her Majesty's Minister, has the experience of a lifetime spent in China, and an unrivalled acquaintance with the language, the motives, and the modes of thought of the statesmen who rule the Empire." The sequel appears to have proved that the hope of the writer that the "demand, warning or advice" of this "strong combination," has not been "acted upon."

QUININE is admittedly the most valuable tonic and febrifuge ever discovered. Until a few years ago the world was dependent for its supply on certain naturally inaccessible and politically disturbed regions of South America, where the various species of cinchona trees grew wild. Many attempts have been made, sometimes successfully, to introduce this health-sustaining and important plant into different parts of the globe, and we learn that, in San Francisco, the prospects in favour of the successful cultivation of cinchona in the State of California are extremely favourable. The *Bulletin* says:—"The trees, after a start has been made from seeds, are increased by means of cuttings. According to Mr. Morris of Ceylon, returns can be obtained from a cinchona plantation at nearly as early a date after planting as from coffee or tea. The best climate is one which has moderate winds and rains, and the tree does best on rich soils. It is reported that the cinchona plantations made by the British Government at Hakgalla, Ceylon, suffered last year from too much rain. An unusually wet season injured and destroyed a large part of the grove. This was partly owing to destructive floods, and partly to the water standing about the roots of the young trees, but many of these have grown again from the base." Experience has shown that the cinchona grows admirably in Jamaica, some trees in the parish of Manchester having attained a height of twenty-five feet at the age of seven years, growing at an



levation of two thousand feet above the sea. The largest trees we read of are thirty-five feet high, with trunks two feet in circumference and growing in ordinary soil. A few hundred pounds of bark, stripped from these trees, were sent to England in 1878, and sold for forty-five cents per pound. The report of the Government states that the best altitude for cinchona in the island is three thousand feet. It would certainly seem as if the counterpart to the climate of a three thousand feet height in Jamaica could be easily found in the State of California, which may be said to contain within its boundaries almost every known description of climate, from the heat of the tropics to the cold of northern Europe. Besides its valuable medicinal properties cinchona may be reasonably expected to yield a handsome profit in the event of its cultivation proving successful. From the report already alluded to we learn that the bark of *Cinchona Succirubra*, grown in Jamaica, sold in London last year as high as sixty-four cents per pound. A gentleman in charge of some cinchona plantations in the island writes to Sir Joseph Hooker, the eminent botanist, and states that he cut down one hundred trees of ten-year-old *C. Succirubra*. They yielded 1,660 pounds of green bark, which dried to 415 pounds, and sold for two hundred and forty-four dollars. Three hundred trees were planted to each acre, so that cinchona culture has been proved to be very profitable. The wood also is valuable for fuel, and the trees, when cut down, sprout from the stump. Returns once in ten years of over seven hundred dollars per acre, or seventy dollars per year, are worth attention. The plantation on which these results were obtained is to be extended by one hundred acres. This experience is confirmed by Mr. Willis Weaver, of Bogota, who states that profits of \$8,000 per acre had been yielded in a few authenticated cases, the bark being of the most valuable species, bringing \$1.75 per pound in the English markets. In Bogota, altitude 8,650 feet, temperature 60 degrees Fahrenheit, and where there are heavy frosts, *Cinchona Cordifolia* grows, and even thrives 1,000 feet higher up the mountain side. The true cinchona region varies from 30 degrees to 60 degrees, according to the species, but *C. Succirubra* is not successful in a temperature below 60 degrees and above 70 degrees. The cinchona belt evidently covers 40 degrees extreme variation, and some single varieties have a range of over 80 degrees. On the Andes the oak and walnut grow alongside the cinchona, and the apple, peach and wild cherry occupy the same range. All these data tend to show that, among the useful foreign plants which the authorities are endeavouring to acclimatize in Japan, the cinchona might well be included, local conditions of soil and temperature being eminently favourable to its growth and propagation.

**WE** have to acknowledge the receipt, from the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, of the Reports on Trade at the Treaty Ports of China for the year 1878. The volume demands more extended notice than the limits of our space will, this week, permit.

#### JAPANESE PERSONAGES.

##### V.

##### GENERAL TANI.

**G**ENERAL Tani Kanjo is a native of the rich and fertile province of Tosa, and has since his youth been remarkable for his brave, thoughtful and calm disposition. His father was renowned for an extensive knowledge of literature; and being naturally anxious that the subject of this sketch should enjoy the advantages derivable from culture he sent him to Yedo, when a boy, to study under the celebrated Yaei, who was famous for his knowledge of Chinese, and had written many works in that language which attracted much attention.

Yaei, perceiving the generous impulses and noble aspirations of Tani, bestowed great pains upon fitting him for his career in life; in fact he became the old man's favourite pupil. An affection altogether dissimilar to the relationship usually existing between master and pupil, and not unlike the love David bore for Jonathan was the result, and continued not only without abatement but increasing in strength, until the death of Yaei plunged Tani into the deepest grief.

An active life was considered the best remedy for the state of despondency into which Tani had now fallen, and his feudal superior, the Prince of Tosa, accordingly appointed him a Censor and ordered him to visit and report upon, different localities in his domains. This duty Tani executed in such a manner as to give great satisfaction, and thus led to more important employment.

At the commencement of the war of the restoration, Tani was placed in command of a detachment of the Tosa army, and marched on Osaka, accompanied by Itagaki Taisuke (an ex-member of the Privy Council), and other prominent persons. After the occupation of Osaka he was appointed Inspector-General, and entrusted with the command of the advanced divisions of the army. In March, 1868, he captured the castle of Kofu, and fought the battle of Katsunuma in which the rebel forces, led by the brave Kondo Isami, were signally defeated. Tani followed up this victory by a rapid advance, and engaged the enemy at Shitakawa, Miharu, and Yasuzuka, in all of which combats he routed the adversaries opposed to him. Flushed with success the victorious army pushed on to Aizu, and routed their opponents on several occasions, and at last crowned their triumphs by the capture of the great fortress of Wakamatsu, the stronghold of Aizu. The campaign being thus happily terminated, Tani led his forces back to his native province; and, in recognition of his services, was appointed a Lieutenant-General in the army Imperial, and entrusted with the command of the castle of Kumamoto.

When the expedition was despatched to Formosa, Tani was made an Inspector-General and sent to assist the Commander-in-Chief, General Saigo (the younger brother of the rebel leader) and, after the objects of the expedition were achieved, he returned and was unemployed for some time.

In 1876 the Jimpu party rose in rebellion in Kumamoto, and Tani was re-appointed to the command of the garrison upon the death of General Tanaka.

In 1877 the great revolt of the Satsuma clan occurred, and the stronghold of Kumamoto was for weeks the point to which the fears and hopes of the contending parties in the mighty struggle were turned. Never during the brightest days of chivalry in Japan were braver feats of arms performed than at the sieges of Kumamoto, the possession of that fortress being looked upon as of vital importance to both belligerents. Again and again the flower of the southern forces, fighting under the eye of their beloved Saigo, rushed to the assault and as often recoiled, shattered and decimated by the stubborn valour of the defenders, encouraged by the dauntless Tani, who exposed his life with the most reckless bravery. At last the siege was raised by the main body of the imperialists; and shortly afterwards the formidable rebellion was crushed, and peace restored to the distracted country.

Tani was rewarded for his extraordinary achievements with the Order of the Rising Sun of the second class, and promotion to the rank of General in the Army.

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

London, 29th March, 1880.

Lord Hartington in a public speech stated that the Liberal party would not stake British interests on the maintenance of Turkish integrity and independence.

London, 1st April, 1880.

Parliament will dissolve on the 29th of April. The dissolution of the Society of Jesuits in France has been decreed.

(From the N. C. Daily News.)

London, 20th March.—Disturbances have broken out between the Mussulmans and the Christians at Smyrna, and the Consuls have summoned the Ironclads.

The Grand Shereef of Mecca has been assassinated.

London, 22nd March.—The Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race was won by Oxford.

(From the "*Hongkong Daily Press*,")

London, 6th March.—An unsuccessful attempt has been made to assassinate General Melikoff. The would-be assassin was caught and hanged.

The Nihilists again threaten the Czar unless he abdicates.

London, 8th March.—Parliament will be dissolved at Easter.

The new elections are to be held and Parliament will reassemble in the beginning of May.

London, 10th March.—A gun has burst on board the Italian man-of-war *Dulio*.

A Commission of Delegates from the Great Powers has been formed to determine the Greek frontier.

The Imperial Prince of Austria has been affianced to a daughter of the King of the Belgians.

London, March 13th.—Recent advices from the scene of the wreck state that the steamer *Travancore* is expected to become a total loss.

A manifesto has been issued by the First Lord of the Treasury addressed to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

The *Times* publishes a telegram from Berlin stating that the military expedition to Tekke is postponed on account of probable serious complications with China.

London, March 17th.—The Governor of Tasmania (F. A. Weld, C.M.G.) has been appointed Governor of the Straits Settlements.

Lord Derby has notified his adhesion to the Liberal party.

Parliament will be dissolved on the 24th of March.

The Revenue for the past financial year amounts to £80,860,000.

The expenditure to £84,216,000.

The Revenue for the ensuing financial year is estimated at £81,560,000.

The expenditure at £81,485,000.

Taxation will not be increased.

£50,000 worth of Diamonds have been stolen from the Cape Post Office.

An alteration has been notified by the directors of the Railway Department, that from the 1st instant the time of departure and arrival of the trains between Shinbashi and Yokohama, and *vice versa* has been changed. The first daily train starts from either terminus at 7 a.m., and is followed by others at intervals of one hour and fifteen minutes until noon. The afternoon service commences with a train at 2 o'clock, and continues also with intervals of seventy-five minutes until 9.30 p.m. The last departure from Yokohama and Shinbashi is at twenty minutes to eleven o'clock at night.

With the change in the monsoon, comes the usual spring alteration in the date of the departure of mail steamers for Europe. The Peninsular and Oriental Company has announced that its packets will, until further notice, leave this port for Hongkong on alternate Thursdays, commencing with the 8th instant.

A subject for inquiry by the Seismological Society should be any connection which may have existed between the earthquake which alarmed this neighbourhood on the 22nd of February, and that which visited the Philippines on the 27th of the same month. As reported by the Jesuit Father in the Meteorological Observatory of Manila, the shock at Luzon was followed by various undulations, decreasing in intensity. Its direction was from S. W. to N. E., and it continued for about eight seconds.

The San Francisco *Sunday Chronicle*, writing on the subject of house decoration, gives a long description of the adornment of Mr. Yanagiya's pleasant home in that city. The comparative proximity of Japan to the Pacific coast, and the constant communication between the two countries have been the cause that the art of this empire has taken an abiding hold upon the tasteful and wealthy in the western states. The Japanese consul's house has been visited by the ubiquitous reporter, who describes the arrangement of the apartments and the objects of art with which they abound.

We find, in one of our German exchanges, mention made of a testimonial presented to their Consul by the German residents of Tokio. It consisted of an album, splendidly bound, and containing the likenesses of all the donors. Such a gift is in every respect well chosen as it always brings to the view of the recipient the faces and forms of those whose esteem and regard it serves to commemorate. It is in every way preferable to the stereotyped "service of plate," etc., which on similar occasions is generally made to do duty. From what we have always understood, the German residents of the capital have every reason to entertain kindly feelings towards their Consul, whose advice and assistance in public or private matters is always at their command. To show their feelings it probably needed not the usual special occasion, which in this instance consisted in the admirable arrangements, organized by the Consul, for the *fête* given in honor of the arrival of His Imperial Highness Prince Heinrich. As the latter has, within the last few days returned to our city, we are glad to be able to refer to what will certainly prove a pleasing remembrance to the distinguished visitor.

The flags were at half-mast on Monday in consequence of intelligence being received of the death of Commodore Blake, U.S.N.

U. S. *Flying-Fish*, 4 composite sloop, 894 tons, 836 H.P., is to be placed in commission as a surveying vessel in the China Sea.

The American corvette *Ticonderoga* arrived at Manila from Borneo on the 9th ultimo.

The *Oceanic* was advertised to leave London in the second week in March, under arrangement with the China and Japan Shippers' Association.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* says that "as the French flag-ship *Thémis*, Rear-Admiral Duperré, has not been to Hue, we presume that the difficulty with Annam has been amicably settled, as was intimated in a recent article in the *Saigon Indipendant*."

In the same paper we read that a telegram has been received announcing that the P. and O. steamer *Travancore* has been

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 3RD, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 4TH MONTH, 3RD DAY, DO-YO-NI.

### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On Sunday last the M. M. steamer *Tanis* arrived in port and was followed in the evening by the P. & O. steamer *Malacca*, with London dates to February 8th. The *City of Peking* came in from Hongkong on the 30th ulto., and left for San Francisco on Thursday, the 1st instant, at 3 p.m.

Among the severest sufferers by the earthquake of the 22nd of February were the sisters of the convent of the Holy Child Jesus. Their building was much shaken, and the roof was almost entirely denuded of its tiles by the shock. A very modest sum is required to cover the expense incurred in putting the edifice into thorough repair, and appeal is made to the public to aid the work, not by direct subscription but by taking chances in a lottery. It is proposed to issue only five hundred tickets at one dollar each; and one hundred and twenty-five prizes, consisting of albums, photographs, and water-colour drawings are guaranteed. Baron Stillfried, of No. 83, Main Street, has kindly consented to take charge of the lottery. This is certainly one of those instances in which speculation, of the kind indicated, may well be encouraged; and we hope that the list of purchasers of tickets will soon be filled.

stranded on Cape Otranto, South Italy. The *Trucanore* was carrying the Indian mails from Alexandria to Brindisi. There was a dense fog prevailing at the time of the disaster. The passengers and mails have, been landed safely.

We are informed that, after the 1st instant until further notice, the vessels of the Mitsui Bishi Company sailing for Hongkong and Shanghai, will leave port at 6 o'clock p.m. instead of 4 o'clock as hitherto. The *Tokio Maru* will be despatched for Shanghai on Monday, the 12th of April, instead of the 14th, so as to connect with the P. M. Co.'s steamer *City of Tokio* due here from San Francisco on the 10th proximo.

Paris papers assert that a ball, given on the 8th of February at the Japanese Legation, was one of the most brilliant of the season. Madame Someshima received her guests with a grace which provoked universal admiration, and the arrangements of all kinds were singularly perfect. The Faubourg St. Germain and the Corps Diplomatique were largely represented; indeed, it was generally observed that so many French families of high rank have not been seen in a foreign house since the war. The dancing was most animated, and the Cotillon, led by the Comte de Chabannes, lasted till daylight.

Cargo is now received on board the steamers of the Mitsui Bishi Company's Hongkong and Shanghai lines up to four o'clock on the days of sailing, instead of ten o'clock as hitherto.

Whoever is the official charged with the duty, should take steps to prevent Water-street being obstructed with building material in the manner it is at present. The thoroughfare in question is narrow enough, in all conscience, without a great portion of it being used for the purpose of dressing stone. The other day, it was quite as much as a dray could do to pass; and then, of course, pedestrians and jinrikishas were at a standstill until the large vehicle was out of their way.

There was a very perceptible shock of earthquake on Monday afternoon at twenty-four minutes past five o'clock.

On the 18th ultimo the steamship *Merth* left Hongkong for Shanghai, and the Russian corvette *Craysser* sailed for Europe.

The *Glencagles* left Hongkong for Shanghai on the 20th ult.

Reliable information has been received in Tokio, confirming the intelligence of the sentence of decapitation passed upon the Chinese ex-Minister to Russia.

His Excellency Maury (Mori) Arikita, Minister to the Court of St. James, has been presented to the Queen. The *Court Circular* of the 4th of February says:—"This day had audience of the Queen, Maury Arikita, to deliver the letter of recall of Wooyeno Kagenori and his own credentials as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from his Majesty the Emperor of Japan. To which audience he was introduced by the Right Hon. Richard Assheton Cross, M.P., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Home Affairs, acting for the Marquis of Salisbury, K.G., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and conducted by General Sir Francis Seymour, Bart., K.C.B., Her Majesty's Master of the Ceremonies."

According to *Vanity Fair*, Garibaldi has at length ended his very singular matrimonial adventures in a more regular way. His elopement with Annetta, the mother of Menotti and Madame Canzio, her adventures with him, and her death, would fill a moving drama, for she was a brave and devoted woman. In 1859 Garibaldi, then rather spoilt by adulation, met the Signorina Raimondi—a natural daughter of the Marchese Rainoudi. Her mother was a singer of the name of Gianoni, who will be remembered as a *protégée* of the old Lord Hertford and Lord Lansdale, and who sang in the year 1837-8, at the Lyceum, with Blais, Catone, and Fanny Wyndham, now Madame Frederick Lablache. Garibaldi, when he returned from the church with his bride, had a letter put into his hand with "Pressing" on it, the result of which was that he instantly parted from her and never saw her again. Then he declared an affection for his daughter's wet nurse, Francesca, by whom he had three children, two of them now living. Garibaldi having £4,000 a-year from the Italian Government for his life, and £2,000

a-year after his death (his children by Annetta and Francesca being illegitimate and thus unable to inherit this two thousand a-year,) has got a divorce from his wife and married Francesca; a wise and proper proceeding. But the accounts in the Italian newspapers of the marriage—of Garibaldi in a white cloak, with a gold embroidered cap, and Francesca, the wet nurse, in white satin; of the feast, the toasts, the dancing, and Garibaldi singing the Marseillaise, accompanying himself on the harpsichord—are wonderful.

In a notice of Mr. B. S. Lyman's report on the geological survey of Japan published last year, the *Times* of the 11th of February last remarks:—

The Japanese have now a completely organized Geological Survey, somewhat similar to our own, with a full staff of native surveyors, under an American chief, Mr. B. S. Lyman. The first Report of Progress of this survey, for 1878 and 1879, has just been published, and contains some accurate and valuable information on the mineral wealth of the country. Mr. Lyman describes a survey journey which he made with some of his staff from June, 1878, to February, 1879, extending over a distance of 2,800 miles. Mr. Lyman reckons that the coalfields of Western Japan contain about 620 million tons, and if one-third be deducted for the working, there will remain 400 million tons, representing a value at the coast of 1,000 million dollars. Inconsiderable as this is in comparison with the large and rich coalfields of other lands, it is quite equal in value to all the metal products together, except iron. The copper of all the workable mines scarcely reaches the value of 750 million dollars; the eight or ten gold and silver mines, which were formerly worked and may be so again, may, including the lead, antimony and tin mines, the workability of which is doubtful, be valued at not more than 250 million dollars. On the other hand, the value of the iron amounts to at least 250,000 million dollars, or 250 times more than that of the coal. The relative importance of the mineral products of Japan (excluding Yesso and the small coalfields of Kii, Ise and Iwaki) may be represented by the following numbers:—Iron, 1,000; coal, 4; copper, 3; all other metals (chiefly gold and silver), 1. The total value of these products reaches the sum of about 252,000 million dollars—i.e., just as much as the coalfields of Yesso, which in other respects is so poor in natural products. Mr. Lyman gives some details concerning 24 of the hot springs in Shimonotake, Iwashi, Uzen and Ugo, and a table of the petroleum springs of Japan, according to which by far the most numerous and most productive are in Echigo and in Akita Ken, and the total delivery in the year 1879 was 4,525 gallons per day.

#### YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

PATIENTS DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1880.

Class of Patients.	Remained.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained April 1st.	Total Treated.
1st.....	1	5	1	—	5	6
2nd.....	1	1	2	—	—	2
3rd.....	10	6	4	—	12	16
4th.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Charity.....	1	1	—	—	2	2
Total.....	13	13	7	—	19	26

STUART ELDRIDGE, M.D.,

Surgeon-in-Charge.

#### PARIS LETTER.

FEBRUARY 14TH, 1880.

Republican senator Crémieux was an Israelite in whom there was no guile, and his death, at the patriarchal age of 84, is a loss for the Semitic race, which on the authority of Earl Beaconsfield rules like love, the court, the camp, the grove and men below. It is but a few days since he buried his wife, who counted as many lustres as himself. They climbed the hill together, and they now sleep together at its foot. Crémieux was born in the hot royalist town of Nîmes; his father died a bankrupt, and the first act in Crémieux's public life was to assemble the creditors, bind himself to liquidate the parental debts, and, which he did in the course of a few years. In the centre of intolerance, he declared himself a liberal—as Jews are, for sufferance, which is the badge of all their tribe, has made them so, and he never



belied his programme. He was an eloquent speaker, but a jurist-consult rather than an orator; still his political addresses were not the less powerful, because they were sustained by an upright life. It was in his office that Gambetta was trained: he was his "devil;" yet when the ex-dictator escaped from Paris in a balloon, Crémieux, though head of the government of National Defence, at once placed himself under the orders of his former secretary. Crémieux like other liberals, made the mistake of supporting Louis Napoleon for the presidency of the Republic, but when he saw the prince aimed at the purple he became his inveterate opponent. He was honored with imprisonment after the coup d'état. The 2nd December was kept by him as the anniversary of his wedding, but after the crime of Napoleon he changed the observance of the ceremony to October. Everywhere he pleaded in favor of Jewish emancipation; he secured it for his co-religionists in Algeria, and it is to his efforts that the Berlin treaty insists on Christian equality being applied in Roumania. He went to Damascus to defend an Israelite against Turkish persecution. He was a warm friend of the gentiles; he consented to his children being baptized Catholics; he contributed largely to churches, and so munificently at Nîmes, that his portrait hangs in the church there beside that of the patron-saint of the locality, St. Nicolas, and often humble worshippers kneel before it by mistake. One of his most intimate friends was the present Archbishop of Paris. In 1831, when the celebrated Bishop Grégoire died, it was Crémieux, an Israelite, who delivered the oration over his remains. For so worthy and loyal a chief the Republic has done well to vote the grant to give him a public funeral. How such puts the interment of a de Morny into the shade.

France, like other nations, is uneasy at the increased armaments of Germany; not that she is afraid, for she could well repel an invasion, while not having the least desire to make one. She will maintain her *saug froid*, and never depart from her resolution of prudence; but in any European conflagration, old Nestor himself could hardly guide her from being absorbed to join in. The French, while acutely on the *qui vive*, admit Germany must feel uncomfortable with Russia and themselves on her flanks, but consider that the immediate "objective" is the Tartar, who presents now so many weak points—an interior honey-combed by all manner of secret societies: an exchequer that even Falstaff would not deem worth robbing; a position in Asia to be maintained ever with the sword half-out of the scabbard; an ugly quarrel with China, and an hereditary one with England, who is complimented on securing Persia, and above all maintaining a hold on Herat. These arrangements disposed of, it is believed that Lord Beaconsfield will give publicity to the Russian correspondence seized at Cabul, and if he does not go to war with Holy Russia as a consequence he will to the hustings. No matter who may direct the policy of England, it is the opinion of the Continent, as well as the earnest wish, that John Bull ever insist on making himself heard in the councils of Europe, and always in a manner that will receive attention.

Two important questions that were believed would create some excitement when commenced to be debated—the secularizing education, and the customs tariff, prove to be as dull as ditch water or a London Sunday; not a good speech has been delivered on the tariffs, save by the Minister of Commerce, and the opposition to the governmental education reforms has lost all interest, since the opposition, led by recreant republicans united to reactionists, has degenerated into a sordid attack to trip up the constitution.

That political eye-sore, the plenary amnesty, has been legislatively disposed of for this session. Minister de Freycinet made an excellent speech, declaring that the consolidation of the Republic must have precedence of the pardoning of the Communist ringleaders. He spoke well; neither through the nose like Dufaure, nor in a continued stammer like Waddington. He indulged in no *jamais*, no never: said, in time, when passions became calm, and public opinion favourable or contemptuously indifferent, the full amnesty might be politically prudent to accord. M. Rouher said *jamais* the French troops would quit Rome; it was once thought that setting the old fool Blanqui at liberty would compromise the Republic; at present

no one knows where the notorious gaol bird is, and, better still, not a soul has any curiosity about the matter.

M. de Freycinet urges the development of railways, &c., as the one thing useful for the country; he would confer a greater and a more immediate boon, were he to reform those that exist; to ameliorate their administration, to see the servants of the companies less worked—and so avoid accidents—and better paid; passengers not compelled to pay extortionate fares, or goods rates that swallow up rational profit of both manufacturer and purchaser.

I observe an increased attendance on the part of the fair sex in the lobbies—that is, ground floor—of the Chamber of Deputies: they are the moving spirits of the Women's Rights agitations; some are so very pretty that if they ever become candidates, when the daughters of Eve possess electoral rights, they ought to carry all before them. It then seems positively brutal to quote Napoleon's recommendation to woman—"Mind the house, and bring up children, well and abundantly." Statistics attest that the population of France contains half a million more women—mothers-in-law included—than men. Imagine the consequences that would ensue, if a plébiscite was resorted to, on a question where the domination of "the critters" was involved.

There is a sort of joy generally felt that we have escaped from the Laocoon-grip of winter; we feel "Spring comes slowly up this way;" in the flower markets we have hyacinths and heaths; "violets, dim but sweeter than the lids of Juno's eyes," and "daffodils that come before the swallow dars, to take the winds of March with beauty." We have had no carnival, and no disappointment was felt, as none was expected; Paris has transferred her interest in this Shrove Tuesday folly to Nice, where excursion trains convey the lovers of "the sport," and who ought to have, with their 30 lbs. of *impedimentum*, a diving dress to protect them from those hail-kissing comfits in plaster of Paris, called *confetti*. A few characters appeared in the streets: men in women's costume and *vice versa*, a licence tolerated for twenty-four hours; there was a weak instalment of infants shivering as dairy maids and shepherdesses; marquises, soldiers and a few specimens of the not-in-France-popular service, sailors. There was no *lurex grus*, but every butcher had a stalled ox from the fat cattle show; the pork-pie shops had the decapitated heads of gaping pigs in their windows, and poulterers had fowls that could only be purchased by a joint-stock arrangement. Madame Fauvel gave a fancy ball, and a right merry one it proved to be; her pretty self was disguised as a coquette of the year of grace 1817; her grave husband, the popular doctor, was a bouncing baby boy, in short clothes and ribbons; several vedette journalists made up so well as to deceive even the elect; the leading *artistes* from the Opera were present and sang a ballad of their best; one gentleman executed a *brin* during supper, and it proved an excellent innovation. Patti continues to live very retired—as compelled by society; anything she purchases, the shop-keepers at once advertise the fact: she looks more than her thirty-seven summers, though she has been off and on the stage since her first appearance, at the age of eight. The last unoccupied subscription seat—a foot-stool—at the Gaieté theatre, has been sold for 510 francs, so great is the Jenny-Lind *furor* to hear the diva. When her flirtations with Nicolini were first noticed in the press, she wrote in reply "why not say with my coachman?" "And why not?" added the editor in a note. Since her arrival in Paris, she has adopted the latest fashion with ladies, that of love birds in gilded cages, with perfumed wood roosts, delicate China drinking and bathing troughs, and which have cut out scented poodles and their artistic coats. She has yet to adopt another accomplishment, that of becoming as stout as a Sultana, or as her friend Albani.

The body of a Russian gentleman has been fished out of the Seine; he was apparently one of the many political travelling agents that Russia supports to spread her "civilization and culture;" he had plenty of money, as his baggage testified, and was in intimate relations with his embassy: the latter pronounce the death to be "mysterious"—a verdict that perhaps explains the catastrophe. A young poet is to be prosecuted for putting the Darwinian theory in verse: the poem is called *Dnia*, the name of a negress in Central Africa, and the sister of a queen,



who has been abducted when a baby by a monkey that rears her up, and then makes her his partner. The indictment does not set forth in what the *graveness* consists—a reflection on European monarchies or a physiological impropriety. One Malvezin, who had been fined fr. 100 and sentenced to three months imprisonment for his book, "The Bible a farce," has succeeded in quashing the sentence, on technical grounds, on appeal; he was found guilty of an outrage of public manners; along with the above penalties. The sentence involves his disqualification for any public employment or duty, or to exercise parental rights if he have them: he is socially outlawed by the Code.

A gentleman states he visited the other day an old curiosity shop, and was speaking to the owner's wife, who said her husband was in the back-parlor; soon the report of a pistol was heard, then a second; believing the unfortunate man had committed suicide he rushed in, and saw him deliberately re-loading the weapon with shot: an explanation followed: he was "making old Gothic furniture," by firing at an oaken press to pock mark it, as evidence of age.

The French have been often accused of ignorance of their colonies: the Minister of Marine in asking a grant a few days ago for the fortifications of Guadeloupe could not state, whether it was true the island had but one cannon, doing duty as a public clock? Next day he replied, there were 80 cannons, barracks &c. The cannon it seems are buried in weeds, and the barracks serve for a parish school and a common hospital.

According to the latest edition of the language of flowers, a rose-bud with thorns and leaves signifies, "I fear, but I hope;" presented upside down, it expresses, "Don't either fear or hope." The language of flowers originated with the Chinese.

In the Rue d'Aboukir is an open air space, where the carriers of woollen mattresses are to be hired—quite an important guild, since wool, not feathers or hair, is the bed-stuffing in France: close by is the market for wandering minstrels of low degree—any instrumental performer can be engaged at a moment's notice: violinists are most in request: flute players are flat.

"S" was a letter which recurs frequently in the names of incidents in the career of Napoleon III.—he was a Swiss citizen: Strasburg expedition; the famous reviews at Satory, the prelude of the coup d'état; Sebastopol, Solferino, Sadown, Sedan, and September—when he was dethroned. Macmahon has the M.—Marshal, Malakoff, Magenta, May, when elected president, and Montargis, the name of his estate.

The new public clocks, for marking "uniform time" with that at the Observatory, beat the latter already by 3 minutes.

The 63rd edition of the *Nabob*, Daudet's novel, is announced: about 200 volumes constitute a French edition. Writing poetry on orange peel, is the latest feat in calligraphy.

The Anti-tobacco Society offers a prize of fr. 200 for the best essay "on the influence of smoking in the case of women *enroute*." No reference to the negroes of Central Africa.

Drunkard, to a policeman: "For the future I will patronize a more civil lock-up."

#### JAPANESE PARABLES.

##### IV.

**D**URING the domination of the Tokugawa Shōguns it was the custom—in fact the law—to respect the crest of the clan to such an extent that, as our readers may probably be aware, if one of the lower class wore any device even resembling it, he was liable to be severely punished for his audacious insolence. Under those circumstances it followed that the name of Tōshōgū, the illustrious founder of the family, was regarded with extraordinary veneration, and this feeling was taken advantage of by an astute criminal in order to evade just retribution for his manifold offences, which entailed the forfeiture of his life when captured.

After many hairbreadth escapes this notorious marauder was at last arrested, brought to trial and condemned to death. On the execution ground, just as the minister of the last dread sentence of the law was about to deliver the fatal blow, he observed, tattooed upon the back of the criminal's neck, the revered characters—Tō Shō Gū! Under no circumstances could the executioner permit the edge of his sword to sever the sacred name, and the decapitation had therefore to be postponed until the opinion of the judges could be obtained on the important point involved.

After mature deliberation it was at last decided that the capital sentence could not be carried into effect; and the man's punishment was commuted to banishment for life to the island of Hachijō.

As may readily be imagined the news of this decision spread rapidly among the criminal classes, and very shortly afterwards a footpad who had also incurred the penalty of death was found to be tattooed in a similar manner: only the characters were much larger and of darker colour, so as to be readily noticed by the executioner. The case was also referred to the judges, who on this occasion arrived at a conclusion as unexpected by the offender as it was unwelcome to him. "This is now the second instance," observed the dignitaries of the law, "of a similar kind. If this criminal escapes the just punishment of his misdeeds, every ruffian in the Empire will surely follow the example set him—and the country will be overrun by offenders, deserving of death, but enjoying immunity. We therefore decree that the prisoner be executed, but in order to preserve the sacred name of Tōshōgū from contamination by the headman's sword, the skin of the prisoner's neck must be carefully and respectfully removed before his decapitation." The sentence was at once carried into effect and all this criminal earned by his plagiarism was the additional agony of being partially flayed.

M.

#### SYLVAN SOUNDS.

(From the Japanese.)

##### V.

##### CRICKETS AT NIGHT-FALL.

Half-interlaced in an eddy of bloom  
Stand the shadowy grasses,  
While thro' the ranks of their tremulous spears  
Softly the moonlight passes.  
Calm and clear in the Autumn night  
Glitter the dewdrops pure and bright,  
Like to the tones of tinkling bells,  
Borne from the travelled highway, swells  
Far-off a sound that seems to say,  
"A welcome guest is on his way."

I long for friends the scene to share,  
The night hath grown so very fair,  
With moonbeams wandering everywhere,  
And voices murmuring in the grass,

Chi-rin—Chi-rin!

Now here—Now there!

Chi-rin—Chi-rin!

Surely the traveller comes apace,  
For nearer sounds his hurrying steed.

Rin-rin—Rin-rin!

The bridle chimes to tell his speed,  
I'll garnish all my house and make,  
A merry feast for friendship's sake.

Rin-rin—Rin-rin!

Now crisp and clear,  
The sound I hear.

Impatiently I watch and wait,  
And yet no wanderer seeks my gate.  
Ah! now I find the riddle plain,  
For, hid in haunt of clustering grass,  
Where jewelled dew-drops thickly lie,  
A cricket chirps with ringing cry,  
So like the clink of bridle-rein,  
It made me long and wait in vain.

F. B. H.

Tokio, 3rd April, 1880.

#### JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

##### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

It is hereby notified that His Majesty the Emperor will visit the prefectures of Yamaguchi and Miya, and the city of Kioto during next summer.

Note:—The date of the Imperial departure, and the route chosen for the Imperial progress, will be notified hereafter.

SANJO SANETOMI,  
Prime Minister.

The 30th of March, 1880.

#### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

Prince Kita-Shirakawa has been appointed commissioner, and His Excellency Shinagawa, chief executive commissioner, of the second National Exhibition to be held next year.

It is reported that His Excellency Sameshima, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to France, will be recalled, with a view to receiving a more important appointment, and succeeded by Mr. Shioda, of the Foreign Office.

Mr. Yamazumi, the Governor of the prefecture of Fukushima, has received an increase of fifty yen on his monthly salary, in consideration of his long and faithful service.

On and after the first of April, all the Government offices, except the *Daijo Kwan*, open daily at 8 o'clock a.m. and close at 2 o'clock p.m. The *Daijo Kwan* will open at but will close at 3 o'clock.

A native contemporary mentions that Mr. Yoshida Masaharu, of the Foreign Office, will shortly visit Persia and India with the object of negotiating treaties of friendship and commerce between Japan and various other Asiatic nations.

A class for the study of the Korean language has been established in the school of foreign languages in Tokio.

His Excellency Yoshida, Minister to the Government of Washington, and His Excellency Awoki, Minister to the Court of Berlin, were received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor on Saturday last.

Mr. Ishida, the Governor of Akita, left for his prefecture on Monday.

The people of Kagoshima are agitating for the establishment of a National Assembly, and have despatched representatives to the capital, who lately forwarded a memorial on the subject to the Senate.

His Excellency Matsukata, the Minister for the Interior, arrived in Osaka on the 27th ultimo, and has accepted the hospitality of Mr. Hatayama Unai.

His Imperial Highness the infant Prince is shortly to be presented to Her Majesty the Empress Dowager, at the Aoyama palace.

His Majesty the Emperor entertained the President and members of the Senate at 12 o'clock, noon, on Tuesday.

Their Excellencies Yoshida, Minister to the Government of Washington, and Awoki, Minister to the Court of Berlin, were decorated with the Japanese Order of the 2nd class, on the 27th ultimo.

The construction of the new premises for the *Daijo Kwan*, will be commenced sometime in this month.

To-day being the anniversary of the death of Jimmu Tenno, the Prince of the Blood, the Prime Minister, the Privy Councillors, the high functionaries of the different Departments, and the nobles, visited the Imperial palace.

The Imperial Progress notified by the Prime Minister will, it is rumoured, commence about the end of May, and occupy fifty days.

Dr. Yano, Surgeon-in-chief of the Navy, is leaving for the new port of Gensan, Corea, on the 10th instant, in order to establish a hospital. Mr. Maida, Consul-General in Corea will accompany him.

A matriculation examination of students desirous of entering the Imperial College of Engineering at Tokio, will take place on the 4th instant. There are about one hundred and twenty candidates.

Mr. Kitagaki, the Governor of Kochi ken, will return to his prefecture on the 7th instant.

All matters connected with the National Industrial Exhibition are to be entrusted to Prince Kita Shirakawa, the Chief Commissioner, by His Excellency Shinagawa, Acting Home Minister.

Their Excellencies Iwakura, the Junior Prime Minister, and Ito, a member of the Privy Council, will accompany His Majesty the Emperor in the Imperial Progress.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* mentions as a current rumour that the authorities are going to establish a Government Gazette.

Mr. Fujisawa, an officer of the Bureau of Woods and Forests, is shortly going to the prefecture of Akita, on a visit of inspection.

The *Osaka Shimpu* states that, "having been informed that Mr. Zeisho, the Governor of Sakai, addressed a memorial to the Cabinet on the subject of the establishment of a National Assembly, we made inquiry into the matter and were told that the Governor is of the anti-popular faction, and is consequently opposed to the establishment of representative government, his views being entirely different to those of the Governors of the neighbouring cities and prefectures. We are, however, unable to answer for the correctness of our information." The same paper adds that "the police authorities of the prefecture in question are going to ascertain the names of the people who have become members of the *Aikokusha* or Patriotic Society."

Her Majesty the Empress Dowager will visit Kogane-i about the 7th instant, to see the cherry trees in blossom.

Two pieces of the woollen cloth manufactured at the Senji factory have been forwarded to the Imperial Household Department, for inspection by His Majesty the Emperor.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* says that "a meeting of the Senate was held on the 30th ult., with closed doors, and we are informed that it was on account of the Government having brought forward for discussion proposed regulations regarding public meetings. We are also informed that by the proposed regulations it is provided, that the societies in different localities shall be declared illegal and canvassing for new members strictly prohibited."

His Excellency the Chevalier Hoffen de Hoffenfels, the Minister from Austro-Hungary, arrived by the *Hirosshima Maru* on the 1st instant.

His Excellency Yoshida, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Government of Washington, accompanied by his wife, and his two Secretaries Messrs. Tanaka and Hoshiguchi, left here for America on the 1st instant, in the *City of Peking*.

It is rumoured that His Majesty the Emperor will shortly visit His Imperial Highness Prince Heinrich of Germany, on board the *Prinz Adalbert*.

The *Choya Shimbun* mentions a rumor that the Japanese Government are about to make the Korean Government a present of the man-of-war *Chiyoda Kan*. Upon this the *Choya* remarks:—"If the rumour turns out to be correct, this proceeding is not unlike the Dutch authorities giving the *Kwanako Maru* to the Bakufu Government. We shall probably next hear of the Koreans asking us for naval instructors."

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The Japanese man-of-war *Hiyei Kan* has left the dockyard at Yokosuka, having been thoroughly overhauled, a final preparation is now being made for the vessel's voyage to the Indian seas and Europe.

It has been determined to rebuild the Naval College in Tokio, and sixty-three thousand yen have been appropriated for the purpose.

His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, the Minister of the Navy, returned to Tokio from Yokosuka on the 26th ultimo. While at Yokosuka His Excellency witnessed some torpedo practice with which he expressed himself highly satisfied.

Lieutenant-General Takashima, who went to Europe last year, accompanied by Captain Tsuchiya and Sub-Lieutenant Noshima, returned on the 29th ultimo. The three cadets who were taken abroad with them, have remained in France to continue their military studies.

The Navy Department is going to build two sailing ships, one of which will be used as a transport, and the other as a surveying vessel.

On the representation of Captain Ito of the *Hiyei Kan*, the Admiralty have decided that the vessel shall not make a prolonged stay at Singapore, in consequence of the excessive heat of that place, but proceed to the milder climate of the Mediterranean.

The *Tsukuba Kan* will prosecute as much as possible of the cruise to Vancouver's island under sail. Steam will only be resorted to in case of absolute necessity. Both the *Tsukuba* and *Hiyei* carry a supply of tinned meat, put up in Yesso.

Rear Admiral Hayashi, the Commander of the Eastern Admiralty Office, called upon His Royal Highness Prince Heinrich of Germany, on board the *Prinz Adalbert*, on the 29th ultimo.

Certificates of efficiency were presented to the students of music in the Military College, on Tuesday last, in the presence of General Prince Higashi-Fushimi, and several other distinguished officers.

The sum of 20,000 yen has been paid to the authorities of Gumba, for the purchase of the land occupied by the Iwahana arsenal.

The meeting of commanding officers terminated on the 29th ultimo, and the members were entertained by General Nodzu at his private residence on the following day.

The reserve forces called out recently were reviewed on the Hibiya parade ground on four successive days commencing last Sunday. They were marched out to the Narashino Plains yesterday to practise field manoeuvres.

Mr. Sugi, an officer of the Staff, has been appointed to the command of the Army Telegraph corps. The military operators will be trained in the premises formerly occupied as a Military School, at Tatsunokuchi.

Lieutenant General Miyoshi, who is in command of the Osaka garrison, has returned to that city.

Major Komatsu has been appointed Superintendent of the Surveying Section of the Staff.

It is currently reported that Lient-General Takashima will be appointed Chief of Police.

Five military cadets, attached to the Staff Office, were to leave the capital to-day en route for Vladivostok. They will arrive at Nagasaki on the 8th instant, and proceed thence to their destination in a Russian vessel.

#### INDUSTRIES, TRADE, AND FINANCE.

Nine hundred and twenty-five persons visited the Competitive Exhibition of Cotton and Sugar at Osaka, during the week ending on the 20th ultimo.

A *shipken* of Tokio *Fu*, Mr. Fujikura, has obtained from the Government a grant of some waste land in the prefecture of Chiba, for the cultivation of sugar cane. A company has been formed with the necessary capital, and operations have already been commenced.

The first of the new season's tea was delivered at the godowns of Messrs. Okura and Company on Monday last. It came from the province of Yemshiu.

The Colonial Department has imported five hundred young maple sugar trees from America, and planted them out in the botanical gardens at Awoyama, Tokio, and the Department has also forwarded 150,000 young mulberry trees to Sapporo. At the present time in Yesso the immigrants are all diligently working to bring the land under cultivation, and those farmers who emigrated from the province of Awa have already commenced the manufacture of indigo, and built a beautiful village.

The following is the return of exports and imports at all the open ports of Japan during the month of February last:—

Imports .....	Yen 2,325,305.73
Exports .....	" 1,809,502.86
Excess of imports over exports ...	Yen 515,802.87
Export and import duties and } miscellaneous revenue ...	Yen 174,778.43
Export of bullion ...	" 327,817.47
Import " .....	" 23,630.00

Excess of exports ... .. Yen 304,287.47

A number of gentlemen in Kioto have applied to the authorities for a loan of 350,000 yen on security of pension bonds, for the purpose of erecting extensive buildings in the premises of the old Imperial Palace. It is proposed to use the buildings for a museum and to hold an exhibition once a year. It is probable that the application will be granted.

It is under consideration to open an exhibition in the prefecture of Miyagi.

The construction of the railway between Tokio and Takasaki is estimated to cost about 2,000,000 yen, or at the rate of 35,000 yen per English mile, which is much less than the previous estimate. The side-station buildings are each estimated at five hundred yen.

The silk company at Nihonmatsu, in the prefecture of Fukushima, which has already obtained high honours at several exhibitions in foreign countries, applied for permission to send some exhibits to the International Exhibition at Melbourne, this year.

The woollen manufactory at Senji is gradually being extended, and another building is now to be erected to accommodate machinery driven by a seventy horse-power engine. The addition will be exclusively used for the manufacture of cloth for the army and navy. The requisite machinery has been ordered in Europe.

The *Genkui Maru* carried 235 English pounds weight of gold and silver bullion, and 4,998 silver yen belonging to the Osaka mint, from Yokohama to Kobe, on the 31st ultimo.

The inhabitants of the Island of Hachijo built two sailing vessels some years ago, and commenced the export of local produce to Tokio. They have been so successful that they are now going to order a large vessel for the purpose of extending the trade.

The distribution of prizes among the successful exhibitors at the Cotton and Sugar Competitive Exhibition in Osaka, took place on the 28th ultimo. The first prize was one hundred yen.

The people of the prefecture of Okinawa (Loochoo), having paid great attention to agriculture, the waste portions of the islands are gradually being brought under cultivation. In order to assist the people, Governor Nabeshima has applied to the authorities for agricultural implements to be sent down.

A native journal states that, "owing to the fall in the value of kinsatsu to the extent of 47 sen 5 rin per yen, the import business is very dull, in fact almost at a stand-still. The sale of cotton yarn and shirtings has ceased, and only a trifling business is being done in black velvet."

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Akebono Shimbun* states that the report of great distress existing among the poorer classes throughout the prefecture of Niigata is contradicted.

The *Hochi Shimbun* states that the country round the mountain of Hotsusan, in the prefecture of Isakawa, is now constantly experiencing earth tremours, and the mountain is emitting sounds which are considered premonitory of its bursting into a state of active eruption. The inhabitants are making preparations to remove from the threatened danger.

The authorities of Kanagawa and Shizuoka have arranged for the construction of a carriage road between Odawara and Atami.

Work is to be commenced at once on the extension of the railway from Ootsu to Tsuruga. Two officers of the Railway Bureau have left Tokio, to inspect the preliminary work.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa landed at Nagasaki on the 21st ultimo, and visited the Takashima coal mines, where he was entertained by the proprietor, Mr. Goto. Among the guests were Governor Utsumi and Judge Okada.

Mr. Torada Masukichi, the editor of the *Kinji Hiron*, having published a copy of the memorials forwarded by Mr. Ayano Sozo and another, on behalf of Osaka *Fu* and nine *Ken*, urging the establishment of a National Assembly, was fined 100 yen on the 30th ultimo.

A telegram from Osaka, dated 9.40 a.m. on the 30th ultimo, states that a great disturbance took place among the rice merchants at Doshima on the previous day. Several hundred persons were concerned in it.

Princess Nabeshima, the wife of the newly appointed Minister to the Court of Rome, died on the 30th ultimo. The deceased lady has been ill since last January.

The *Hochi Shimbun* mentions that a small steamer, called the *Suyehiro Maru*, running on lake Biwa, left Moto-yamada at 8.30 a.m. on the 27th ultimo, and capsized almost immediately. Eighty-nine passengers who were on board at the time were precipitated into the water, but fortunately the accident having occurred not far from shore, it was at once noticed and an alarm given. Boats put off without delay, and all the victims of the catastrophe were saved and brought to land, where they were properly attended to. As the weather was extremely fine it is conjectured that the accident was occasioned by the overloading of the boat, which is said to be only of seven tons burden.

The people of Iochoo are at present very peaceable and quiet, but are afraid that the Japanese Government will issue an order for them to cut off their queues.

The *Vellor Pisani*, under the command of His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa, left Nagasaki for Shanghai at 9 a.m. on the 24th ultimo.

A telegram dated Nagaoka, Yechigo, at 10.15 a.m. on the 1st instant, states that a severe south-westerly gale sprung up at 3 a.m. that morning, and was still blowing when the despatch left. Many vessels had already been wrecked, and further particulars are promised. A native contemporary remarks that the shipwrecks mentioned in the telegram are probably those of vessels trading in the Shinano-gawa.

During the past month, ninety-one Japanese vessels with 4,869 passengers and 236,718 tons of cargo arrived in Yokohama, and ninety-nine Japanese vessels left. During the same period twenty-one foreign ships arrived and twenty-six cleared.

It is proposed to construct a street tramway between Shinbashi, Asakusa and Ueno, at an estimated cost of three hundred thousand yen. It is said that the cars, which will each accommodate twenty passengers, will be drawn by two horses at a speed of about eight miles an hour.

To-day, the 3rd instant, being the anniversary of the death of Jimmu Tenno has been observed by the Japanese as a general holiday. There was no publication of Japanese newspapers.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 28th ultimo, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 9,510.38
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 761.95

Total ..... \$10,272.53

Miles open, 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$ 8,078.95
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 935.35

Total ..... \$ 9,014.30

Miles open, 18.

##### KORE AND OUTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 21st ultimo, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$18,220.37
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 2,023.59

Total ..... \$20,243.96

Miles open, 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$11,297.22
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,336.94

Total ..... \$12,634.16

Miles open 47.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 28th ultimo, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$17,999.31
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 2,170.09

Total ..... \$20,169.40

Miles open 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$11,041.80
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,393.88

Total ..... \$12,435.68

Miles open 47.

#### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

##### THE CRISIS IN THE SENATE.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

WE consider that there is nothing but the law to protect the liberties of the people; and law is not of one sort but several. In despotic governments what the sovereign thinks proper becomes the law of the land, and

in some constitutional governments, laws are made with the assent of both the sovereign and the people, while in republics, the legislative power is vested in a representative body chosen by the people.

Arbitrary laws may govern some barbarous or stupid people, but not those who have an independent spirit; republican governments may be established in certain foreign states, but not in such a country as our own, where one and the same dynasty has continued to reign for many thousand generations. What we eagerly desire is, however, to have the laws made by the mutual assent of both the sovereign and the people. But there not being a House of Commons to represent public opinion regarding matters of legislation, we may say that the liberty of the people is now in as dangerous a position as if it hung over a deep pool or stood upon thin ice.

Well then, whose duty is it to make the rights of the sovereign and the people operate favourably to all, and to ensure the tranquillity and prosperity of the whole empire? Certainly the Senate is the only department where such a duty should be performed. This department was established in the year 1875, in accordance with His Majesty's declaration, made on oath at the commencement of his reign, "to decide all matters by public opinion." And perhaps it is not too much to say that, if the Senate exercises due weight in the councils of the state, the liberty of the people will be safely secured; but if, on the contrary, it is without influence, freedom will be seriously endangered; and thus both the life and death of liberty depends upon the action of the Senators. We can thus see how important an office they hold.

By the recent changes in the government, the Senate was deprived of its magnanimous President, Prince Arisugawa, who has been promoted Sadaijin, and of its able vice-President, Mr. Kawano, who was appointed Minister for Public Education. It is a matter very well known to the world that Prince Arisugawa paid great deference to the wise counsels of others, and that Mr. Kawano strongly advocated the liberty of the people. Thus they considerably protected the happiness of the whole empire while in their former offices; but we know not whether their successors are able enough to keep the Senate in the same satisfactory state as before. Mr. Ogi, being appointed the new President, in addition to his original office as a member of the Ministry, we are led to imagine that, in case of the Senate henceforth following out the views and adopting the opinions of the Ministry without entering into full discussion of them in its sittings, the department will become a place for merely ratifying the will of the ministers;—which would involve the Ministry exercising the legislative powers of the Senate. Have we not reason then to fear that the hope of enjoying the gift made by the imperial oath taken in the year 1868 will eventually be taken from our community?

Who shall be blamed in case the Senators do not insist upon their rights at this critical moment and thus let their legislative power decline? As regards the president, it would not perhaps be contrary to his inclination, if the balance of power between the Senate and the Ministry was not maintained, and the former reduced to a mere passive agent of the latter;—because Mr. Ogi's primary duty is to increase the influence of the Ministry; while that of the other members of the Senate is exactly the reverse. The real functions of the Senators being to legislate, the welfare of the whole empire rests entirely in their hands.

The question at present appears to be:—Shall the Senators, retain their power and influence, or let it drift into the hands of the Ministry? We have been told that Mr. Yanagiwara and Mr. Nakajima were prominent among the Senators for their determination to preserve the rights of the Senate inviolate; but the former has been appointed a Minister to a foreign Court, while the latter is said to intend resigning his office. We cannot but regret the loss of such members of the legislative body.

Let us repeat then, that either the retention or the loss of the Senators' power and influence depends upon this critical moment. If they are not ambitious enough to gain glory, they had better make up their minds whether to remain or resign, as it is not advisable for them to act without a fixed purpose, and thus leave behind them an evil reputation for future generations to scoff at.



## ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

Allahabad, February 15th.—Abdul Rahman in now said to have twelve lakhs of rupees. There are rumours that he is staying with his father-in-law Jehandir Shah Mar Babakshan. Syed Mahomed Taki, head priest of the Hazaras, has come in with 200 of the most influential men of lower Hazara to pay his respects and offer his services. General Roberts had a short but satisfactory interview with him. Mustafi Habibula Khan has been granted leave to visit his home in Warlak, and as he was one of Mahomed Jan's great friends, he may use his personal influence to bring that leader in.

Kandahar, February 16th.—Colonel St. John left this morning on special duty for Calcutta, riding post. Colonel St. John will return for a short time to Kandahar. Weather is unusually severe. Much snow has fallen at Quetta and on Kwoja. This must necessarily delay the march of the Bombay Division, and the forward movement of General Stewart's force. The Bishop of Lahore is expected here this week. A large number of labourers have been engaged for work in the Peshin valley on the Kandahar Railway. News from Ghuzni represents the tribal gathering as dispersed, though there was an idea that the tribes might collect again at the Nouroz. Daud Shah is on his way back to Lahore.

Allahabad, February 16th.—A truce has been concluded between the Hazaras and Mohammad Jan's men, and is to last till the 21st of March. Samch Khan, son of Safi Khan, attacked and defeated Butchaisian Martuza at Charikar. The latter fled to the Opian Ghorbund Valley. Samch has gone in pursuit. News has been received from Turkestan that Sirdar Shalabaz Khan, whom the British appointed Governor, is still detained at Babakshakar. Several chiefs at the head of a considerable force of Ghazis have arrived six miles from Babakshakar with the intention of opposing Shabaz, who is reported to have fled or concealed himself. Ghuzni reports are still circulated that the intended attack by Mohammad Jan will take place in February, or the beginning of March.

Calcutta, February 17th. A camp follower having been murdered at Perwan, a party of the 51st and 8rd Bengal Cavalry was deputed to surround the village within whose limits the murder was committed, a complete surprise was effected on the morning of the 16th. The village paid a fine of Rs. 300 at once, and the troops returned without a shot being fired. General Bright telegraphs from Mindrawur, where he had proceeded to settle matters with the Utkheyls in the vicinity who have been engaged in the robberies between Gundamuck and Fort Battye. A reconnaissance is being sent to Bogri. The weather is still very severe in the Upper Kurram. The health of the troops improving, except the 13th (very bad) and 11th N. I. bad. No political reports of consequence. A deputation of Wajirs is said to have visited Mushki Alam. A railway accident occurred early on the morning of the 17th, near Mittri, twelve miles from Sibi. Particulars are not yet received, but several persons are reported to be seriously injured. Two trains collided, in one of which was the Poona Major Reynolds, who has been deputed to make a full enquiry.

In official circles at Calcutta it is regarded as probable that Sir Ashley Eden will be appointed to Bombay, and will accept it.

Kurrachee, February 18th.—The Governor of Bombay was entertained last night by the Sind Club. Over sixty sat down to dinner. The Governor spoke at some length on Sind, past and present, and dwelt on its rising importance. His Excellency inaugurated the Kurrachee Waterworks this afternoon. He returns to Bombay in the *Tennasserin*, arriving probably on the 22nd.

There is considerable inquiry from England for land in the gold district.

Bombay, February 18th.—Stanley won the cup at Calcutta. The largest breaks during the handicap were Roberts 240, Shorter 231, and Stanley 112.

Scindia is seriously indisposed, and obliged to abandon his projected tour.

At a meeting at Hyderabad, the Nizam subscribed twenty thousand rupees to the Irish Distress Fund, the Amir-Kabir and family ten thousand, Sir Salar Jung and family eight thousand. Upwards of fifty thousand rupees were subscribed on the spot. Sir R. Meade was in the chair.

Calcutta, February 18th.—Subsequent report states that,

in the railway accident on the Sibi line, seven coolies were killed and two severely hurt, the Sowars and horses of the Poona horse being injured. General Bright has moved to Mandrawar in the Lughman Valley with a strong force. The villagers are friendly and supplies more plentiful. The troops under Colonel Boisragon hold Asianatulla Khans and other forts. The local headmen have come in to General Bright.

Kabul, February 19th.—A convoy of sick and wounded of British soldiers left on the 16th for India. Small parties of British and native soldiers will be despatched regularly every other day. Supplies being brought in greater quantities. Weather slightly warmer during the day. Several degrees of frost still at night. The 3rd will be expected to arrive on the 20th, the 5th Punjab Cavalry leaving on the 21st. Fortifications progressing rapidly. All stores of grain and forage now being brought in are placed in Bala Hissar. General Bright encamped at Maz Tigri. Supplies plentiful. People are friendly. The Governor of Lughman giving every assistance. A number of local Khans are coming in. The rumours of Abdurrahman Khan having crossed the Oxus are still unauthenticated.

Allahabad, February 19th.—The son of Wali Mahomed, sent by us to Afghan Turkestan, reports that some Chiefs who tried to hinder his advancing were defeated. There is no doubt of Nek Mahomed's presence near Balkh. Mahomed Jan's forces seem to be breaking up. The Logaris refuse to give even food now to his supporters, and Hasan Khan is making overtures to come in to Sherpur. Many independent Ghilzai and Kohistan Chiefs, who have hitherto held aloof, are also anxious to make terms. Bellevue at Mussoories has been purchased by Government as a residence for Yakoub Khan. The *Pioneer* has reason to disbelieve the report of Brigadier-General Tytler's death.

Allahabad, February 20th.—The factions in Kohistan are quarrelling among each other. Syed Mir Khan has shut himself up in Fort Sorab Khan, and is besieged therein by a force led by Mir Dutcha's father-in-law. Our Governor, Shabaz Khan, has ordered 200 men to assist in the attack. Our sick convoys are now going regularly down to India, the European and native field hospitals being first cleared out. News received from Lughman states that the force crossed the Kabul river on the 15th, and marched through Charbagh and Kagai to Mandrawar. Crowds of villagers turned out, and seemed much astonished at the sight of elephants carrying guns of the G-8 R.A. No opposition has taken place. Mr. Lepel Griffin visits the Maharajah of Kashmir before proceeding to Kabul.

Col. Sir G. Pomeroy Colley, Private Secretary to H. E. the Viceroy, has been offered, and has accepted, the appointment of Governor of Natal and High Commissioner of South East Africa, with command of the troops in South East Africa, succeeding Sir Henry Bulwer and Sir Garnet Wolseley. Colonel H. Brackenbury, R.A., succeeds as Private Secretary to H. E. the Viceroy.

Bombay, February 20th.—The Bombay reserve division is to be moved on.

Calcutta, February 20th.—There are rumours of fighting being imminent near Istalif between the adherents of the British Government and some 2,000 men of Ghulam Kadir's party.

Sibi, February 20th.—Five men at Dadur, left in charge of the stores, were cut up by Murrees. The withdrawal from Dadur is completed. Except this the whole of the European troops are about going to Nari, five miles further. The water is presumed to be the cause. The details under Captain Gordon, one hundred and fifty, arrived from Mean Meer, and battery of Horse Artillery arrived to-day.

Calcutta, February 21st.—General Bright's force has moved up to Tigri in Lughman, and encamped to the south of the Alishing river near the meeting of the Alingar valleys, which are both well cultivated and densely populated, containing numerous forests and enclosures of different Khans and chiefs.

From Candahar:—The ringleader of the revolt of the Is-hattzais against the representative of Sirdar Sher Ali is said to have been executed and the tribe fined 15,000 Candahari rupees, which had been paid. These measures are said to have restored order in the district. All the high hills round Candahar are covered with snow. The fall has been very heavy, and continues at Kelat-i-Gilzai, Quetta, and Khojuck and Peshin valleys. The health of the troops is good. All

quiet through Candahar, Kelat-i-Gilzai, and Zamindawar districts.

London, February 21st.—In the House of Lords last night the Duke of Argyll moved for papers relating to the Russian correspondence found in Kabul, and denounced the whole policy of the Government in Afghanistan. Lord Cranbrook declined to produce the papers asked for as being inexpedient and prejudicial to the public service. A long discussion then took place relating to the policy of the Government, during which Lord Beaconsfield said that when in 1878 Russia, considering the strained relations with England, naturally tried to use her influence in Asia, the British Government then thought the moment had arrived to finally settle who was to possess command of the great gates to India; that policy, wherefrom Government had never swerved, had been successfully carried out. His Lordship said it was impossible to retire from the country while it was still in a state of anarchy. When the Afghans understood that England was just, but resolved to be obeyed, the present difficulties would disappear. The motion was ultimately withdrawn.

St Petersburg, February 22nd.—The Academy of Forest Culture at Moscow, together with the Museum attached, has been totally burned down. It is believed to be the work of incendiaries. Several students have been arrested on suspicion.

Allahabad, February 22nd.—At Sherpur arrangements are being made for a mounted infantry. Sixty men are to be chosen from the 67th, 72nd, and 92nd Regiments. Major White, of the 92nd, is mentioned as the probable commandant. The fighting near Istalif has been reported to be at an end. Our lines of policy are hazy as ever. The two strongest parties in Kabul are those of Yakub Khan and Hashim Khan. If countenance is given to the latter, no doubt a faction strong enough to hold Kabul could be formed, but the control of Turkistan would be an open question. Abdol Rahman will probably possess himself of the Northern Provinces in any case.

Allahabad, February 23rd.—The Bishop of Lahore has arrived at Kandahar. Very heavy snow has fallen in Southern Afghanistan. The Khojacks are hardly passable for troops, and the movements of the Bombay division have been greatly retarded. In Kelat-i-Gilzai and neighbourhood the roads are all blocked with snow. No forward movement of this division is probable for some weeks.

Calcutta, February 23rd.—From Kabul Mir Bucha is said to have left Ghazni, and is expected at Baba Kushkar. Ghullum Hyder is reported to have addressed the Rajik chiefs, informing them of his numbers, and his intention to use them after the melting of the snow. The weather at Kabul is fine, though cold. The snow is lying on the northern slopes. There is no deficiency of supplies. From Mandrawar General Bright reports that a reconnaissance had had been made to Badliabad. Every part of the Lughman valley has now been examined with hardly a shot being fired. All the chiefs and headmen, with few exceptions, have come in, and co-operated cordially. The troops have been moved back close to the Kabul river, and were to move on to Asmatulla's fort. Mulla Khalil is said to have quarrelled with the people of Belmani, and moved to Spintangi.

Calcutta, February 24th.—General Bright has returned to Asmatulla Khan's fort in the Lughman valley. No news from the Jellalabad district; rumours indicate that the coalition of the Mohmuds for raiding has probably failed. News has been received from Herat that fighting has again broken out between the Kabuli and Herati regiments, ending in the complete discomfiture of the former, of whom many were killed.

Sir John Stacley presented the Financial Statement for 1880-81 in the Legislative Council. Results are highly favourable. In 1878-79 surplus £2,044,000. In 1879-80 surplus £119,000, budget estimate 1880-81 surplus £417,000. The foregoing figures in each case are after paying from ordinary revenue all charges for famine, Afghan war, and frontier railway warcharges; 1878-79 £676,000; 1879-80 £3,216,000; 1880-81 £2,990,000; setting off increased railway and telegraph revenues total net expenditure was, to end of 1880-81, five and three-quarter millions.

The comparison between the present total net and ordinary expenditure with that of twelve years back shows, apart from loss by exchange, only a trifling increase either in civil or military charges. Even including loss by exchange the total

net expenditure shows no increase owing to improvement in railways and canals.

London, February 25th. The London press generally regard the Indian budget as satisfactory. The *Standard* says that as the famine fund has been used for the Afghan war and the frontier railways, it is a reason why the cost of the war should be shared by England.

The *Daily News* says it is rash to infer that all danger to Indian finances is past.

The House of Commons has negatived a motion to restrict the duration of Parliament to five years and abolish the immunity from arrest of members of the House of Peers.

London, February 25th.—Sixteen gentlemen formed a deputation which waited on the Secretary of State on the 21st instant to urge the immediate extension of the railway to Haputale. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's reply, although not pledging the Government, was considered satisfactory by the Deputation. Some of the number thought that, if more pressure were applied, the deputation might succeed.

Constantinople, February 25th.—Some Greek naturalized British subjects have been arrested for being found in possession of bombs with which it is suspected they had designs on the life of the Sultan.

London, February 26th.—The statement that Sir Charles Ellice succeeds Sir Frederick Haines as Commander-in-Chief in India is contradicted.

Berlin, February 27th.—Prince Hohenlohe, the German Ambassador at Paris, has been appointed Foreign Secretary for six months.

London, February 28th.—After three days' debate the House of Commons agreed without a division to a resolution of punishing obstructive members with suspension. The resolution was made a Standing Order. The Liberals supported the Government.

Berlin, February 28th.—The illness of Prince Bismarck is the reason of Prince Hohenlohe's appointment to the Foreign Secretaryship.

London, February 29th.—Consols 98½. 5 per Cent. Rentes 115. Bar silver, 52½. Exchange on India 60 days' sight, 1'8.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Bombay, February 13th.—The Chamber of Commerce, at a special meeting yesterday, attended by the representatives of all the principal firms in Bombay, passed the following resolution unanimously:—"That this Chamber tenders its grateful thanks to the Government of Bombay for their efforts to secure a change in the departure of the mail steamers, and having considered the telegram just received from the Government of India (proposing the closing of the mails at Bombay at twelve noon on Saturday.) Resolved as follows:—That the Chamber fails to see that the Friday evening departure would cause any real inconvenience anywhere, while both at home and in Bombay the most serious inconveniences are now experienced from the Saturday evening departure, and most of these inconveniences would remain were the proposal for the Saturday afternoon sailing accepted. That the Government of India be respectfully requested to communicate by telegram with the British postal authorities on the subject as the Chamber believe the mercantile community in England object strongly to a Saturday evening departure from Bombay."

Madras, February 14th.—Chendrial has been beheaded by his own followers, and his head has been taken to Chodavaram by his own men. Four hundred rebels under a new leader have risen in Zerranagudien taluq. A police force under Inspector Millett has been sent to quell the disturbance.

Madras, February 15th.—Chendrial's head was taken to Rajumundry yesterday, where it was identified by Unmuledly and the jail warders where he was formerly imprisoned, also by his wife and mother. The Agent to the Governor at Vizaggram has forwarded to the Madras Committee of the Irish distress, a cheque for one thousand pounds sterling. The amount already received or promised is over rs. 24,000, which with the Maharajah's donation makes the Madras Fund larger than that of Bombay. Sir Neville Chamberlain has consented to remain in his post of Commander-in-Chief till the home Government is in a position to send a successor. All arrangements for his departure by the *Mirzapore* on the 6th March have therefore been cancelled.

General Travers has declined the Madras command. Sir Donald Stewart has accepted it. Sir Neville Chamberlain remains till relieved. Daoud Shah is about to be moved again up-country. His destination will probably be Lahore for the present.

Allahabad, February 20th.—Cabul, February 18th.—Mahomed Isa Khan, and Mahomed Aza Khan, with a Turkoman force, strength unknown, left Bokhara and reached Akocha town, in Afghan Turkistan, 42 miles from Balkh. Abdul Rahman is also reported to have arrived there. The Usbegs are giving Gholam Hyder revenue willingly. Mahomed Hoosein Khan and Takir Khan have returned. Bala-kijan men were seen proceeding on to Logar with Enfield rifles, which they are said to have brought in from the Charlah Valley at twenty rupees apiece. Pneumonia is on the decrease. The cases which lately occurred are of a much milder form. Mahomed Hissan Khan Logari, who has not met with much success, is persuading the Ghilzas to join him. News of Abdul Rahman's probable arrival at Cabul has struck consternation into some of the Sirdars. They are said to be taking counsel whether they had not better bolt. Abdul Rahman, who was sent after Sirdar Isa Khan, has brought him to Mazari Shareef, where the former chief was, to despatch this information.

London, March 1st.—Bank Shares:—Oriental Bank Corporation, £24. Chartered Bank, £23 10s. Chartered Mercantile Bank, £23. Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, £37. Consols, 98. Five per Cent Rentes, 115. Bar silver, 52. Paris Exchange on London, 25.22.

London, March 2nd.—Colonel Stanley, in the Commons, in moving the Army Estimates, which were passed unopposed, expressed an opinion that experiments made recently will probably result in breech-loaders replacing the muzzle-loaders.

The Russian Government is going to increase its silver currency.

Teheran, March 2nd.—The proposal of a Persian expedition to Seistan has been abandoned for fear of encountering political difficulties.

Constantinople, March 2nd.—The firing at and wounding of a member of the Russian embassy here, is in no way connected with politics.

Berlin, March 2nd.—In yesterday's sitting of the German Parliament there was a long debate on Prince Bismarck's bill for the increase of the German army. Field-Marshal Moltke made a speech in which he defended the increase, stating that he regarded it as a precautionary measure and not a menace.

London, March 3rd.—Sir Stafford Northcote, in reply to a question in the House of Commons last night, said the Afghan programme published in the *Civil and Military Gazette* of Lahore was purely imaginary.

Consols 97½.

#### LAW REPORT.

##### IN H. B. M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. T. RENKIE, Esq., Judge.

Tuesday, the 30th day of March, 1880.

KONO MICHIOTOMO (acting Kon Rei on behalf of the Japanese Government), *versus* G. DOMONEY and A. K. NOBLE, trading as G. Domoney & Co.

This was a claim of \$262.25, rent, for the year 1879, of the land at Kitagata occupied by the defendants as a butchery.

The grounds of the defendants refusal to pay the amount claimed, are disclosed in their answer, which is as follows:

1st.—That said defendants deny having leased the butchery ground from said plaintiff from the 1st day of January as alleged in the first paragraph of said petition.

2nd.—That, by arrangement made many years ago between the local Government of the time and the foreign butchers, the former agreed to lease to the latter certain allotments of land situated at Homoko, in perpetuity, and to erect suitable buildings thereon, and to keep the same in repair, in consideration of the latter paying to the former an annual rental, which has since been stipulated at \$262.25.

3rd.—That, on or about the 10th day of December, 1878, said defendants paid to the former the sum of \$4,265.19 in satisfaction of all claims for arrearages of rent and as

purchase money of the said buildings erected on said butchery grounds.

4th.—That said plaintiff at the time of receiving said payment agreed to execute a lease to said defendants in conformity with the arrangement as aforesaid.

5th.—That a draft of a lease of said premises was submitted by said plaintiff to said defendants in the month of October, 1879, for their approval, but that the duration of the term was limited to the period of five years only, and that conditionally, reserving to himself the right to re-occupy the said premises upon giving six months' notice to said defendants to quit, the Japanese government to be exempt from all liability for any expenses to be incurred in the surrender of the same.

6th.—That the value of the buildings erected upon the land as aforesaid, for the business of a butchery, as they now stand, is not less than \$3,000; that to remove the same the value would be deteriorated by an amount of not less than two-thirds, which would cause loss to said defendants of \$2,000.

7th.—That said defendants admit their indebtedness to said plaintiff in the sum of \$262.25, due for rental of said premises, provided said plaintiff executes a lease of the same to said defendants in conformity with the arrangement aforesaid, by virtue of which said rental is due.

8th.—That said defendants bring into Court the sum of \$262.25 under protest that such a proper lease in perpetuity as aforesaid be executed by said plaintiff.

9th.—That said defendants are willing to agree to give up possession of said land to plaintiff upon receiving six months' notice to quit, upon being indemnified in the sum of \$2,000 for the expenses to be incurred in and about the surrender thereof, and in the removal of said buildings, and also upon having leased to them another suitable lot of land for a butchery business at a reasonable rental, and for a term of not less than twenty-five years' duration.

The defendants therefore pray as follows:

1st.—That payment of the sum of \$262.25, now brought into Court by defendants, shall be withheld from said plaintiff until he shall perform his engagement to execute a proper lease of said premises to said defendants.

2nd.—That each party shall be ordered to pay their own costs of this suit.

3rd.—That defendants may have such other and further equitable relief in the premises as by this Honourable Court may be deemed just and requisite.

(Signed.) A. K. NOBLE,

For self and partner of

G. DOMONEY & Co.,

Defendants.

Mr. Osborn, an officer in the employment of the Kencho, appeared on behalf of the plaintiff, and Mr. Noble represented the defendants.

Mr. Osborn read the petition and answer; whereupon

His Honour remarked:—The answer is altogether irregular. There can be no prayer in an answer. If the Court deems the defendants entitled to any relief after hearing the evidence, it will consider an application for leave to file a cross-suit and for a stay of proceedings in the present suit until the cross-suit is heard. The form of the answer is quite irregular.

Mr. Osborn then entered the witness, box and having been sworn stated:—In October, 1878, after protracted negotiations and to save further discussion and trouble to the land officers of the Kencho in having to make repairs to the buildings occupied by defendants, I, on behalf of the Kencho, made an arrangement with Mr. Plummer, formerly of defendants' firm, for the payment of rent for the property known as their butchery; and I agreed to accept \$153.71 as the purchase money of the buildings on the ground. This was a nominal price but was looked upon as a concession, as defendants said they had actually put up the buildings themselves. To simplify matters they were subsequently to pay an annual rent of \$262.25. This they agreed to do by the following letter, (Exhibit A.):—

17, Yokohama, 2 Oct., 1878.

Imperial Land Officers,

I. Gentlemen,—We are willing to pay the sum of Mexican four hundred and fifteen  $\frac{9}{100}$  for rent of butcheries at Homoko presently occupied by us for this current year of



1878, ending 31st December, same payment to be in full settlement of all claims.

II. Commencing in 1879 we would pay you yearly two hundred and sixty-two  $\frac{1}{100}$  dollars.

All erections on the ground to belong to us.

We are,

Yours obediently,

G. DOMONEY & Co.

At the same time defendants asked for a lease, which was promised to them. Some question arose as to the duration of the lease. Mr. Plummer wanted it for ten years; but the land officers said there would be a difficulty about granting a lease for more than five. I do not know whether Plummer agreed to accept five years, but he asked for a draft lease to be sent to H. B. M.'s Consulate for his perusal. Plummer was also informed that the Government would reserve power to resume the ground if they wished to do so on giving six months notice. Plummer demurred to this stipulation, but it was explained to him that the power would only be acted upon in case of necessity. When he left the office my impression was that he was satisfied; at any rate he asked to have the draft lease made out and forwarded. A draft was accordingly prepared and sent to H. B. M.'s Consulate. The form attached to the answer was the one sent. From time to time I have asked defendants to come to some definite conclusion upon the matter, but without success. The defendant Noble has always said he would have to consult his partner in Kobe. At last I told Mr. Noble he would be summoned. He then wrote me the following note, (Exhibit B.):—

17 Yokohama, 18 February, 1880.

P. Osborn, Esq.,

Municipal Office,

Sir,—In reply to your letter of to-day's date, the writer would ask you to please defer any matter till arrival of steamer from Shanghai due 19th instant.

If 2 o'clock would be convenient I will come to the Kencho to-morrow at that time.

I am,

Your obedt. servt.,

A. K. Noble.

Mr. Noble came on the day mentioned in the letter, and then for the first time raised the objection that \$100 out of the \$262.25 was for cattle tax, and not payable by British subjects. I told him that in making the arrangement with Mr. Plummer I had purposely omitted any mention of tax and only named a round sum for rent, without giving any details, and referred him to the letter written by Mr. Plummer (exhibit A). Mr. Noble seemed to have forgotten about this letter, and asked me for a copy of it, which I gave him. Up to that time, and in fact until the answer in this suit was filed, no objection was made to the terms contained in the draft lease. In defendants' answer they say they would lose \$2,000 by moving the buildings in the event of having to leave the premises. This assertion is hard to reconcile with the fact that they only paid \$153.71 for these buildings. The third paragraph of defendants answer is incorrect. They agreed to pay in January of the year mentioned \$3,849.25 which was taken by the Kencho in satisfaction of \$5,679.36 for house rent, ground rent, cattle tax and rent of servants offices. The reduction of \$1,830.11 was made on account of repairs having been effected by defendants which should have been made by the Kencho. No portion of this sum was for the purchase money of the buildings on the ground, as the receipts given to defendants will prove. Of this sum they paid \$1,283.08 in cash and the balance by monthly instalments, the last payment being made in July, 1878. The actual purchase money of the buildings was \$153.71, paid by defendants on the 10th of December 1878. This payment had nothing whatever to do with the other payments.

His Honour:—It appears to me from the evidence adduced on behalf of the plaintiff, that the only question I have to consider is whether I will, upon application by the defendants, order a stay of proceedings to enable them to file a cross-suit claiming the execution of a lease in such form as they deem themselves entitled to. It is quite clear that the Court cannot grant the prayer of the answer, even if Noble's evidence should substantiate it. But then, in all important particulars, Osborn's story coincides with the

defendants' own statement, and they have asserted their willingness to pay \$262.25 rent, in fact that sum has been paid into court. If you have any questions to ask Mr. Osborn, Mr. Noble, you can do so now.

Mr. Osborn, cross-examined by Mr. Noble:—There was no draft lease shown to Mr. Plummer. The \$5,679.36 was made up thus:—\$1,300.48 ground rent, \$2,537.93 house rent, \$961.62 house rent for servants' quarters, and \$879.33 cattle tax. No portion of this sum of \$5,679.36 was on account of the purchase of the buildings on the ground.

His Honour.—All the defendants appear to want a lease containing different provisions to those in the draft furnished. The answer is entirely irregular, but if Mr. Noble is prepared to ask me to allow him to file a cross-suit for such a lease as he desires, I will consider the application. If Mr. Noble can satisfy me that Mr. Plummer never agreed to pay rent after the rate of \$262.25 per annum, unless his firm was granted a lease upon different conditions to those contained in the draft supplied by the Kencho, I will doubtless be prepared to order a stay of proceedings in the present suit until the terms of the lease can be investigated.

Mr. Osborn mentioned that he would like to have the receipts given to the defendants for the \$3,849.25 produced.

His Honour remarked that he should have given defendants notice to produce them.

His Honour, addressing Mr. Noble, said:—Unless you are prepared to prove that Mr. Plummer stipulated for a different form of lease to that tendered by the Kencho, the Court will have to order defendants to pay the rent as claimed, and refuse to allow a cross-suit to be entered.

Mr. Noble stated that he was unable to do so.

Judgment was accordingly given for plaintiff in the amount claimed, with costs of court.

Mr. Osborn pointed out that plaintiff claimed interest on the rent from the 1st of January last.

His Honour:—I don't think this is a case in which to allow interest. The rent is only three months in arrear, and, as a rule, interest is merely a question of damages; and I cannot see that the plaintiff has suffered any damage.

Before R. T. RENNIE, Esq., Judge, and M. DOMMEN, Esq.,  
Acting Assiet. Judge.

Friday, the 2nd day of April, 1880.

FRANCIS STILLFRIED *versus* WILLIAM WAGGOTT.

This was an action to recover the sum of \$16.00 for two dozen photographs taken by the plaintiff for the defendant. The case was heard before His Honour the Acting Assistant Judge, on the 11th day of March ultimo, and a verdict was given for the defendant with costs. The plaintiff subsequently applied for a rehearing which was granted and set down for trial to-day.

The parties appeared personally.

His Honour Judge Rennie:—You have applied for a rehearing, Mr. Stillfried, on the ground that you are prepared to prove that it is not the custom among photographers that customers are not liable to pay for rejected photographs, even if the photographer is willing to take the pictures over again.

Plaintiff:—I am prepared with evidence to shew that the contrary is the custom. My brother, who is now present, was the senior partner in the firm of Stillfried & Andersen, and is the best informed on the subject, and I can get Mr. Anglin to prove that he printed circulars for Stillfried and Andersen, which stated that customers who refused to accept photographs taken under their instructions, would have to pay for a dozen.

His Honour:—Then you are prepared with evidence to prove that the custom set up by defendant does not exist?

Plaintiff:—That is what I can prove.

His Honour:—You see I understand from the evidence given at the former hearing, that there are only two firms of foreign photographers in the town, who are of course rivals, and it is consequently extremely difficult to obtain any satisfactory evidence of custom. The Court will therefore dispense with all evidence relating to custom, and decide the case without going into that question at all. No evidence of what is customary or usual in Yokohama can possibly affect the legal view of the case. The plaintiff had better go into the witness box.



Francis Stillfried, sworn, stated:—I am an Austrian subject and a photographer carrying on business in Yokohama. (The witness repeated the evidence he gave at the previous hearing and produced the photographs). I took the boy twice and the woman three times. My prices were advertised in the paper at eight dollars per dozen photographs for each person. I am ready to take the portraits over again on condition that the defendant has to choose one lot.

Cross-examined by defendant:—I did not send you an account. I sent you the proofs, and you said you were not satisfied. I asked for payment verbally. I did offer to take the photographs over again. You objected that the colour was too red, and I replied that all my photographs are at first red and darken in colour day by day. You did not give me any definite reason for refusing to accept the pictures. You said you were going to Andersen. I told you that, unless the photographs lost their red colour and became dark in three or four weeks, I did not want any payment for them.

By the Court:—These photographs are good ones and good likenesses. I only printed the proofs. The negatives and proofs were of good average quality. It is a peculiarity of my pictures that they are red at first and darken afterwards. I do not advertise that fact. The *Photographic Monthly* has an article on the subject. Photographs taken in that way are better than those which are gray at first. The defendant offered to take half-a-dozen, but I refused because my prices are so low. The pictures produced are in exactly the same condition now as when the defendant had them.

This closed the plaintiff's case.

William Waggott, sworn, stated:—I am the defendant in this action. (The witness repeated the evidence he gave at the former hearing). I told the plaintiff that I could not wait a month to see whether the proofs would change colour, and that I could go elsewhere and get the pictures in a couple of days. Plaintiff replied: "that's the best I can take, if you don't like them leave them." I heard nothing more of the matter until I was summoned. I went to plaintiff because he promised to give me a situation. He charges \$8.00 for the first dozen pictures, and Stillfried and Andersen charge \$12.00. I thought I would get as good an article from him for the \$8.00 as from the other firm for \$12.00. The proofs did not satisfy me, because, in addition to the colour, they were not good likenesses. I do think that if there were half-a-dozen photographers in Yokohama I could go round and get pictures taken by the whole six and then choose the best likeness and pay nothing for the others.

Plaintiff declined to ask the witness any questions.

By the Court:—Defendant refused to accept my offer to take six photographs and said he would summon me to Court.

This closed the defendant's case.

His Honour Judge Rennie instructed the defendant to forward to the Registrar of the Court the photographs taken by Andersen, and stated that judgment would be delivered in a few days.

## MY WIFE'S INHERITANCE.

### IN THREE CHAPTERS.

#### CHAPTER I.—THE INHERITANCE.

Mr Charles Russel, once the most noted lawyer of Kinton, was dead. He had passed away in the night, full of years and honour—passed away so calmly and peacefully, that even the nurse could not tell at what precise hour the spirit had left the worn-out body.

I am, or rather was, a village doctor. At the time of which I write, I was about six-and-twenty years of age, and three years previously had bought a practice in the village of Cottam. It was not a large village; but being only about five miles from the important seaport of Kinton, it could boast of a good many somewhat pretentious villa residences. These were inhabited, some by merchants of Kinton, who travelled to and fro morning and evening; others by men who had ceased to take an active part in business, and had retired to the country to enjoy a well-earned repose. To this latter class belonged the Mr Charles Russel whose death I have just recorded. To a small inherited competence he had added the savings of a successful professional career, and retiring to Cottam, had bought a small mansion on the outskirts of the village, called 'The Willows.' 'Willis,' the country people got to call it, referring—with a vague idea of wit—to the proprietor's previous fame as a conveyancer and maker of wills. Mr Russel had never been married, but had adopted the orphan daughter of his sister. Ellen Saunders at the time of my story was about twenty-one years of age.

It was not until I had been two years at Cottam, that I was introduced to Mr Russel. During this time he had more than once required professional attendance, but had always sent for the family

doctor from Kinton. One day, however, a servant came in great haste for me to go to the Willows; 'for,' said she, 'master has fallen and broken his leg.' Of course I went immediately; but fortunately found matters not so bad as represented. Mr Russel had been walking in the garden, as was his wont, when he accidentally stepped sideways upon a stone, and his ankle twisting, he fell heavily forward. The result was a very bad sprain, aggravated by the age and weight of the sufferer. I soon had the boot off, and applied the usual remedies; and before I left he was very much easier. On my next visit he was still better; but I forbade him to use his foot in any way. Day by day I called, and each day found him improving, although he chafed considerably at the confinement, as he missed his usual walks. Gradually he began to talk of other matters—politics, literature, &c.: I found him to be an unusually well-read man; and as reading had always been one of my chief delights, we got on very well together. Mutual esteem quickly ripened into mutual friendship; and at length I was invited to visit him one evening, an invitation of which I was not slow to take advantage. When I arrived, I found him sitting in an easy-chair, with his foot on the leg-rest; for as yet he was unable to get about. Beside him was a small chess-table, with the men all in their places.

'I was just about,' he observed, 'to have a game of chess with my niece; but she has been called away for a little while. By-the-bye, do you play?'

'A little,' I answered; the fact being that chess used to be a very favourite game of mine; but not having played for years, I was somewhat doubtful of my powers, and therefore answered cautiously: 'A little—not much.'

'Do you mind playing with me? It would be quite a charity, I assure you, for I am heartily weary of sitting here alone.'

'I will try with pleasure,' I replied; and with that we commenced.

I soon found that, good player as I was, he was slightly better; and at the end of the evening, he was two games ahead. This put him in great good-humour, especially as his niece, who had now joined us, had witnessed the old gentleman's victory.

'There is some satisfaction,' he was pleased to say, 'in playing with you, as you are difficult to beat. I sometimes play with Ellen here; but it is almost like playing with the right hand against the left, where all the schemes originate in the same mind. I know all her moves almost before she takes them. She always opens in the same way, and hardly ever originates a fresh attack.'

'Well, uncle dear, you cannot expect me to be as deep as you are. You know you often used to say: "Girls never *can* reason."'

Hitherto I have hardly mentioned Ellen Saunders, although I had often seen her. Perhaps some of my readers would like a full description of her, the colour of her hair and eyes, the shape of her nose and ears. If so, I am afraid I must disappoint them. I really cannot describe her; and yet in my eyes she was one of the most beautiful creatures I had ever seen. I say in my eyes. Perhaps in yours, dear reader, she would not have appeared so; it depends on your taste and sex. I, however, had no doubt at all on the matter.

Well, that first evening at chess was followed by a good many more. Two or three times a week I would find my way to the Willows, and always received a hearty welcome from the old gentleman. So things went on for three or four months. During my visits, Ellen was constantly in and out of the room, ready to attend to her uncle; and when leisure permitted, she would bring her work, and sitting opposite the chess-table, would occasionally watch the game. Sometimes she was accompanied by another young lady, who I afterwards learned was her hired companion. Miss Leclerc—for that was her name—had entered Mr. Russel's family as governess when Ellen was about fourteen years of age, she herself being only seventeen. When Ellen's education was completed, the governess was transformed into the companion, and such she still remained at the time of my visits. I, however, did not see much of her, as she did not often come into Mr. Russel's sanctum.

I have said that Ellen often watched the game; and I cannot tell how it was, but whenever she did so, I was almost invariably checkmated. I suppose I was nervous, and played badly. At any rate, lose I did; and yet I would not have had her away for the world; for by this time—I may as well confess it—I was deeply in love with her; and what if I did lose a few paltry games of chess! As long as her sweet eyes watched my proceedings with interest, I was well repaid. I may say parenthetically that I always took my revenge when she was not present; for by this time I had regained my old play, and was Mr. Russel's master at it.

Up to this period no word of love had passed between us; and sooth to say, I knew not whether it would be agreeable either to her or her uncle. Nay, I was almost inclined to think that it was wrong for me to entertain such a feeling, under the circumstances in which I had been introduced to the family. Right or wrong, however, I felt it to be a settled fact, and I could no more help it than I could help breathing. This deep feeling, joined to the uncertainty of its propriety and to a vague sense of its hopelessness, quite unsettled me; indeed, so much so that I resolved to stay away from the Willows at least for a time. I think I should have persevered in my resolve to stay away; but by the end of the week I received so kind a letter—remonstrating at my absence—from Mr. Russel, that my determination gave way, or rather, I may say, gave place to another. This was to speak to him, to admit my affection for his niece, and to crave his permission to address her. 'By so doing,' I said myself, 'one source of uncertainty will at any rate be removed.'

The same evening found me again at the Willows; and taking advantage of Ellen's absence, I told Mr. Russel all—in a nervous disjointed manner, I have no doubt, but still plainly and simply. I did not praise myself, nor did I in a mock-modest style speak of 'unworthiness, &c. &c.'

The old gentleman heard me to the end, speaking never a word,

but looking with half-closed eyes straight into my face; a habit acquired no doubt in his professional career.

'I am pleased, Mr. Wallis,' he said at length when I had finished, 'to hear this confession, because I have seen for some time "how the land lay," as the sailors have it.'

'You have noticed it!' I exclaimed in surprise.

'Yes,' he repeated. 'We lawyers are trained to observe little signs. Many a time an almost imperceptible look of surprise, or the faintest shadow of dismay on a man's face, has given me the clue in a difficult case. Can you think then, that signs so plain as you have given could be overlooked by me? No: my friend. I needed not your present confession to tell me that you love my niece; and yet, as I have said, I am pleased to hear it, because it confirms the estimate I had formed of your character. What that estimate is, I need not say, except that I am quite willing that you should try to win her affections. Had it not been so, I should not have written the letter of yesterday, but have found some means of causing you to cease your visits entirely.'

On hearing this my heart was almost too full for utterance; I grasped him by the hand, and thanked him most heartily for his great kindness.

'Mind,' he continued, 'I can say nothing about Ellen. You have my consent to try to win her; but beyond this I cannot go. She must please herself. My advice, however, is, do not hurry matters; continue your visits as heretofore, and you may perhaps find opportunities of observing how her inclinations tend—But there! Whenever was the advice of a practical old lawyer—and a bachelor to boot—taken by a young fellow in love! So go and do whatever your heart, tempered by gentlemanly feeling, dictates.'

But I must hasten on; this is not a love-story, and I have very much more to tell. I took Mr Russel's advice in one respect—that is, I continued my visits to the Willows, and was happy to perceive that they were agreeable to Ellen. In short, I gradually won her regard, confessed my love, asked her to be mine; and before a year was out we were fully engaged. Had I had my way, we should have been married at once; but just at this time Mr Russel's health began seriously to fail. He never seemed to be quite himself again after the shock of his fall, and now appeared to be failing very fast. But as his health became feebler, his affection for Ellen seemed to increase, and in a minor degree for me also. I can hardly explain the liking he had taken to me, except that having no relation in the world but Ellen—at least not to my knowledge—he centered all his affection upon her; and as I loved her also, he loved me too for loving her. This may not be the correct explanation; but at any rate it was the only one that occurred to me.

One day—I shall never forget it—a servant brought me a message that Mr Russel wished to see me in his bedroom. When I arrived there I found him still in bed, where I had seen him in the morning, for this was one of the days—occurring pretty frequently now—when he found himself too unwell to get up.

'I am sorry to see you like this, uncle,' I said—for by this time we had become very familiar, I calling him uncle, and he addressing me as Alfred—'I thought you looked better this morning.'

'Ah, Alfred! these east winds are too much for me; they go through me, as people say, and I find myself best in bed.—Well now, I have sent for you because I have something particular to say to you. I may not be long for this world; I sometimes think I shall never get about again. At any rate, I thought it advisable to make my will. Of course, in doing so I, as you may well suppose, needed no assistance. Having made scores of wills for other people, it would be strange if I let any one else make mine. Now, as I have great faith in your integrity and honesty, I am about to adopt the unusual course of showing it to you. There it is; read it carefully through.' Not a little surprised, I took the paper, and read as follows:

'I, Charles Russel, of the Willows, Cottam, declare this to be my last will and testament. I bequeath to Elizabeth Watkins, my housekeeper, the sum of one hundred pounds. I bequeath to Jeanette Leclerc, the companion of my niece, the sum of fifty pounds. I also bequeath to my nephew, Charles Russel, the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds. And as to all the rest, residue, and remainder of my real and personal estate, I devise and bequeath the same to my niece, Ellen Saunders, her heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns absolutely and for ever. And I hereby appoint my said niece sole executrix of this my will. In witness whereof I have hereunder set my hand, this 2nd day of February 1870.

CHARLES RUSSEL.'

Then followed the attestation clause, signed by two witnesses.

When I had finished, I remained silent a few moments, and seeing an inquiring look on my face, he said: 'I have let you know this because, loving no one in the world as I do Ellen, I have left all to her. At the same time, I think she ought to have the advice and assistance of some one who knows more of the world than she does. This advice and assistance I have every confidence that you will render, especially when I consider the relation in which you stand to each other.'

'But what of this nephew?' I asked. 'I have never heard of him before.'

The old man's face grew dark as he interrupted: 'Do not mention him, I pray. I have forced myself to leave him a little, but I never wish to see or hear of him again.' Then, after a pause, he continued: 'There: put the will back in its envelope and seal it up; you will find my seal on the table.' This done, he said: 'Now, place it in the desk, and then come here again. I have another paper to show you.'

The desk referred to was one I had often noticed standing on a table at the other side of the room; it was not a large one, only about eighteen inches long, twelve inches wide, and at the back nine inches high, with a lid sloping down to about three inches in the front. It was made of some dark wood, and was evidently very

old. Having placed the will therein, I said; 'Had I not better lock it?'

'Yes; it would perhaps be as well. But lately I have not done so, as I have only kept writing materials in it; and now I am afraid the key is lost. I have not seen it for a long time. But—with an appearance of sudden recollection—if you wish to keep the will safe, I will tell you a secret: in that desk there is a compartment known only to myself; follow my instructions carefully, and I will tell you how to open it.'

'I am all attention,' I replied.

'Well first raise the front lid, and you will see before you, at the back, six small drawers arranged in three rows of two each. Now pull the middle top drawer quite out of its place.'

'Done!' I said, peering into the cavity thus formed. 'But I see nothing except the back of the desk.'

'Ah! what you see is not quite the back, although very near it. Now feel with your finger in the top right-hand corner of the cavity, and you will find a small hole, as though a little knot had broken out of the wood.—Nay, it is no use looking; you cannot see it; it is too small, and too near the top.'

'I have found it now; but it is not large enough even for my little finger.'

'No. So take one of the long pen-holders you see at the bottom of the desk, and push it through, pressing pretty hard.—Now look behind the desk,' he continued, when I had done so.

I looked, and was surprised to see a little door, projecting about half an inch. I took hold of it, and with some difficulty—for the hinges were very stiff—opened it completely. This done, a cavity was exposed about nine inches long, but only one inch deep. Still there was plenty of room for the will. I therefore placed it therein, closed the door, put the inside drawer back in its place, let down the front lid of the desk, and reported all to Mr Russel.

'That is all right then,' he said. 'You may depend upon the will being safe, and only we two know of its hiding-place. But you must not forget—top middle drawer, top right-hand corner.—Now the other paper I wished to show you was this; holding one towards me. "All my securities are in the hands of my bankers at Kinton; but this is a list of them. Take it, and look it through, and then you will understand better what you have to deal with. And now, goodnight, for I am very tired; but just one word—do not mention anything of this to Ellen. I think it better not."

Of course I promised; and bidding the dear old gentleman good-night, I took my leave. In my own room at home, I examined the paper he had given me, and found the securities to consist of dock, railway, gas, and water shares, with a few mortgages on house-property at Kinton—the whole amounting to more than thirty thousand pounds, and bringing in an income of very little short of two thousand pounds a year. I had no idea he was so rich; and according to the will I had just seen, this thirty thousand pounds would at some future time be MY WIFE'S INHERITANCE.

#### CHAPTER II.—HOW IT WAS LOST.

After the incidents mentioned in the last chapter, nothing particular occurred for more than a month. I had several conversations with Mr Russel; but the will was never brought out again. I also cautiously sounded Ellen as to her cousin Charles; but she could tell me very little about him, except that he was the son of her uncle David, and on his father's death—which occurred when Charles was about fourteen years of age—his uncle took him to his office and home. He was a fine bright clever lad; but when he was about eighteen, he seemed to fall into evil courses. His uncle bore with his irregularities for some time, but at length could do so no longer, and therefore requested him to find apartments for himself in some other quarter of the town. 'From this time,' continued she, 'I saw very little of him, although he still continued his attendance at the office. It appears, however, that his conduct, instead of getting better, became worse; and shortly afterwards I heard that he had been sent away altogether. I never rightly understood the exact cause of this, as dear uncle would never talk about it, and was always angry when it was mentioned. I believe, however, it was some forgery, which would have brought disgrace on the office had not uncle paid a considerable sum of money to hush it up. "That," said Ellen in conclusion, 'is now four years ago; and since then I have heard nothing of him, except that he is living in London: but how I have no idea.'

This was all I could learn of the nephew at that time, though I had reason to know more of him afterwards.

My readers may perhaps wonder why Ellen and I did not get married forthwith, as everybody seemed in favour of it; but Mr Russel's state gave us great anxiety, and we certainly could not think of our own happiness while his health was so precarious. It would have been really unkind to have taken her from him just at that time, and my professional duties obliged me to live in the village. We were now in the middle of March, and all hoped that as spring advanced the old gentleman would rally; but alas! our hopes were doomed to disappointment. He gradually became weaker; and by the end of April it was plain to me that his end was approaching. I now hardly left the Willows, except in the daytime, just to run round to other patients. We had engaged a nurse to wait upon him at night, Ellen performing that service during the day. For the last few nights I slept in a chair in a small adjoining-room. At length it seemed to me that the last night had come, and Ellen and I remained in anxious expectancy together in the same little room. Mr Russel was asleep, but we gave strict orders to the nurse to call us when he awoke. We waited till daylight, but the call never came. He had passed calmly and peacefully away—the loving heart and once active brain were for ever at rest.

According to his request, we buried him in the quiet country

churchyard, in a plain and simple manner. There were very few mourners. Ellen and myself, together with a Mr Benson from Kinton, occupied one coach; and Mrs Watkins and Miss Leclerc another. At the grave, however, the funeral cortege was joined by a tall dark young man, and Ellen whispered to me that it was her cousin Charles. He was dressed in complete black, and behaved in a proper becoming manner. When all was over, and we had returned to the house, I was much surprised to see him also enter. His temerity and coolness astonished me, as certainly he dared not have done so during his uncle's lifetime. As, however, he really belonged to the family, and as the will was about to be read, in which knew he was mentioned, I told Ellen to speak to him, and invite him to stay. 'Perhaps,' I said to myself, 'his presence here may be taken as a token of repentance.' It did not occur to me just then that it was somewhat strange that he, without intimation, should have known the exact day and hour of the funeral.

Leaving them all seated in the drawing-room, I went up-stairs, opened the secret receptacle and brought out the will. It was in the long envelope, sealed as I had sealed it, and endorsed: 'The will of Charles Russel, February 2, 1870.' Returning, I passed it over to Mr. Benson, requesting him, as an old friend of the family, to break the seal and read it. He took it, and holding it up in full view, asked if we were all willing that he should do so. As no one objected, he opened the envelope and drew it forth. I daresay it was an anxious moment for some there—Ellen, Charles, Mrs. Watkins, and Miss Leclerc; but as for me, knowing already the contents, I was quite calm. 'I, Charles Russel, of the Willows, Cottam,' began Mr. Benson in a steady voice, 'declare this to be my last will and testament. I bequeath to Elizabeth Watkins, my housekeeper, the sum of one hundred pounds. I bequeath to Jeannette Leclerc, the companion of my niece, the sum of fifty pounds. I also bequeath to my niece, Ellen Saunders, the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds.'—

'What!' I interrupted. 'Read that again, please.' Mr. Benson, with a look of surprise, did so, and went on: 'And as to all the rest, residue, and remainder of my real and personal estate, I devise and bequeath the same to my nephew, Charles Russel, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, absolutely and for ever. And I hereby appoint my said nephew sole executor of this my will. In witness whereof I have hereunder set my hand, this 2d of February 1870.'

I was thunder-struck. Again I requested him to repeat; and once more it came out clear and plain, that with the exception of the legacies named, all the property was left to Charles, and he also was left sole executor. I was dumb-founded, and at last exclaimed: 'That cannot be the true will. I have seen another, the real will, and it is just the reverse of that. Let me see it myself.'—

'Not so fast, if you please,' interposed Charles. 'It seems that I am sole executor; that will therefore now belongs to me, and I do not intend that you shall have it in your hands.'

'But,' I contended, 'that cannot be the real will, as I have seen another.'

'Then perhaps you will produce that other which you pretend you have seen. You cannot, of course, because there is no other; and this gentleman—turning to Mr. Benson—'will bear witness that the seal was unbroken. Perhaps you know Mr. Russel's seal, sir, and handwriting?'

'Yes,' replied Mr. Benson; 'as it happens, I know both, as I have had many dealings with him.'

'Then what is your opinion of the genuineness of the will which this gentleman—with a sneer towards me—seems to question?'

'Oh, as to that, I cannot see the shadow of a doubt. At the same time, knowing what I do—with a significant look at Charles—I confess I am somewhat surprised.'

'Indeed! Well, I don't see anything surprising in it. My uncle probably discovered that I was innocent of the crime laid to my charge, and took this method of making amends; and I must say it was very handsome of him. Besides, I am the son of his brother, and of the same name as himself, and he, no doubt, wished to keep everything in the family.'

All this sounded very plausible; but it was to me only the more aggravating, as I knew perfectly well that his uncle was as bitter against him at the end as ever he was, and I said so. At this Charles lost his temper, or pretended to do so, and exclaimed: 'Look here, sir; I don't know who you are, and I don't want to know. I only know that you are not one of the family, nor is your name mentioned in the will. It seems to me that you have meddled in this affair long enough. Let me remind you that this house is now mine—mine, sir; mark that; and I must request you to take your departure at once. If uncle's will has not been made as I daresay, you would have made it, and you think you can upset it, I can only say, you know your course; the law is equally open to you as to me. I tell you plainly I shall take the will to a solicitor at Kinton to-morrow and get it proved at once; and you can take whatever steps may seem to you fitting. At present I decline to hold any further communication with you.'

I was almost speechless, as much with rage at the cool way in which I was turned out, as at the disappointment I felt both for Ellen and myself; but, seeing nothing could be done, I left the room, beckoning Ellen to follow me.

'This is a severe blow,' I said when we were alone; 'and I am very sorry for you.'

'Don't say that dear: I too am sorry; for it is a severe and totally unexpected blow; so inexplicable too. But my sorrow is more for you than myself. You will have to take me now as an almost penniless girl, instead of the rich heiress you were led to expect.'

'Oh, my darling, you know I shall only be too pleased to have you, rich or poor; but do you not think it would be well for you to leave this house and take apartments in the village, until I can arrange for our marriage? It is not likely you will be very comfortable here.'

'Nay; I do not quite see the necessity for that. Charles will not

turn me out; he was never unkind, though wild and, I am afraid, wicked. But dear, is it not too soon after uncle's death to talk of our marriage?'

'I know what you mean, Ellen; you think "What will the world say?" Well, under ordinary circumstances, I should not urge it; but these are not ordinary circumstances. You have no home here but on sufferance, and so the sooner you come to mine the better.'

'Well, we will talk of that to-morrow, when we have had a little time to think.'

I bade her good-night, for in truth I wanted a little time to think. That Mr Russel had really made another will totally altering the disposal of his property, I could not believe; his whole conduct and conversation forbade it, and yet how else explain the will as it was read that afternoon? To be sure he might have done so, without saying anything to me about it; but I could not bring myself to think so.

When I retired to rest, I fell asleep, no nearer a solution. The last thing I remember was that I determined to go to Kinton the first thing in the morning and consult Mr Sparks, a legal friend of mine. This resolution I duly carried into effect, and luckily found him at his office and disengaged. After the usual greetings and a little ordinary conversation, I opened the subject uppermost in my mind; and that he might clearly understand it, I gave a detailed account of my connection with the Russel family. I recounted the old man's affection for his niece, and the confidence he reposed in me; and then narrated the incidents of the interview in which Mr Russel showed me the will and its contents. I then dwelt upon the death, funeral, and reading of the will; the contents of which were so totally different from what I had expected. This done, I asked his advice and opinion.

'As to my opinion,' he said, 'I must have time to consider; but my advice is, that you leave the matter in my hands for a few days and I will see his solicitor and examine the will myself. I suppose there is no question of the validity of the signature? Who were the witnesses?'

'Their names are James Dobson and William Green.'

'Ah! Well, come to me three days, and bring then with you; or if they cannot come, bring a specimen of their handwriting. By-the-by, who were the witnesses of the will which you read in the presence of the old gentleman?'

'Unfortunately, I cannot remember.'

'That's a pity; still, it does not matter much. The chances are that Mr Russel had the same men, and you can easily find out if they witnessed his signature at two different times; or if not, Cottam is not such a large place that it would be difficult to find out if any other two men ever acted as witnesses.'

'Then you think two wills were really made?'

'Why, what else can I think? You yourself saw one, and another was produced.'

'But could not the one I saw be altered?'

'Ah! that is an exceedingly difficult matter, and almost certain to be detected. Besides, who was to do it? You say it was kept in a secret receptacle, known only to Mr Russel and yourself; so that it really does seem to me on the face of it that he changed his mind, and made another will some time between his conversation with you and his death. The old will he would doubtless destroy at the same time. But leave the matter in my hands, and I will look into it.'

As this was all that could be done, I took my leave, and returned to Cottam. The next day I sought out Dobson and Green and as they could not go to Kinton, I asked them to give me a specimen of their usual signature. They both remembered witnessing Mr. Russel's signature to a paper; but neither had done so more than once. With this information I waited upon Mr Sparks at the time appointed. He was ready to receive me, and entered upon the matter at once.

'I have seen the will,' he said, 'and I am bound to say it seems correct in every particular—not a sign of an erasure or alteration in any part. Everything is written in the clear concise style for which Mr. Russel was so noted. We lawyers of Kinton have had many opportunities of seeing wills made by the same hand, and I for one have no doubt that the one shown me is the genuine work of Mr. Russel. Whether it was made before or after the one you say you saw, is another question, which can only be decided by the production of—what I may style—your will, if still in existence. Until you can produce that, I see no help for it but to let things take their course.'

'But can we not oppose the proving of the will?' I said with some heat, not being pleased at the idea of giving up the fight so easily.

'My dear sir, I should only be too happy to enter a caveat for you, or rather in the name of Miss Saunders, for you can have no standing in the matter, not being of kin or a legatee; but what should we gain unless we can support it in a court of law? and I confess at present I see no grounds to act upon. We cannot say on account of undue influence, when, by our own showing, all the influence, if any, was on the other side. Nor can we bring evidence to prove that Mr. Russel was incapable of making a will; the very clearness and precision of it prove that he was.'

'But,' I still persisted, 'what do you make of the will which I read with Mr. Russel's sanction and in his presence?'

'Well, in truth I cannot make anything of it. Produce it, and I daresay I shall do better. But I'll tell you what I think an opposing counsel would say. He would first say that doubtless Mr. Russel altered his mind, made another will, and put it in the desk without telling you. Or he might suggest that you read it after dinner, possibly after sundry glasses of wine; and that, in fact, you misread it, reversing the names, the "wish being father to the thought".'

'Then is there no side on which we can attack it?'

'No; I am afraid not; and I am too much your friend to advise



you to take proceedings in law with no better ground than you have. We might perhaps say that the purport of the will is against the weight of evidence as to his intentions: but what proof have we that it is so? Principally his conversations with you; and it would certainly be pointed out that your evidence could hardly be disinterested, as it is well known that you are engaged to the niece, the other devisee. Besides, a man's intentions are very difficult to gauge; what he intends to-day, he may *not* intend to-morrow. No; my friend. This plea, as against a will so properly drawn up and executed as this is, would count as absolutely nothing. Moreover, it is counterbalanced by the plea set up by the nephew, that most probably his uncle, when looking over his papers, and finding that said nephew was not so guilty as was thought, had taken this means of making amends. Again, his nephew bearing the same name as himself, he may have wished to perpetuate it in a much more effectual manner than would be done by leaving his property to a niece, who was about to marry an alien to his blood. I have more than once known such considerations have much weight.

Plausible as all this sounded, I neither could nor would believe it, although it was evident that Mr. Sparks' faith in *my* will, as he called it, was very considerably shaken. However, seeing no help for it, I was obliged to submit; and this is how my wife's inheritance was lost.

(To be continued.)

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XLIII.

#### PARTING.

Yoritomo was not left long in ignorance of his agent's fate. So far as the immediate object of his mission was concerned Friar Tosa had failed completely, but his success can never have been really anticipated at Kamakura, and for the rest the circumstances of his death furnished Yoritomo with the pretext he desired. If the friar had fallen in the attack on the castle of Horikawa no possible exception could have been taken to his punishment, but his execution by Yoshitsune's order after he had confessed himself Yoritomo's envoy, was a fact capable of more than one construction. Yoritomo, giving it the interpretation that suited his own convenience, declared his brother an open rebel and despatched a force of sixty thousand men to destroy him.

Would Yoshitsune take the field against this army or would he await its onset in the capital? His dashing habit of warfare seemed to predict the former course, but on the other hand both strategic and political considerations recommended the latter. At Kiyoto he might certainly count on the support of every knight and noble within reach—not those alone who loved him for his own sake but those also who would be constrained to make common cause with the guardian of the place—while the emperor himself would have no choice but to lend his support to the man by whose prowess peace had been restored to the country, and its dignity to the crown. In the provinces, on the other hand, the chances of accord and alienation were about equally balanced. Those who might be attracted by the reputation of achievement would not be more numerous than those swayed by the reality of power, and after all Yoritomo, holding the emperor's commission of Lord High Constable, was in effect the executive sovereign of Japan.

It was thus that men discussed the chances of the coming campaign in the winter of the year 1185. The prospect was a terrible one under any aspect, for with Yoshitsune in the field it was difficult to anticipate defeat or even repulse, while with Yoritomo opposed to him, it was impossible to expect submission. All the horrors of a protracted war were again in store for the unhappy people, and in this respect it seemed a matter of little moment whether the white or the red pennon was triumphant.

But there was one contingency omitted from this desponding forecast; a contingency that appeared incredible until it had become an accomplished fact.

Yoshitsune receiving unequivocal evidence of his brother's intentions, desired permission to lay a petition at the emperor's feet. Plainly he was about to solicit the Imperial sanction for his just cause, and the right of summoning all loyal knights to his standard. This was of course a preliminary that everyone had foreseen, but still, as the first step in the impending struggle, its result was observed with keen anxiety.

Yoshitsune was introduced to the palace by his step-father and staunch friend the Lord Treasurer. He was

asked no question about his designs nor yet about the purpose of his visit. Both seemed sufficiently plain and indeed the exact course to be pursued by the Court had been already determined, not without discussion, since Yoritomo's interests were powerfully represented at Kiyoto, but still with sufficient unanimity to shew distinctly in which direction the balance of sympathy swayed. Yoshitsune too, was not ignorant of the disposition he might expect to find. He knew that the success of his petition was already assured, whatever might be its nature, and certainly the knowledge was not calculated to modify his demands. Let him be ever so loyally disposed towards his brother, or ever so loyal to their common cause, neither patience nor devotion is without limit, and though the wrongs he had suffered might not suffice to provoke him, the prospect of their redress could scarcely fail to do so. It would be difficult therefore to find anything more admirable in his career than his conduct under these circumstances. Instead of seeking the Imperial commission to punish his brother's injustice and treachery, he announced his intention of retiring at once from Kiyoto. The people had already been more than sufficiently harassed by the feuds of their rulers, and since no common principle was involved in this new struggle, it was not fitting that it should be the cause of any common suffering. His own death was the one object of his enemies and he was resolved that others should not be unnecessarily sacrificed for his sake. This visit to the palace was not then for the purpose of claiming the support of his fellow-nobles, but merely to take leave of his sovereign, and the only request he had to prefer was, that his memory might be guarded from the imputation of rebellion.

Such magnanimity was indeed rare in those times of selfish feud and ambitious contention, so rare that men refused to credit its reality until the day that witnessed Yoshitsune's departure from among them. Thousands had declared themselves ready to follow his pennon wherever he might lead, but he resolutely declined any escort save that of his own tried liegemen, a little band of five and twenty knights. These, with the troops of his uncle Yukiyo who shared his flight, made a total of about five hundred swords, and since to be weak is to invite attack, there seemed but little probability that the fugitives would reach the sea-coast alive. Twice indeed they were assailed on their way; for not a few barons were fain to establish a claim on the Lord High Constable's gratitude by destroying his now apparently helpless foe, but they easily dispersed these half-hearted opponents, and passing southward struck the beach near the mouth of the river Yedo at the same place where Yoshitsune had embarked on the eve of the battle of Dan no Ura.

Here ships sufficient to contain the whole force had been prepared and in the largest of these Yoshitsune himself with his liegemen embarked. Their destination was the Island of the Nine Provinces on the extreme South of Japan, but they had scarcely gained the open sea when a furious gale springing up drove them hither and thither a day and a night, so that at dawn on the following morning they found themselves on an unknown shore, only three of the vessels remaining together, and these so disabled that to continue the voyage immediately was out of the question. Their first desire was, of course, to discover where they were, and with this aim Benkei landed and made his way towards a little village of salt-burners' hovels that lay a few furlongs inland. The sun had not yet climbed high enough, however, to rouse the inmates of the hamlets, and finding none to answer his inquiries, Benkei pushed on towards, a temple, where the booming of a matin bell seemed to promise more success. Here beside the portal that marked the entrance to the avenue of the shrine, he found an old man seated as if in expectation of his coming. The bitter cold of the early winter's morning seemed to have no effect upon this loiterer. A single garment was wrapped loosely about his body, leaving his legs and arms almost entirely exposed, and over his head he had drawn a hood of silk crape, intended rather to conceal his features than to protect them from the frosty air. Benkei indeed, being entirely bent upon obtaining the information he desired, did not remark these details at the moment. He saw only that the other's stature was even more in excess of the common than his own, and that he carried a pair of colossal swords in his girdle, while for the rest his mien and bearing were so little calculated to invite confidence, that the glaivesman was about to pass him by without inquiry, when to his astonishment the old man addressed him by his name:—



"You need go no further in search of tidings, Benkei, no further. This is the province of Setsu and the place where your ships lie is called Sumiyoshi. It was an evil wind that blew you hither, for in the bay beyond yonder headland are anchored thirty galleys full of armed men whose leaders seek your chief's life, the leaders of the thirty galleys. Stout warriors though you be, you would do well, I ween, to turn your prows seaward again, for these are heavy odds, five hundred to four-score; very heavy odds."

Benkei, bewildered beyond the power of speech by the other's unaccountable knowledge of himself and his concerns, stood hesitating whether to obey at once, or to seek more accurate information from one evidently so capable of affording it, when the old man rose from his seat and stretching out his long sinewy arm in the direction of the salt-burners' hamlets, said, somewhat impatiently:—

"They are not wise who loiter when warned to be alert; not wise by any means. If your master hesitate to follow my counsel, tell him it comes from one with whom he kept trust twenty years ago among the ruins of the Dragon God's shrine. You too may find in that reminiscence some reason to be more trusting."

Now Benkei had heard from Yoshitsune all the story of his early life and of the strange fencing master whose acquaintance he had formed in the Valley of the Spring Blossoms. He therefore bowed his head in respectful acknowledgment of this service, and retraced his steps with all speed to the ships, convinced that the old man's suggestion could not be carried out too soon.

Yoshitsune also, when he received the glaivesman's account of what had passed, did not fail to recognize his well-remembered fencing master of the ruined shrine in this white-haired giant who had appeared so opportunely. He therefore issued orders for immediate departure, observing that the wind which had driven them shoreward with such violence was now blowing steadily in the opposite direction.

But here an unexpected difficulty presented itself. The falling of the tide had left the ships firm aground and all the sailor's efforts to get them afloat proved inadequate, there was nothing for it, therefore, but to wait quietly in their places. Between the city and the shore they had already encountered and overcome an enemy not less strong than these men of Setsu, and for the rest they were so accustomed to be victorious that the idea of defeat was slow to present itself.

Three hours before noon the hostile galleys hove in sight. Their numbers and equipment showed that the old man's estimate had not been excessive, but the shallow water prevented them from coming within bowshot. Their inmates were obliged to land and conduct the attack from the shore, where they found Yoshitsune and the flower of his knights waiting to receive them.

The fight lasted but a very short time. To be outnumbered seemed only to give renewed strength to the followers of the white pennon, and with scarcely any loss to themselves they utterly routed their foes, killing or capturing their principal leaders. The victory was indeed so signal that it carried with it assurance of immunity from fresh attacks for the present at any rate, and Yoshitsune resolved to seek a sanctuary among the mountains of Setsu, rather than by proceeding southwards to subject his followers to unnecessary dangers on his own account, and, at the same time carry disturbance into provinces, which had enjoyed so short a respite from the miseries of war.

This resolution once taken was acted upon without delay. That night the Genji men remained in their ships, and landing at daybreak the following morning, turned their faces towards the distant hills. Having started from the capital with the idea of finding a permanent asylum in the Island of the Nine Provinces, many of them were accompanied by their wives and families. From these they were now constrained to part, and provision of suitable escorts to guard the women on their several ways so reduced the numbers of the already scanty band, that Yoshitsune ultimately found himself at the head of only a score and a-half of knights. He had not yet been able to endure the idea of separating from Shidzuka. Her love was associated with all the triumphant reminiscences of his life, and for this reason no less than for her own sake, he clung to her with a yearning not easily overcome. The girl herself, too, prayed so passionately for permission to accompany him, that even more cogent considerations must have yielded to her instance, and not one of his knights saw

any just cause to gainsay the entreaties of the saviour of the castle of Horikawa.

Dismounting from their horses at the foot of the mountain of Yoshino, they commenced the steep ascent on foot. The snow lay piled in deep masses on either side of the narrow path, or slipping from the trees overhead produced the only sound that disturbed the deathlike stillness of the glens. Yoshitsune no longer occupied his accustomed place at the head of his liegemen. He had ceded that post to Washino-O, the young hunter of the valley of Ichi, and now not the least renowned among the knights of the white pennon. The object of this change was sufficiently apparent, and certainly these veteran soldiers did not love their leader the less because they saw him yield for once to the impulse of his heart and place himself beside the fair girl who had proved herself so worthy of his affection.

Shidzuka was indeed supporting the fatigues of the journey with a fortitude that elicited many exclamations of admiration from her stalwart companions. Slight and delicately formed as the snow flakes upon which she trod, neither the bitter wind that drove the raw air against her pale face, nor the treacherous drifts that so often engulfed her tiny feet, had as yet wrung from her the smallest evidence of suffering or weariness. Benkei, whose huge frame covered a heart as tender as a child's, often offered to support her on her way, and in truth it would have cost the giant but a slight effort to take her up bodily and carry her in his arms across the steepest passes of the mountain, but she refused his aid with an almost terrified denial of its necessity. The agonizing dread of separation from the man she loved made her completely insensible to all physical suffering, and gave her force to overcome difficulties that cost Yoshitsune himself no small effort.

They had made their way after this fashion far into the heart of the mountains, when they reached a point where the road widened into a plateau overhanging a deep gorge on one side, and overhung by a precipitous cliff on the other. Here stood a rustic shrine scarcely sheltering the stone images it contained from rain and rime, and beyond it, under the shadow of two stunted pine trees, a massive portal marked the entrance to the sacred recesses of the hills. Before this portal the little band of knights halted as if by common consent. No word was spoken and for a moment the silence was only broken by Shidzuka's smothered sobbing, for she knew that beyond this point the foot of woman had never passed, nor might ever pass so long as the fear of the gods made their mandates powerful in Japan.

Presently Yoshitsune coming closer to her side said:—"Shidzuka, we must part here. If our passage were barred by any lesser obstacle than the curse of heaven, I think we had found means to remain together a little longer, but it may not be. I do not seek to hide from you the pain this parting causes me, nor indeed might I at all endure it had I not a certain hope of seeing your face again in happier times whether on this side of the grave or beyond it, for I know that you will be faithful to my memory whatever fate may have in store for us. What your love has been to me I need not seek to tell you now, but if haply you should think at any future moment that these my words of farewell were too brief or too cold, I pray you then to believe that such as they are, they cost me more to speak than I dare again deem it within the limit of my strength to suffer."

Shidzuka did not venture to look up while Yoshitsune spoke. Her ear alone detected in his voice that almost imperceptible tremor which like the quivering of the pine-spray gives notice of the coming storm, and much as she yearned to see his face once again before they parted, she dared not raise her eyes to his lest his manhood should be to put to shame in the presence of his knights and liegemen. Little by little she had sank down upon the snow, and kneeling there with her face buried in her hands, she strove in vain to curb the throes of grief that convulsed her. Presently she was conscious that Yoshitsune gave some directions to his followers, and then turning he addressed to her the last words she was destined ever to hear his voice utter:—

"I were most unhappy, Shidzuka, did I doubt that in this interval of separation your thoughts will be often with me as mine own shall be with you. I leave you therefore this mirror in which my features have been reflected morning and evening since my boyhood. There is indeed neither trace nor cloud upon its surface now, yet I know well that looking into it, your love will have strength to recall the image its

brightness has so often made visible. Thus, perchance, at morn or eve our hearts may be enabled to hold commune with each other, across this space the will of the Gods has judged it fit to place between us."

For one instant Shidzuka felt her husband's lingering touch as he placed the mirror in her hand, and the next, raising her tear-blurred eyes, she saw him pass with lowered head under the sacred portal. She sprang to her feet and in the delirium of her grief would have called upon his name or even followed him at all hazards, but strength and sense alike failing her, the sad comfort of unconsciousness came to her aid.

When she recovered from her swoon the red rays of the setting sun were almost level with the western hill-tops. She found herself lying within the road-side shrine, at the entrance of which five men sat cowering over a fire of pine boughs and withered twigs. Three of these were men-at-arms totally unknown to Shidzuka, and the other two, knights whom she remembered to have seen among Yoshitsune's followers after they left the ships. They were in fact the escort her husband had appointed to guide her to Kiyoto, and seeing her again in possession of her senses, they asked whether she desired to set out at once, or whether she would prefer to remain in the shrine until daylight.

Shidzuka felt that her strength was completely exhausted, and that without rest she could not possibly support the fatigues of a journey through the snow, but on the other hand she reflected that a protracted stay in the shrine might be the means of betraying the direction her husband had taken. This thought gave her a feverish energy which she mistook for restored force, and she therefore signified her readiness to commence the descent forthwith.

At first the return journey did not present any serious difficulty. The path though steep was sufficiently lighted by the moon-beams, and a sharp frost had already hardened the surface of the snow drifts, so that they easily supported Shidzuka's light weight. But on the other hand she was no longer borne up by the hope that had before made her unconscious of toil or suffering, and by degrees her weary limbs became more and more incapable of obeying her volition. Her companions rendered her what aid they might, but the path was so narrow that two could not walk abreast, and thus after a time, though every step caused her almost unendurable anguish, she saw that the patience of her escort was well nigh exhausted.

Just then they reached a group of tall pine trees, and one of the knights proposed that Shidzuka should rest there for a time, while they themselves went in search of some shelter for the night. At this rate of progression, he said, the daylight would find them still wandering among the mountains, and he believed that in the recess of a neighbouring valley there was a temple where they might hope to receive hospitality.

To this suggestion Shidzuka offered no objection. Utter weariness of mind and body had rendered her indifferent to everything, and though she remembered afterwards that she thought it strange the five men should leave her entirely alone at such a time and in such a place, she had neither strength nor wish at the moment to remonstrate.

She must have fallen into a sort of stupor where she sat, for when the intense cold recalled her to a sense of her position, the moon was high in the sky and she knew that some hours had passed since her companions left her. Still she could not immediately credit the fact that they had wilfully deserted her. It was sufficiently terrible to find herself alone at midnight among solitudes scarcely ever disturbed by the foot of man, without the miserable thought that the knights chosen by her husband to protect her had scarcely proved a moment faithful to their charge. Others there were indeed at his side on whom he might rely even as confidently as upon himself, but if five had so easily consented to be false, how many could be certainly counted incorruptible? It was characteristic of Shidzuka's great love that, even in that moment of extreme peril, this reflection caused her more anguish than the hopelessness of her own condition.

She rose painfully to her feet and listened for a moment in the vain hope that the footsteps or voices of her returning companions would rescue her from the terror she felt gradually stealing upon her. But neither from the distant darkness where the frost fogs brooded, nor yet from the pallid wastes of snowy hill and hollow that stretched away on every side, did there come to her ear any sound save the fitful clashing

of the sapless pine branches overhead as they shivered at the touch of the icy wind. Conscious that another moment's inaction would deprive her of the power of reasoning, she forced her numb limbs to reluctant obedience, and creeping out from the shadow of the pines, began to ascend a hill that rose abruptly from the margin of the grove. She reached the summit with infinite pain, and stood for a moment gazing breathlessly into the dark shadows that seemed to creep hither and thither like shapeless monsters among the windings of the valleys. Nowhere could she discern any light or sign of life, and this immensity of solitude became presently so unendurable, that she hastened frantically back to the companionship of the pine trees, avoiding even the traces her own feet had left in the snow, as though they offered some fresh evidence of her solitude.

What was she now to do? All her sense of weariness had vanished, and every event of her journey both before and after Yoshitsune's farewell came back to her mind with marvellous distinctness, but of the path she had traversed in the ascent she could recall nothing. To return by it would be a hopeless attempt, while to lie down under the shadow of the pines and await the insensibility to suffering this piercing cold must soon induce, though it seemed to her the most welcome course, would be at the same time finally to abandon her still cherished hope of seeing Yoshitsune's face once more before she died. She stood for a few moments irresolute, watching the moon as with mocking placidity it threaded its way among the stars, careless of all the tearful eyes that were turned towards it from the lands it illumined. She had lost her sandals in her headlong descent from the hill, and the jagged heaps of frozen snow had wounded her tender feet so sorely that her blood stained the ground on which she stood; but of this she took no heed, for despair was fast deadening her heart to everything that concerned life and time. Here among these lonely mountains and beyond the reach of all human sympathy she was doomed to say farewell to the world love had rendered so dear, nor dare she even hope to win a resting place in some quiet cemetery where the hand whose parting touch still seemed to linger on her own, might one day perchance strew flowers on her not untended grave. Was it possible that the great gods should suffer such things to be; the gods who had made her husband the most peerless knight and the most blameless noble in all Japan? She lifted up her voice and in a passion of grief invoked Yoshitsune's aid. Immediately from vast places among the mountains and caverns and in dark ravines, a thousand weird echoes caught up the sound and banded it about hither and thither, sometimes in accents of fierce strength, sometimes in prolonged whispers of hate and treachery, until Shidzuka was overwhelmed by the appalling fancy that she had betrayed her husband and that by every path among the hills his enemies, guided by her indiscretion, were rushing on to his destruction.

She turned and forgetting everything in her anxiety to undo this mischief, set herself to reascend the mountain with headlong rapidity. Staggering and at first scarcely able to follow the path—for the cold had already begun to do its cruel work—she still found sufficient strength to abate nothing of her speed until she reached the plateau of the sacred portal, but there—as though heaven had interposed to prevent the sacrilege of her passage—the memory of her desertion and of the things that had subsequently befallen her came back in all its grievous reality. At the feet of the stone images within the shrine, she saw the still smouldering embers of the fire her false-hearted guides had kindled, and visited once more by some feeble hope of refuge or rescue, she crept into the presence of the un pitying gods and with a half uttered prayer upon her lips, lay down to wait for the dawn.

(To be continued.)

## LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship; flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

## ACROSTIC.

Out hideous object! wherefore at my door,  
Stand moping, mowing, howling, "want some more!"  
More thought to engulge from my wearied brain:  
O'er wrought endeavours further still to strain!  
Take these scrawled sheets, and vanish from my sight;  
Nor venture near my presence more to night!  
In vain the mandate. 'Tis too well I know  
Another of the species, Oh! Oh!! Oh!!!

1.

Often in glade a bough or bole is found,  
Of aspect picturesque perhaps unsound.

2.

An adjective quite frequently employed  
Of things much sought for, but not oft enjoyed.

3.

Some poet, I believe, of this has said  
It makes the ruin upon which it fed.

4.

To us, in Italy, it has seemed funny,  
So much disposed of for so little money.

5.

Oft in the silent night my tranquil rest  
Has been swift broken by this cause unblest.

QUAM.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF MAR. 28TH, BY "JUMBUCK."

<i>Courtship</i>		<i>Matrimony.</i>
*C	airgor	M
O	v	A
U	l	T.
R	ubbe	R
†T		I
S	unbea	M
H	idalg	O
I		N
P	erapicuit	Y

No correct answers received.

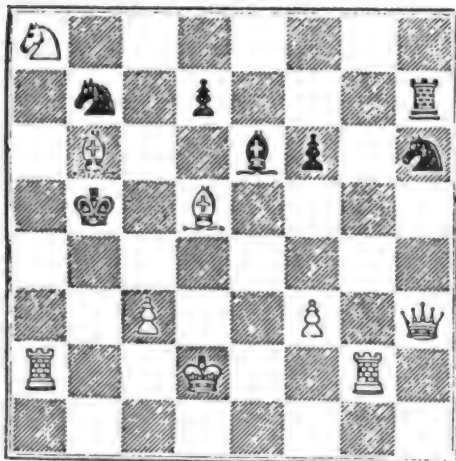
\* In a skene dhu.

† "It" reversed.

## CHESS PROBLEM,

By J. G. C.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF MAR. 20TH, BY F. Healey.

White.

1.—R. to Q. 8.  
2.—Q. to R. 6.  
3.—mates.

Black.

1.—R. takes R.  
2.—Any.

Correct answer received from Q.

## YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
7.0	8.15	9.30	10.45	12.0	2.0	3.15	4.30	5.45	7.0	8.15

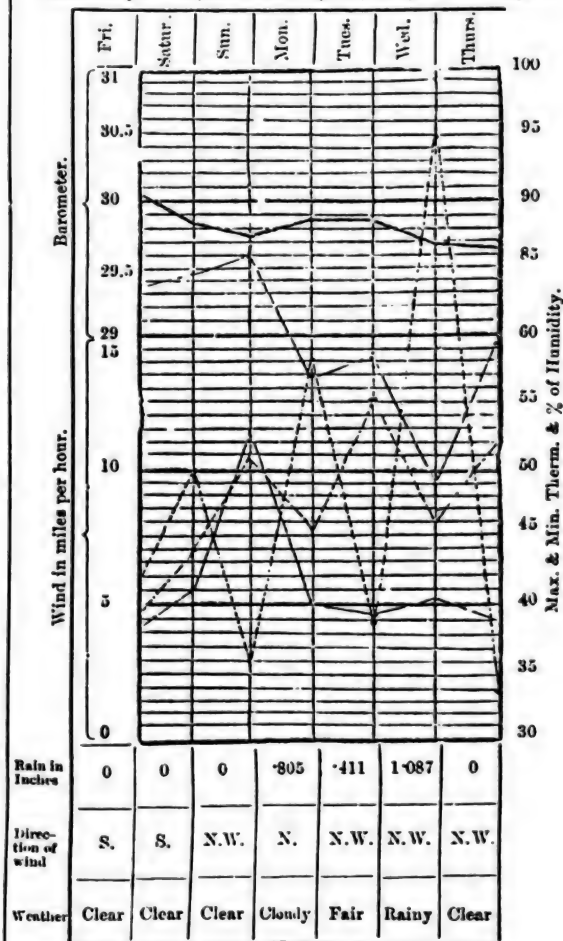
UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
7.0	8.15	9.30	10.45	12.0	2.0	3.15	4.30	5.45	7.0	8.15

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 26TH, 1880.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. &amp; min. thermometers.

Dashed line—represents velocity of wind

.....percentage of humidity

Max. velocity of wind 28 miles per hour on Thursday, at 3 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.079 inches on Friday at 7 a.m.—and the lowest was 29.415 inches on Wednesday at 10 p.m., the range being .664 inches. An unusually low barometer has prevailed during the week. The fluctuation in temperature has been considerable. A total of 2.303 inches of rain fell during the week.

## NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 3rd April, 1880.)

	Discount on Yen Sat.			Gold Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Subsidiary (Aer.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old)
	A. M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1880.							
Monday.....Mar. 29	47 1/2	47 1/2	48 1/2	380	326	113	102
Tuesday....."	30	49	49 1/2	—	—	—	—
Wednesday....."	31	49 1/2	48 1/2	—	—	—	—
Thursday.....April 1	48 1/2	48 1/2	47 1/2	—	—	—	—
Friday....."	2	46 1/2	47 1/2	—	—	—	—
Saturday....."	3	—	—	—	—	—	—

## TELEGRAPH REPORT.

(Corrected to 9 a.m.)

All lines in working order.



## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

Mar. 28, French steamer *Tanais*, De la Marcelle, 1,735, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.  
 Mar. 28, British steamer *Malacca*, Seaton, 1,709, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.  
 Mar. 28, Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Steadman, 661, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 28, American ship *Columbia*, Furnell, 1,490, from New York, Oil, &c., to R. Isaacs and Brother.  
 Mar. 29, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,260, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 30, American steamer *City of Peking*, Morse, 5,079, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. M. Co.  
 Mar. 30, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 1,042, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 30, Japanese steamer *Tamama Maru*, Carrew, 558, from the North, General, to M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 30, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 1, Japanese schooner *Aoyahima Maru*, Cheetham, 660, from Nagasaki, Coals, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 1, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 597, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 1, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,200, from Shanghai and way ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 1, British barque, *Crossfeld*, Ewart, 774, from London, General, to M. Raspe.  
 April 2, Japanese steamer *Kiushin Maru*, Davidson, 690, from Yokkaichi, General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 3, American Whaling barque *Rainbow*, Cogan, 351, from Bonin Islands, 75 Barrels Oil and Whaling Gear, to Captain.

## PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer *Tanais* from Hongkong:—Mrs. Livingstone and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Elwell, Messrs. Dueret, Takoshima, Tsuchiya, and Noshima.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Lieutenant and Mrs. Cowles, Mrs. Halcomb, Miss Hudson, Mrs. J. J. Henderson and child, Mr. and Mrs. Hellyer and 2 children, Mrs. Aldrich, Mrs. Porter, Messrs. Casill, Bogel, F. Reid, J. Reid, Hartley, Lieut. Freeman, R.N., Lieut. Behr, I.R.N., Messrs. R. T. Reunite, H. Kniffier, C. D. Bottemley, J. Russell, A. W. Glennie, T. Brewer, F. A. Cope, J. Gorham, W. Heise, D. Reynolds, Dr. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Nagasaka, Miss Nodake, Messrs. Sakagami, Idsumiya, Terashima, Murai, Kamiyo, O. Smith, and Miwa; 4 Europeans, 165 Japanese and 9 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Malacca* from Hongkong:—Miss Leslie and Mr. Fraser from Southampton. From Hongkong: Acheong and child, Ah Tye, Ah Kun, 2 Chinese women, Ah Pye, 14 Chinese and 1 boy.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* from Hongkong:—Messrs. F. V. Whitney and J. Gillingham in cabin; and 3 in steerage. For San Francisco: Messrs. F. A. Miller, U.S.N., F. J. Sprague, U.S.N., W. C. Caulfield, U.S.N., A. S. Rogers, U.S.N., Jno. B. Quimby, U.S.N., J. H. Hetherington, U.S.N., C. N. Atwater, U.S.N., J. W. Ryan, U.S.N., H. Woodin, H. O'Neil, H. Greenough, R. Blackwell, Rev. J. N. Plum, Mrs. Plum, 2 children, Rev. J. B. Blakely, Mrs. Blakely, 3 children and Lieut. Drummond, R.E. in cabin; 2 Europeans and 516 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—1 European, 8 Chinese and 45 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and way ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Illies and 2 children, H. E. Chevalier Hoffman de Hoffenfels, Prince Date, Prince Nabeshima, Prince Senke, Messrs. J. C. Smith, F. Marty, H. W. Martiu, E. C. Kirby, A. Platt, Funakoshi, Kaufmann, Tazuki, Grangier, Tronchin, Chin Kai San, and Ten Sen in cabin; 170 Japanese and 5 Chinese in steerage.

## OUTWARDS.

Mar. 28, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christensen, 1,343, for Nagasaki, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 28, American ship *Centennial*, Bearse, 1,287, for Kobe, General.  
 Mar. 29, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 524, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 30, British barque *West Glen*, Thompson, 699, for Kobe, General, despatched by L. Kniffier & Co.  
 Mar. 30, British barque, *Alexander Joss*, 342 for Nagasaki, General, despatched by Walsh, Hall & Co.  
 Mar. 30, British schooner *Floral Star*, Davison, 244, for Newchang, despatched by Chinese.  
 Mar. 31, American sloop *Alert*, Com. Huntington, 1,050, 4 guns, for Kobe.  
 Mar. 31, Japanese steamer, *Tsuruga Maru*, Steadman, 661, for Kobe, Mails and General, M. B. Co.  
 Mar. 31, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,260, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 April 1, Japanese steamer *Akiohima Maru*, Frahm, 1,146, for Nagasaki, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 April 1, American steamer *City of Peking*, Berry, 5,079, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.  
 April 3, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Long, Mme. Uyeno, Miss Morota, Miss Tani, Mrs. Kasano, Messrs. R. S. Sloan, Uyeno, Konoki, L. L. Folies, Soga, Yebihara, Notori, Kasano, W. A. Thorn, C. S. Bland, F. D'Ifanger, M. Baring, Miimi, Ishiro, Mikami, Kawano, Miyoshi, Isaacs, Imai, Komaki, Tamura, Uchida, Milne, Dr. Divers, and Mrs. Uyeno Yuki.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* for San Francisco:—For Europe: Mrs. P. Aldrich, Lieut. J. H. Freeman, R. N., Messrs. Thos. Wood, C. J. Stewart, J. Russell, and C. D. Bottomley. For San Francisco and New York: H. E. Yoshida (Minister to Washington), Mrs. Yoshida, 2 children, and maid, Messrs. Tanaka and Hoshigushi (Secretaries of Legation), J. R. Randall, R. P. Francis, De Sta Marina, E. V. Gates, G. Purcell, C. R. Crane, Geo. Sly, J. F. Hoare, Allen Gilmore, jun., W. C. Gaspar, H. Kawase, T. Kida, W. G. Aspland, Geo. Coates, Theodore Lullin, Suzuki, Ito Toyomon, F. P. Whitney, F. Reid, W. B. Griffiths, Mrs. Henderson and child, Mrs. Porter, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Webb, 3 children and servant, Mrs. F. Hellyer and 2 children, Judge Caton, Mrs. Caton and maid, Mr. and Mrs. Caton, Mrs. Holcomb, Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Unger, Mrs. Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Elwell and child, Dr. Fitzsimmons, U.S.N., Lieut. Cowles, U.S.N., and wife, Capt. Thompson, Rev. J. N. Blakely, wife and three children, Rev. J. N. Plum, wife and two children, Lieut. Drummond, R. E., Messrs. H. Woodin, H. Greenough, R. Blackwell, H. O. Neil, F. A. Miller, U.S.N., J. J. Sprague, U.S.N., W. C. Caulfield, U.S.N., A. S. Rogers, U.S.N., C. B. Quimby, U.S.N., J. H. Hetherington, U.S.N., C. N. Atwater, U.S.N., J. W. Ryan, U.S.N.; and 17 Europeans and 516 Chinese in the steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Ahrens, Mr. and Mrs. Yamada, Miss Hachisuka, Messrs. Fujita, J. Gorham, Shinayama, and Hachisuka.

## CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure... .. \$ 4,990.00

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure... .. \$22,163.59

Per American steamer *City of Peking* for San Francisco:—

## TEA:

From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai.....	—	204	356	560
Nagasaki.....	—	—	842	842
Hiogo.....	—	6	164	170
Yokohama.....	1,358	306	2,125	3,791
Hongkong.....	—	—	—	—
Total.....	1,358	518	3,487	5,363

## SILK:

From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai.....	—	489	—	489
Hongkong.....	—	337	—	337
Yokohama.....	—	189	14	203
Total.....	—	1,015	14	1,029

## REPORTS.

The British steamer *Malacca* reports: Left Hongkong at 5.15 a.m. on the 21st March. Experienced very hard N. E. gales and high sea to Yokohama, thence to Shiowomisaki light variable winds and calms, thence to Rock Island fresh S. W. winds with heavy rain squalls with vivid lightning and thunder, thence fresh N. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama 28th 10 p.m.

The French steamer *Tanais* reports: Having experienced very heavy weather during the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru* reports: Left Kobe 28th inst. at 6.30 p.m. Experienced first part, east winds and fine weather; and latter part S. E. and N. W. winds with rain, thunder and lightning. Arrived at 10 a.m. on the 30th instant. Passage 40 hours.

The American steamer *City of Peking* reports: Left Hongkong March 23rd at 6 a.m. Had strong monsoons until 26th, with rough sea. Then moderate to Oosima. March 29th, hard gales from East to South with thunder and lightning. Arrived Yokohama March 30th.

The Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* reports: Left Hongkong 20th March and arrived at Kobe 27th, having experienced strong north easterly gale and very heavy sea during passage. Left Kobe 29th, strong westerly gales with much heavy southern sea and thunder and lightning.

The Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru* reports: Left Kobe 30th March at 7 p.m., arrived at Yokohama at 5 a.m. on the 1st instant. Experienced strong westerly gales and high sea throughout.

## YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

## LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.15, 1.30, and 4 P.M.

## LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—7.0 and 9.45 A.M. and 12 noon; 1.30 and 4 P.M.



## NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	April 9th <sup>o</sup>
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	April 8th†
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	April 17th
HONGKONG, via KORE .....	M. B. Co.	April 12th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	April 8th

\* Left San Francisco, 20th March, *City of Tokio*.

† Left Hongkong, 31st March, *Tulga*.

## NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	April 17th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	April 8th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	April 4th
YAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KORE .....	M. B. Co.	April 17th
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	April 11th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	April 7th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

## VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

## S A I L E D.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Oct. 7	Charlwood	LONDON	Yokohama
Jan. 10	Meath (s.s.)	"	"
" 14	Ullock	"	"
" 24	Flintshire (s.s.)	"	"
Feb. 2	Glencagles (s.s.)	"	"
" 3	Sestos (s.s.)	"	"
Nov. 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
Feb. 9	Scottish Fairy	"	"
Sept. 27	Clydesdale	NEW YORK	"
Oct. 3	Lucille	"	"
" 28	Bullion	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
" 21	Manuel Laguno	"	"
Dec. 1	Paul Rovers	"	"
" 29	Susan Gilmore	"	"
Jan. 9	Alice Buck	"	Hiogo
Nov. 8	Hesperia	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Dec. 18	Lydia (s.s.)	"	"
Jan. 18	River Lagun	"	"
Feb. 6	Cassandra (s.s.)	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Oct. 5	Wm. H. Marcy	PHILADELPHIA	Hiogo
" 26	Sea King	"	"
Nov. 10	H. H. McGilvery	"	Nagasaki
Dec. 20	Laertes (s.s.)	GREENOCK	"
Dec. 13	Bonauxa	SAN FRANCISCO	Hiogo

## LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Feb. 13	Matchless	LONDON	Yokohama
" 13	Sunbeam (s.s.)	"	"
" 13	Glencaloch (s.s.)	"	"
" 13	Glencoc (s.s.)	"	"
" 13	Harter (s.s.)	"	"
" 13	Guy Maunering (s.s.)	"	"
" 13	Radnorshire (s.s.)	"	"
" 13	Eilon Goodspeed	"	"
" 21	Ophelia	NEW YORK	"
" 21	Haze	"	"
" 13	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 13	Vale of Nith	"	"
" 13	Montgomeryshire (s.s.)	GLASGOW	"

## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.



## NIPPON RACE CLUB.

## SPRING MEETING, 1880.

## PROGRAMME.

## FIRST DAY.

No. 1.—Japan Ponies. *Bonâ fide* Griffins that have never run in a Race in Tokio or Yokohama. Five Furlongs.

No. 2.—Half-bred Ponies. *Bonâ fide* Griffins that have never run in a Race in Tokio or Yokohama. Five Furlongs.

No. 3.—China Ponies. One Mile.

No. 4.—Japan Ponies. One Mile.

No. 5.—Half-bred Ponies. Three-quarters of a Mile.

No. 6.—Japan and China Ponies. Three-quarters of a Mile.

No. 7.—Japan Ponies. Half a Mile.

No. 8.—Japan Ponies. Winner of No. 4 excluded. Three-quarters of a Mile.

## SECOND DAY.

No. 1.—Japan Ponies that have never won a Race in Tokio or Yokohama. Five Furlongs.

No. 2.—Half-bred Ponies. Half a Mile.

No. 3.—China Ponies. Winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra. One Mile and a quarter.

No. 4.—Japan Ponies. Half a Mile.

No. 5.—Japan Ponies. Winner of No. 4, first day, 7 lbs. extra. One Mile and a quarter.

No. 6.—China and Japan Ponies. Winner of No. 6, first day, excluded. Half a Mile.

No. 7.—Half-bred Ponies. Winner of No. 5, first day, 10 lbs. extra. One Mile.

No. 8.—Japan Ponies. Winners and non-competitors excluded. Three-quarters of a Mile.

## THIRD DAY.

No. 1.—Hurdle Race. China and Japan Ponies. Scale weights. Once round and a distance.

No. 2.—Japan Consolation. Five Furlongs.

No. 3.—Half-bred Consolation. Five Furlongs.

No. 4.—China Consolation. Once round.

No. 5.—Champion Stakes for Japan Ponies. One Mile.

No. 6.—China and Japan Handicap. Once round.

No. 7.—Half-bred Handicap. One Mile.

THE RACES WILL TAKE PLACE on or about the 26th, 27th, and 28th MAY; but fuller particulars will be published at an earlier date, as to measuring of ponies, closing of entries, and positive date of meeting.

BY ORDER.

Yokohama, 2nd April, 1880.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND RIG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 16 '79	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Hiroshima Maru	Haswell	Japanese steamer	1,200	Shanghai & ports	Apr. 1	M. B. Co.
Malacca	Seaton	British steamer	1,709	Hongkong	Mar. 29	P. & O. Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 13 '78	M. B. Co.
Tanaia	De la Marcollo	French steamer	1,733	Hongkong	Mar. 28	M. M. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	Mar. 13	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Columbia	Fumell	American ship	1,490	New York	Mar. 26	R. Isaacs and Brother
Crossfield	Ewart	British barque	774	London	Apr. 1	M. Raspe
G. Broughton	Clemenshaw	British barque	803	Antwerp	Mar. 12	Simon, Evers & Co.
Lady Bowen	Pain	British barque	891	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Mar. 26	Mollison, Fraser & Co.
L. J. Morse	Ames	American ship	1,300	New York	Mar. 26	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Lotte	Wilson	Dutch schooner	25	Kurile Islands	Sept. 27	Hohnholz & Co.
Merom	Lowell	American ship	1,200	New York	Mar. 11	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Otome	Jensen	Russian schooner	65	Nemuro	Feb. 9	Hohnholz & Co.
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
GERMAN.—Prinz Adalbert ... ..	11	3,995	4,800	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Maclean
RUSSIAN.—Abreck ... ..	8	1,069	300	Corvette	Vladivostok	Captain Schance

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ... ..	Tibre	M. M. Co.	April 4th at 7 a.m.
Hongkong ... ..	Malacca	P. & O. Co.	April 8th at noon.
Hongkong via Kobe ... ..	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	April 17th at 6 p.m.
San Francisco ... ..	Gaolic	O. & O. Co.	About April 17th.
Shanghai and way-ports ... ..	Hiroshima Maru	M. B. Co.	April 7th at 6 p.m.

## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—At a standstill and nearly all quotations nominal. Buyers disconcerted with the extreme depression in the currency. *Farm* stagnant. *Shirtings* no transactions. *Lawns* fair demand at current rates, other sorts neglected.

## COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$30.00 to \$3.50
„ „ Good to Best ... „	\$34.00 to \$7.50
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... „	\$31.00 to \$3.00
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... „	\$38.00 to \$4.00
„ „ Good to Best ... „	\$40.50 to \$1.50
„ 38 to 42 ... „	\$40.00 to \$2.00

## COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.65 to 1.95
„ „ 8½ lb. „ 38½ „ 39 in.	\$1.90 to 2.27½
„ „ 9 lb. „ 38½ „ 45 in.	\$2.20 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. „ 34 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.80
Drills, English: 14-15 lb. 40 „ 30 in.	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— „ 13 „ 44 in.	\$1.70 to 1.75
Prints:—Assorted „ 24 „ 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Satens Black 32 in.	\$0.11 to 0.14
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.62½
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 „ 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.82½
Do. 3 lb. „ 24 „ 30 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

## COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ... 35 „ 22 in. per piece	\$8.00 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns:— „ 12 „ 42/3 in.	\$0.85 to 0.88½
Taffelclases:— „ 12 „ 43 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

## WOOLLENS:—

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 yds. 32 in.	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Cord ... 29-30 yds. 22 in.	4.00 to 5.25
Mousseline de Jaines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajima 24 yds. 30 in.	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yamen 24 yds. 30 in.	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy ... 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.55 to 0.60
Union ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs.	0.38 to 0.41

SUGAR.—Stocks are about 15,000 piculs only, but Chinese are offering freely to contract at about \$4.30 @ 40 per picul. Tenders for spot cargo are only \$4.60 per picul.

KEROSENE.—The market is very quiet. Stocks are estimated at 450,000 cases.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... per picul...	\$4.57½ to \$4.60
Taiwanfoo in bag ... „	\$4.40 to \$4.55
Ohing-pak and Ke-pak ... „	\$8.00 to \$8.50
Ohina No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fah ... „	\$6.25 to \$8.00
Daitong ... „ per picul...	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... „	\$2.70 to \$2.90
Kerosene Oil ... „	\$1.60
Newchwang Peas ... „	\$2.20

## EXPORTS.

SILK.—During the past week our Silk market has on the whole remained very inanimate. We have had a trifle more business than in the week preceding and more especially as regards purchases for the American market, but all transactions do not after all exceed 230 shipping bales, and a general feeling of uncertainty and hesitation seems to prevail on the market.

Prices are to great extent nominal but for the first-class Silks, it is clear holders still insist on high rates.

Total shipments to date, 16,806 bales against 17,318 bales at the corresponding period last season.

	In London at 3/10 per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.		In London at 3/10. per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.85. per kilo.
Hanks,—Superior, nom...			Kakeda,—Extra .....	\$720 to 740 24/5 to 25/	frs. 68 00 to 69 25
„ Best .....	\$665 to 680 22/8 to 23/2	frs. 62 50 to 64 00	„ Best .....	\$670 to 690 22/10 to 23/6	frs. 62 80 to 64 50
„ Good .....	\$650 to 660 22/2 to 22/6	frs. 61 30 to 62 00	„ Good .....	\$610 to 650 21/ to 22/2	frs. 59 00 to 61 30
„ Good Medium .....	\$630 to 640 21/6 to 21/10	frs. 60 00 to 60 50	„ Common .....	\$770 to 790 26/ to 26/8	frs. 72 00 to 73 50
„ Medium .....	\$600 to 610 20/11 to 21/3	frs. 58 25 to 59 00	Filatures,—Extra .....	\$720 to 750 24/5 to 25/4	frs. 68 00 to 70 00
„ Common, In'r... ..	\$550 to 570 18/11 to 19/7	frs. 52 30 to 54 00	„ Best ...	\$660 to 700 22/6 to 23/9	frs. 62 00 to 65 25
Oshius,—Best .....	\$620 to 650 21/2 to 22/2	frs. 59 80 to 61 30	„ Good ...		
„ Medium .....	\$620 to 650 21/2 to 22/2	frs. 59 80 to 61 30	„ Med. & C'n ..		
Hamatski .....	\$580 to 610 19/11 to 21/00	frs. 54 80 to 59 00			

## EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight .....	3/9½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight .....	72½
„ Bank Bills on demand .....	3/9½	„ Private 10 days sight .....	73½
„ Private 4 months' sight .....	3/10½	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand .....	91½
„ „ 6 „ „ „ .....	3/10½	„ 30 days sight Private .....	92½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight .....	4.75	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand .....	91½
„ Private 6 mts. sight .....	4.89	„ 30 days sight Private .....	92½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight .....	Par.	Kinsatz .....	48½ dis.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight .....	¾ % dis.	Gold Yen .....	8 prem.

## SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—During the past week the *Columbia* has arrived from New York with Kerosene Oil, and the *Crossfield* from London with a general cargo. The *Centennial* and *West Glen* have left for Kobe, the *Oleander* for Nagasaki, and the *Floral Star* for Newchwang.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

**MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA,**

(HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

**PRIVATE APARTMENTS** of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class, let at the rate of from 50 *sen* to 80 *sen* per day, and from 12 *yen* to 20 *yen* per month.

**BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—**

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class .....	1.50 <i>yen</i> per day, or 40.00 " " month.
3rd class .....	1.00 <i>yen</i> per day, or 28.00 " " month.

All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or small quantities.

**GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS** supplied at fixed rates, for FUJITAMA and other places in the neighbourhood of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged from this year.

**MATSUZAKA HOTEL,**  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

**J. J. GARGAN,**  
**ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,**  
No. 88, Creek Side.

Machinery of all kinds overhauled and Repaired.

House Building and Repairs Contracted for.

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.

**BONG & JORDAN,**  
**GENERAL FORWARDING AGENTS,**  
43, Fish Street Hill, London, E.C.

REPRESENTED BY

**H. M. CARTHUR,**  
LANDING & FORWARDING AGENT,

179, Yokohama.

Yokohama, September 27th, 1879.

tf.

**C. D. MOSS.**

HOUSE AGENT, SURVEYOR AND VALUER,  
FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE BROKER.

Rents Collected, Property Supervised.

**NEW WORKS AND ALTERATIONS**  
**SUPERINTENDED,**

**109 BLUFF,**

AND TEMPORARILY, 87B, SETTLEMENT.  
Yokohama, 3rd January, 1880.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA  
EXHIBITION, 1876."



PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.



PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKLEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.



[NON-MERCURIAL], FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTROPLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.



IN SOLID BLOCKS—1LB., 2LB. & 4LB. EACH, & 1LB. BOXES.



WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.

July, 1879.

62ins.

## THE GREATEST

**WONDER OF MODERN TIMES**  
**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakay that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing an unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

**SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!**  
**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.**

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock." Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World May 17th, 1878.

tf.

**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S**  
**CELEBRATED**  
**STEEL PENS.**

Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.

May 3, 1879.

tf.

## MISCELLANEOUS

# J. & E. ATKINSON'S PERFUMERY,

CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained the following

## EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876 VIENNA, 1873.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY,"  
PARIS, 1878.

## Atkinson's Choice Perfumes for the Handkerchief,

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang Ylang, Stephanotis, Opopanax,  
Jockey Club, Ess. Bouquet, Trevol, Magnolia, Jasmin,  
Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,  
And all other odours, of the finest quality only.

## Atkinson's Florida Water,

A most fragrant Perfume, distilled from the choicest Exotics.

## Atkinson's Quinine Hair Lotion,

A very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

## ATKINSON'S

## Ethereal Essence of Lavender,

A powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

## ATKINSON'S

Quinine Tooth Powder, Violet Powder, Macassar Oil, Glycerine Cream,

And other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the Manufacturers.

**J. & E. ATKINSON,**  
24, Old Bond Street, London, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

**CAUTION.**—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, "a White Rose on a Golden Lyre," printed in seven colours.

ESTABLISHED 1799.

July 26, 1879.

12m. 26in.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.

Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,  
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,  
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED CHEESE,  
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,  
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,  
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,  
PLUM PUDDINGS,  
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.

## CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars they should invariably be destroyed when empty. Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.

All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles, Jars and Tins.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL,**  
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,  
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

53 ins.

**H. MacARTHUR.,**  
No. 179.

LANDS, <sup>AND</sup> SHIPS, & CLEARS  
CARGO,

AT MODERATE RATES.

Yokohama, January 12th, 1880.

if

## THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

**CAMOMILE PILLS** are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach."  
"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years. Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 6d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

## CAUTION.

Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

# ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,  
BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERRY.

Manufacture all kinds of

## IRONWORK, Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.  
ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.*

### ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.

*See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.*

Railings. Balcony Panels. Gates. Street Posts. Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets. Balusters. Newels. Crestings. Terminals.	Columns. Column Capitals. Brackets. Gratings. Windows. Casements. Fountains. Drinking Fountains. Vases. Pedestals.
--	--

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

## SMITH'S HEARTHS & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.*

Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,  
LONDON.

26 ins.

## NOTICE.

TRANSLATIONS from JAPANESE into ENGLISH or *Vice-Versa* undertaken by the advertiser, a Japanese who is well versed in the English Language, and familiar with Commercial and Legal technicalities.

Enquire at

H. MacARTHUR'S Office,  
NO. 179.

Contracts, Letters, Advertisements, or Legal Documents promptly translated at small cost.  
Yokohama, January 13th, 1880. tf

MISCELLANEOUS.

**SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION MEDICINAL MOORE'S FOOD**

**SAVORY & BEST FOOD FOR INFANTS MOORE'S**

**SAVORY & NATURAL FOR MOORE'S ASTHMA**

**ASTHMA & DIFFICULT BREATHING**  
promptly relieved and paroxysms averted by  
**Datura Tatula Inhalations**

**ROYAL NURSERIES.**  
CONTAINS  
THE MOST DIGESTIBLE,  
THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF  
NOURISHMENT in the  
MOST CONVENIENT FORM.  
In Tins 1s., 2s., 6s., and 10s.

**IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES**  
IT  
IMPROVES THE APPETITE  
Increases Strength and Weight.  
Bottles 3s. 6d., 4s. 6d., and 6s.

143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &c., everywhere.

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE



MARK.

## ELLWOOD'S

PATENT AIR CHAMBER

HATS AND HELMETS,  
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION  
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters  
and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS,  
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

## DINNEFORD'S

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY OF THE STOMACH. HEARTBURN, HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists  
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

THE SAFEST MILD  
APERIENT FOR DELICATE  
CONSTITUTIONS, LADIES,  
CHILDREN AND INFANTS,  
AND FOR REGULAR USE  
IN WARM CLIMATES.

## FLUID MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout the World.

March 30, 1879.

1y.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**E. P. & W. BALDWIN,**  
**WILDEN WORKS.**  
 STOURPORT, ENGLAND.  
**SHEET IRON,**  
 BRANDED  
 "BALDWIN-WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."  
**TIN PLATES,**  
 BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"  
 "ARLEY," "STOUR."

*Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,  
 and Close Annealed.*

## Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane, London, E.C.  
 April 6, 1878.

**KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES,**  
 COUGHS,  
 ASTHMA,  
 BRONCHITIS,  
 ACCUMULATION OF PLEGM.

Composed of the purest articles. These Lozenges contain no opium nor any deleterious drug, therefore the most delicate can take them with perfect confidence. Their beneficial effect is speedy and certain. The old unfailing family remedy is daily recommended by the most eminent Physicians. (In use nearly 60 years).

## MEDICAL TESTIMONY.

July 25th, 1877. 23, Gold Harbour Lane, London.  
 Sir,—Your Lozenges are excellent, and their beneficial effects most reliable. I strongly recommend them in cases of Cough and Asthma. You are at liberty to state this as my opinion, formed from many years experience.

J. BRINGLOE, M.B.C.S.L., L.S.A., L.M.

Mr. T. KEATING, Indian Medical Service.  
 Dear Sir,—Having tried your Lozenges in India, I have much pleasure in testifying to their beneficial effects in cases of Incipient Consumption, Asthma and Bronchial Affections. I have prescribed them largely, with the best results.

W. B. G.—, Apothecary H.M.S.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are sold by all Chemists, in bottles, of various sizes, each having the words "KEATING'S Cough Lozenges" engraved on the government stamp.

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A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,  
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## JAPANESE PAPER CURRENCY.

THE depreciation of yen satsu is becoming so excessive that we must again refer to a question which, at this moment, occupies the thoughts of all well-wishers of Japan. During the past month, and more particularly during the last ten days of it, the fall has been out of all proportion to anything that could have been caused solely by the presence of a superabundance of paper money. Imports have been reduced almost to a standstill: and the demand for dollars, represented in most cases by bank notes, principally of the so-called Yokohama Bank, for clearance of yarns, &c., has been but small; and even these notes return to the hands of the Japanese almost immediately in payment for silk and other exports. Again, those concerned in the tea trade, who anticipated the usual recovery in the currency at this period of the year, had commenced to buy a certain amount of paper to meet their requirements for the coming season. This should, at any rate, have retarded the decline; but, contrary to all expectation, a most serious and appalling fall has taken place.

On the 29th of September last we wrote in reference to the gambling on the exchange thus: "It is admitted that these operations have assisted, probably more than any other causes, in bringing about the present crisis," and we can only repeat now what we then said. Speculation on the most enormous scale has been indulged in by a few unscrupulous persons to the detriment of the whole nation, not only causing the small capitalists, farmers, traders, and others throughout the empire to lose at a moment a great portion of the value of their savings, and producing the greatest distrust as to the future value

of the only money they hold, but reluctance to part with produce, which may cause, if nothing worse, the greatest inconvenience to the Government, should it have to enter into any great undertaking which will tax the resources of the country. Provisions of all kinds, especially the great staple of the country, rice, have risen to what may almost be termed famine prices, and this in face of last year's most abundant harvest. What would happen, if the many years of plenty which we have now seen should be followed by one or two of dearth? Few thinking men might like to contemplate the results.

It is rumoured that it is to the interest of certain people in authority to maintain this state of affairs; but we dismiss the idea that those responsible for the safety of the empire could encourage such a suicidal course as the indefinite depreciation of that credit of a country which, in times not long remote, stood higher than that of any but the most firmly established nations. Again, it may be that advice has been given that the reduction of satsu to a heavy discount will have the effect of placing a commensurate duty on imports; but surely the exclusion of a few articles that have become necessities to the people, such as yarns, kerosene oil, blankets, cloth, &c., which cannot at present be produced in Japan, will not counterbalance a loss of fifty-four millions in the purchasing power of the paper issued by the Government and National Banks, assuming that to be about 160,000,000 yen, as shewn by the returns of the Finance Department and the National Banks. That the issue of paper money by the Government has not swept away all the silver coin is clear from the fact that there is a sufficient supply of silver yen to meet ordinary wants of business.

The balance of trade here only requires a small amount of actual coin, as shewn during the silk excitement in 1876, when the large quantities of dollars, attracted from other countries by the high rates of exchange ruling, proved superfluous and were almost immediately reshipped to China. The late fall having been caused more by speculation than by any other cause, we would suggest that all the places at which such speculative operations are carried on should be at once closed,—all time bargains and purchases for delivery during the next three months being cancelled, and settled at the rate of the day: that all transactions shall in future be for cash only, the satsu and dollars, or bank notes for the same, being produced at properly authorized exchange marts, supervised by Government officials; and that heavy fines shall be imposed on any persons detected in the breach of such regulations.

That such control can be imposed has been shewn by sundry Government notifications; and we are of opinion that it is quite time that the authorities should interpose in a more decided manner than they have hitherto done. The gambling operations referred to are not only a disgrace, but a source of positive danger to the country; and the safety of the nation should not be jeopardized for the sake of any persons whatever, regardless of the sta-

tion or influence they may possibly have; and the present state of affairs imperatively demands that prompt action be taken.

Let us imagine the remote possibility that Japan should at some time or other be dragged into a foreign war. How then could she possibly enter into the struggle with any hope of success, with an exchequer impoverished by a depreciated currency, and a populace which the diminished value of that medium had rendered distrustful.

#### MODERN STATESMANSHIP AND ARMAMENTS.

THE experience of late years seems to warrant the conclusion that it is an inherent tendency of modern society the higher it rises in the scale of civilization the greater becomes the danger of its deterioration, if not extinction, by the curse of war. The great statesmen who have controlled the destinies of the world during the last quarter of a century cannot be supposed to be ignorant of history, and the Napoleons, Bismarcks and Gortschakoffs of our times can have known nothing with greater certainty than that military establishments and warlike enterprises have alone neutralized the vast benefits to the inhabitants of the globe arising from the unparalleled material progress of the past fifty years. It will be found on examination that, in proportion as science and invention have increased the sources of national wealth and human enjoyment, so have the rulers and statesmen succeeded in appropriating these resources for increasing the means at their disposal for obliterating wealth, destroying human life and sweeping away in a few months or weeks the results of decades of peaceful industry. In fact it has come to be considered in some directions the crowning achievement of a statesman's labours that he has made every male citizen a soldier; and the world at large has learnt to estimate the greatness of a nation by its success in destroying. The plain conclusion to be drawn is that, while the men of science and commerce have succeeded in multiplying the sources of human progress and human happiness, and have thereby made possible a vast advance in civilization, men of state have either failed or declined to understand these possibilities of social elevation, and by maintaining the barbarous supremacy of the sword have prevented the age we live in from being a glorious millenium to the human race. Measured by the standard of results, statesmen have disastrously failed, while all other men have succeeded in their contributions to the welfare and advancement of humanity as it has never been the fortune of man to succeed before. It is evident therefore that what the world supremely needs for its progress, and to avert the defeat of the elevating forces which the present century has brought into play, is a new order of statesmen, inspired with a truer appreciation of the expanding spirit of the age.

The question of a universal reduction in national armaments, now exciting so much attention in Europe, has not arisen too soon; and yet it would unfortunately appear that no good result can be hoped for, so long as governments are controlled by statesmen of the "blood and iron" type. An able German journal, the *Frankfort Gazette*, applies the financial test to the present military policy of Europe with startling results, which may well prove a warning to the statesmen of Japan and other Oriental nations who appear to be rapidly developing the prevailing mania for expensive armaments.

The writer has evidently bestowed great pains in making his test as accurate and exhaustive as possible, and, as is natural, he first takes the case of Germany, and draws

the following comparison between the annual budgets in 1865 and 1879; the figures representing millions of marks:—

	1865. Marks.	1879. Marks.
Prussia.....	812.4	
Hanover .....	89.9	
Electoral Hesse .....	16.3	
Schleswig Holstein.....	14.0	
Nassau .....	6.5	
Frankfort .....	4.8	
Total .....	889.2	446.9
Bavaria .....	80.1	129.8
Saxony .....	84.5	71.5
Wurtemberg.....	80.8	53.7
Baden .....	27.4	34.8
Hesse .....	8.2	17.1
Other States.....	66.1	103.7
German Empire .....	...	455.5
Total German States .....	637.0	1,821.0

Thus, within the last fifteen years of the much vaunted consolidation of the German Empire, the taxation of all the German states for the maintenance of Government and defensive purposes, has arisen from 637,000,000 marks to 1,821,000,000 marks—an increase of 107 per cent. It accordingly appears that a coalition of states which should, by all the ordinary canons of common sense, have economized the expense of administration, and contracted military armaments and the expenditure, has thus been made a pretext for more than doubling the burdens of the German people. What wonder then can be felt that the inhabitants of the most powerful military empire the world has ever witnessed are groaning under the incidence of taxation: that industrial enterprise is paralyzed; discontent rampant; socialism assuming formidable proportions; and, measured by every just and humane standard of judgment, Bismarck's boasted achievement openly pronounced a disastrous failure and a curse to the Fatherland.

Bad, however, as Germany is in its extravagance of expenditure, it by no means stands alone. The insidious disease, the outcome of ruinous rivalry, has been common to all Europe, as will appear from the following comparison of the budgets of all the states in Europe, as presented by the *Gazette*:—

	1865. Millions of marks.	1879. Millions of marks.
Germany.....	637	1,821
Austro-Hungary .....	1,041	1,225
France .....	1,890	2,884
Great Britain .....	1,850	1,710
Russia .....	1,032	2,150
Italy .....	720	1,180
Spain .....	525	602
Netherlands .....	148	204
Belgium .....	186	217
Denmark .....	80	40
Sweden .....	42	90
Norway .....	22	56
Portugal .....	90	140
Greece .....	21	43
Turkey .....	243	260
Turkish dependencies (former)	23	105
Switzerland .....	15	34
Total Europe .....	7,976	11,717

The countries which have most largely increased their expenditure are those of whose bellicose tendencies we are hearing every day,—Germany and Russia,—the latter having, like the former, more than doubled its expenditure during the past fourteen years. Taking the whole of Europe we find that its combined budgets have risen from

7,976,000,000 marks in 1865, to 11,717,000,000 marks in 1879, which is equal to an average increase of forty-seven per cent. Omitting Germany and Russia, the increase in all the other states averages about thirty per cent. The following comparison of exclusively military expenditures, in 1865 and 1879, will serve to indicate how large a portion of this increase in the collective budgets is due to martial jealousies and ambitions :—

	1865. Millions of marks.	1879. Millions of marks.
Germany .....	198	427
Austro-Hungary .....	280	228
France .....	856	540
Great Britain .....	540	645
Russia .....	438	780
Italy .....	231	185
Spain .....	120	120
Netherlands .....	87	59
Belgium .....	29	88
Denmark .....	9	18
Sweden .....	16	26
Norway .....	7	11
Portugal .....	20	80
Greece .....	6	12
Turkey .....	96	100
Turkish States (former) .....	12	88
Switzerland .....	7	11
<b>Total Europe .....</b>	<b>2,852</b>	<b>8,219</b>

The *Gazette* gives some further interesting details which serve to shew, in a clearer light, if that be possible, the suicidal policy of the huge national armaments which are now the rule in Europe. Thus, we find that the expenditure on military establishments (exclusive of specific war expenses) has increased from 2,852,000,000 marks in 1865 to 8,219,000,000 in 1879, or at the average rate of thirty-seven and one half per cent. Of the total increase of 867,000,000 marks, 229,000,000 is due to Germany, and 292,000,000 to Russia, leaving 346,000,000 to be distributed among all the other states. If the number of subjects in the case of each country be considered, it will be found that the increase in army expenditures has been especially disproportionate in the case of Germany, France, Russia and many of the minor states, which have found themselves compelled to follow the threatening policy of the larger. Italy, Austria and Spain present a contrast to the general rule; but, as the writer from whom we quote shows, what extravagance fails to appear in their budgets finds its place in their debts. In all these comparisons it must be borne in mind that both 1865 and 1879 were years of peace in Europe, and that therefore these figures fail to measure the normal military expenditures.

Military budgets, however, afford a very imperfect criterion of the actual cost of military establishments. They rather measure the expense of maintaining armed hosts in idleness. When war comes, enormous expenditures arise which are not provided for in budgets, and have to be covered by loans, which become a permanent charge upon the resources of the country. A notable instance of the truth of this position is shewn in the experience of France as regards the war with Germany. The losses to the vanquished country have recently been stated by one of the present Ministry at over fourteen milliards of francs, not one son of which vast sum was contemplated by Olivier when he boasted upon entering on the disastrous campaign with that "light heart" now become historical. In order to arrive at a true estimate of the financial embarrassments resulting from these vast armaments, it becomes necessary to compare the state debts of the various na-

tions; and of these the *Gazette* gives the following statement for the two periods :—

	1865. Millions of marks.	1879. Millions of marks.
Germany .....	2,565	4,400
Austro-Hungary .....	6,190	8,423
France .....	11,120	16,500
Great Britain .....	10,170	15,565
Russia .....	4,160	12,000
Italy .....	8,000	8,170
Spain .....	4,200	10,500
Netherlands .....	1,740	1,640
Belgium .....	500	1,244
Denmark .....	190	205
Sweden .....	90	240
Norway .....	88	105
Portugal .....	800	1,050
Greece .....	145	400
Turkey .....	960	5,000
Turkish (former) States .....	4	420
Switzerland .....	3	28
<b>Total Europe .....</b>	<b>52,535</b>	<b>86,492</b>

Thus, we find that within the short period of fourteen years, a term which in the life of a nation may be likened to an hour in that of a man, Europe has increased the indebtedness of its governments from 52,535,000,000 marks to 86,492,000,000 marks, or by sixty-four per cent. To go into details, Russia has nearly trebled her debt; Italy has more than doubled hers; that of Spain is two and a-half times what it was in 1865; the same ratio of increase applies to Belgium; the "sick man" of the Bosphorus has augmented his in the utterly hopeless ratio of five-fold; even peaceable and insignificant little Portugal has doubled her national obligations; France has increased hers by fifty per cent; Germany by seventy-one per cent; and Austro-Hungary by thirty-six per cent; while Great Britain and the Netherlands alone shew any reduction of debt, although as far as the former country is concerned, we are strongly inclined to believe that, if the floating Exchequer bills so freely issued by the present Ministry to carry out their "spirited" policy in South Africa and Afghanistan were taken in consideration, Great Britain would have to be classed with the majority of financial unfortunates, thus leaving the Netherlands in the enviable position of being the only state which has reduced its national indebtedness since the year 1865.

Taking the average interest paid on the national debts of Europe at four per cent, we find that it amounts to an annual charge of £178,000,000, and that of this enormous burden sixty-four per cent has arisen within the last fourteen years, and very largely represents the cost of warlike enterprises and military establishments. A bare statement of these appalling facts is sufficient to forebadow frightful social disasters unless a speedy and sweeping change takes place in the barbarous system which has made such a miserable condition of affairs not only possible but imperative. Without some radical alteration, the collapse of industrial enterprise; the poverty and degradation of the masses of the people; and the disgraceful bankruptcies of some governments, loom in the not far distant future with terrible distinctness. In fact it would seem inevitable that the correction of the madness of the military ambitions from which the ruinous burdens have arisen, must come at no remote period through a determined resistance of the peoples who are now apparently weighted down beyond the point of further endurance, and are willing to welcome any scheme, how apparently chimerical or desperate, which holds out the slightest hope of relief from burdens which have become well-nigh insupportable.

## GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF POLITICAL MEETINGS.

THAT the Government was right in restricting the number, and exercising some control over the nature, of written discussions and treatises on the difficult subject of popular representation has been proved by results. In an article on this subject in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 27th of March, we indicated the class of people whence the agitation sprung and by whom it has been maintained. It is now asserted in vernacular papers that the most ardent partisans in a town of Shimane, in Shikoku, of the establishment of a national parliament, have issued as many as fifty thousand circulars in the adjoining provinces. The document in question calls upon all persons of whatever rank to assemble at a public meeting for the purpose of drawing up and signing a petition to be conveyed and presented to the Government by a numerous delegation. Now, in the present condition of Japan, there can be no question that the broad-cast dissemination of such invitations as these is very undesirable; or that the authorities are more than justified, in the very interests of the people themselves, to prevent them from being disquieted in their minds, and interrupted in their peaceful avocations, by the declamatory nonsense which is pretty certain to form the substance of the communications proposed to be addressed to them. It will hardly be asserted that it is advisable, even if the agitators were allowed to distribute their letters or hand-bills convening crowded assemblies in every part of the empire, that such should be permitted to gather uncontrolled, and to listen to the perfervid and highly coloured narratives or orations of a number of discontented and more than half ignorant demagogues, who have not the welfare of their country or compatriots, but the advancement of their own schemes and interests, in view. And thus it has been found expedient not only to establish a censorship of becoming rigour over the emanations from the pens of the perturbators, but to check them in another part of their scheme for, according to their own false lights, enlightening the public. Some of the so-called patriotic clubs of indolent and not too honest young men, sprung from the old samurai class, have possibly many adherents. The resolution imparted by one of their chiefs to hold an assembly on a certain day is rapidly spread among them orally, and in the same manner made widely known to the curious and idle in the ranks of the public. A method of this kind can be made almost as effective as the distribution of written summonses in drawing a multitude. And, under whatever circumstances convened, considering the objects and character of the conveners, it is positive that those who are disorderly and undisciplined in the réunions of their own organizations would not be likely to exercise serious restraint over a mob which their conceit and violence might have excited to passion. The directors of the Aikokusha appear to be already experiencing the difficulty of guiding forces which they have once let loose. Osaka journals aver that the debates of the body are characterized by great clamor and disorder, and that the President has much difficulty in governing the speakers. The *Manichi Shimbun* says that it frequently receives anonymous letters announcing that, while many of the members of the association really desire to arrive at the end proposed, others are nothing but ambitious schemers, who make use of their membership, in the hope to create for themselves some remunerative position in the service of the Government, to which they secretly supply information of all that passes in the meetings of their brethren.

In the interest of the public safety, and in view of the real welfare of Japan, it was as necessary that some curb should be placed upon the spoken as upon the written utterances of the discontented classes of the empire, who are only dangerous in proportion as they are uncontrolled. When they find that there is no sympathy with their action, and no available outlet for their exuberant and factitious patriotism, they will probably betake themselves to legitimate means of earning their daily living, and may thus gain a measure of self-respect, and the esteem of the limited circle of the compatriots among whom their lot, more fortunate than their present one, may be cast.

THE columns of the vernacular press have of late been singularly void of matter of interest. The subject of a national representative assembly has been the *pièce de résistance*, and, in fact, all but the sole fare at the literary banquet provided. The convives begin to tire of the sameness of their diet. Still a trifle of variety has been introduced of late in the shape of a not very erudite discussion, between the *Nichi Nichi* and *Hochi Shimbun* on one side, and the *Akebono* and *Komon Shimbun* on the other. The honour of originating the contention belongs to the first-mentioned journal, which, having headed a leading article with words to the effect that *Min-ken* (the right of the people) is identical with *O-do* (Imperial authority), endeavoured to prove the proposition by reference to the original meaning of the Chinese characters representing the latter word. This fancy served to introduce the real argument of the writer, which was to the point that, when the people of a country find it necessary to urge their rights and to maintain their liberties, it is always at some unhappy moment, as when, for instance, they are oppressed by their sovereign. So long as the latter exercises his authority with moderation, and forbears to tyrannize over his subjects, there is no necessity for the latter to clamor for an inheritance which is not withheld, or to rise in defence of liberties which are not endangered. "To insist upon the rights of the people" is then a watchword which should only be used in times when the phrase has any significance. As the Emperor of Japan is not despotic, but has proved the contrary by his oath to introduce a constitution in due time, it would be more becoming for the people to ask him not to refrain from the exercise of his legitimate authority, rather than to agitate for privileges for themselves. The *Hochi Shimbun* and those who argue on the same side, ridicule the supposed identity, founded on an obscure derivation, of the imperial power with the right of subjects. They insist upon the necessity of a representative assembly, legislating under a constitutional monarchy, in order that the exercise of the supreme authority may be controlled by the will of the nation; and they say that it is impossible to predict that the present mild form of government may not, under a system of absolutism, at any time be altered. Admitting this, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* replies that the necessary progress towards full constitutional freedom must be made step by step, and that such a gradual advancement is implied in the terms of the imperial promise, which is actually in course of fulfillment. And this is the only correct solution of the question, which is taken up in the absence of better subjects for discussion. When Japan has attained her political maturity, and is capable of appreciating and using the privileges of full constitutional liberty, she will be put in possession of them. To this end most of the reforms introduced by the present Government are gradually but surely and evidently tending.



IN a native journal we find mention of a phenomenon in the province of Fukushima, which, although not altogether uncommon, is still sufficiently rare to excite comment. We learn from the *Choya Shimbun*, the paper in question, that "last year a resident of Taiayeki, in the province of Fukushima, sunk a well on his premises, but the water obtained was found to be undrinkable and emitted a very offensive odour. When investigating the cause of this, the man was struck with the similarity between the smell of coal gas and that so noticeable in the well. To test the matter, he sunk two bamboos in the ground alongside the well, and ascertained that vapour was discharged at the orifice. On a light being applied, it was at once made apparent that this vapour was inflammable, as it burned readily. By joining other bamboo tubes to those in the ground, the man was enabled to illuminate his house with natural gas." In a memoir on the coal-fields of China by R. C. Taylor, in the journal of the Franklin Institute, it is stated that the Chinese use, to this day, for economical purposes, the gas which escapes spontaneously from beds of bituminous coal. Within thirty miles of Peking, says the same authority, is a coal-field having beds of salt associated with the coal, and streams of gas rising naturally from the coal are conveyed to the salt-works by means of bamboo tubes, and there used for the boiling and evaporation of the salt. Other pipes convey the gas intended for lighting the streets and houses. There are different other instances where these inflammable gases issue spontaneously from the earth. The phenomenon is witnessed at several places in the Apennines, and in a mountain of Lycia, near the shore of the Gulf of Adalia. In the village of Fredoula, New York gas issued from a small stream some years ago, and a gas-holder was erected for collecting it, but we believe the supply ceased in time. There can be little doubt that most of these phenomena arise from coal or other bituminous substances, which by some convulsion of nature have been buried at such a depth as to be distilled by the heat from the interior of our globe, so that the gas is expelled, and escapes through the fissures of the earth.

A LEADING politician in the House of Parliament, when referring to a debate upon a well-worn subject, remarked that it was like "flogging a dead horse." Comment upon the sins of omission of Renter's telegraphic company or its agents, against subscribers here in Yokohama, is almost as useful a proceeding as that designated by the member of Parliament, but our last files of Shanghai papers have demonstrated so forcibly and conclusively the scandalous neglect of some one connected with this telegraphic agency, that we cannot avoid recurring to the subject once more, although we have but very slight hopes that our latest remonstrance will be more effectual than those which have so repeatedly appeared in this and the other local journals. To place beyond question the well-founded nature of our complaint, we reproduce here the telegrams supplied by the company to its subscribers in Shanghai between the 21st and the 29th of last month:—

21st.—The Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race has been postponed until Monday, on account of Fog.

22nd.—The Russian Ambassador at Paris has been recalled, in consequence of the refusal of the French Government to extradite Hartmann, who is charged with complicity in the attempt to assassinate the Czar.

Disturbances have broken out between the Mussulmans and the Christians at Smyrna, and the Consuls have summoned the Ironclads.

The Grand Shereef of Mecca has been assassinated.

23rd.—The Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race was won by Oxford.

26th.—The Chinese Government has ordered twenty millions cartridges in the United States.

Colonel Synges who was captured by Brigands at Salonica has been released.

The "Times" expects that there will be an equal balance of parties in the next Parliament.

Mr. Angell has been nominated United States Minister to China.

Two United States Commissioners have been appointed to negotiate a new Treaty with China.

28th.—A Russian Army Corps of observation will be placed on the Frontier in the vicinity of Kuldja.

29th.—Lord Hartington, in a speech, said that the Liberal party would not stake British interests on the maintenance of Turkish integrity and independence, but would endeavour to establish a European concert to coerce Turkey.

Prince Leopold intends shortly to visit Canada and the United States.

Now, of these numerous messages, which are, almost without exception, of great interest; we here in Yokohama were only favoured with those portions which are printed in italics, one out of the three being curtailed in such a stupid manner as to alter the sense, and thus make it actually misleading. We believe the agent in Shanghai is entrusted with the duty of forwarding the messages to Yokohama, but we should be sorry to assert that upon his shoulders rests the blame for the wanton disregard of the interests of the Yokohama subscribers, so conclusively proved by the examples we have published. One thing, however, is quite certain, that, so long as the business is conducted in the way it is at present, there is no adequate cause for surprise in the paucity of subscribers; indeed the wonder will soon be that anyone can be found foolish enough to waste money upon an association which has, in Japan, developed a remarkable capacity for getting as much as possible, and giving little or nothing in exchange.

THE Yangtze, in the lower part of its enormous length, or in the seven hundred miles between Hankow and Shanghai, is fairly well known to the captains of English and American steamers of large tonnage. For four hundred miles further, or to Ichang, this eastern rival of the Mississippi is now navigable by the big river steamers of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company. And at Ichang, eleven hundred miles from the embouchure,—the mighty river offers to the visitor "scenery of surpassing grandeur, which even to the most superficial must prove awe-inspiring." This testimony by Dr. Macgowan, tendered in a recent lecture on the subject of the Middle Yangtze, before a meeting of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society is confirmatory of that of previous visitors. The passage from Ichang in Hupe towards Szechuen, or "ultra-China" as Dr. Macgowan calls it, is for one hundred miles in gorges cut by the stream through mountain ranges at right angles with its course. The navigation of the rapids thus caused is extremely dangerous; and a life boat service has long been in existence, and maintains a high state of efficiency. The extreme western province of "Szechuen is a third larger than the United Kingdom, and to say nothing of the waters that pour in from Yunnan and Kueichow and from the eastern portion of the Tibetan plateau, what must it be when it is obliged to force its way through a contracted passage about a hundred miles in length, as narrow in some places as the creek that divides our Settlements (the English and American at Shanghai) at the Garden! How impetuous must be its torrent! Besides this, its rocky bed is ribbed with ledges, which give rise to the rapids which you shoot at no small risk, and which you ascend with infinite toil by hugging the shore; at times a hundred or more men straining to move you, at the pace of the minute hand of a clock. Consider this, and you will be able to form some conception of the impediments which the rapids of the gorges present to the navigation of the Middle Yangtze. Nevertheless, a combination of the means that are employed on the Upper Missis-

issippi and the Danube, may, after a few tons of dynamite have been expended in blasting, unite the two Chinas together, and prove as beneficial to commerce as has been the spade of De Lesseps." The country is well policed; the people are well conducted, though not partial to foreigners; and the provincial contingents furnish some of the best troops of the empire. These results appear to accrue naturally from the exceptional advantages of the region. Our author says:—

On casting his eyes about him, the foreign traveller finds much in Szechuen to remind him of the home that he has quitted, wherever that home may be. Maize and buckwheat remind the American of breakfasts that were breakfasts—good square meals. Irish mountain water at the sight of mealy potatoes. If the Welshman cannot find all the leeks that he wants, he may make amends by the garlic that is in the air. A Scotchman may "pu" the gowans fine," and find mountain and flood enough and to spare; there is beef for Englishmen, grapes for Frenchmen, oranges for Spaniards, vermicelli for Italians, and sour-kraut for Germans, while palms and cacti will remind the traveller from the tropics of his torrid home. Abstainers from pork must often desire a dispensation, while ichthiophagi need never want a meal, and the most daring of Nimrods will find in wild animals ample scope for his powers, with poultry as a recompense.

It is strange to read that opium-smoking is more prevalent here than in most other parts of China; the favored district indeed producing more of the consolidated juice of the poppy, it is said, than Hindustan. To quote briefly again from Dr. Macgowan:—

In a word, this ultra-China, which is secluded within great natural barriers, is self-contained, through its agricultural, manufacturing and mining resources—it has so much to spare, that it will be well able to purchase outside commodities to an enormous extent when those can be transported at a reasonable charge. Unfortunately, the curse of opium rests on this, the fairest portion of the Flowery Land, to a greater degree than elsewhere. Mr. Baber has ascertained and reported to his Government the astounding fact, not astounding however to those who have been in Szechuen, that there is more opium produced in that province than in India. As a consequence, opium-smoking prevails more there than elsewhere. Elsewhere in China, opium-smoking is regarded as disreputable, just as drunkenness in other countries, but in Szechuen it is regarded as venial as tobacco-smoking, yet it will be news to all the inhabitants when they are informed that, according to the teaching of physiological and economic science lately promulgated, opium is an undisguised blessing. I doubt if the proletariat, or political economists of ultra-China, will give in their adhesion to that view of the case. . . . I saw proclamations forbidding the cultivation of poppy, but the people had declared they would refuse to pay taxes if attempts were made to enforce the prohibition. It would require an army to suppress that profitable industry.

Tobacco is largely cultivated and smoked in this country which has been explored by Baron Richtofen, and by Mr. Baber of H. M. Consular service, of whom Dr. Macgowan says that "he squeezes dry every subject that he handles." A book from his pen on the subject of Western China will probably be published shortly, and is more than likely to contain matter of exceptional interest and instructiveness.

IF the Chinese workmen were all and invariably moral, thrifty, industrious, sober, and thoroughly honest, they would have attained a standard of perfection not yet achieved by any class of human beings, and rarely, if ever, by favoured individuals of the race. Generally, however, their possession of the attributes of morality, as they understand it, frugality, assiduity, temperance, and integrity, is more than in excess of that which mechanics of a whiter complexion and higher order of humanity would care to boast. Of course there are exceptions even to celestial excellence; and it is probably the exception and not the rule to which Mr. R. G. Alford refers

in a recent article in the *Builder*. He says, having no doubt a typical case in view:—

If a man of ordinary ability, the Chinese workman soon sets up for himself, and invariably devotes his whole time and energy to the successful accomplishment of his first few jobs. He is a needy man, working on borrowed capital, and so all goes well. After a while, his first success leads to more work. He pays off his debit, and by-and-by makes a little money, and then comes a change. As he grows prosperous, so he grows careless. As he makes profits so he desires to increase those profits by subtlety. As he rises in the world, so, too often, he thinks lightly of his earlier friend. Having made himself a name, he straightway proceeds to lose it as fast as he can. He takes an excess of opium, marries many wives, drinks native spirit in abundance, and finally he finds himself but one in the great body of pushing, struggling seekers after foreign prey, with which such places as Hongkong abound. The spirit of swindling is rampant among the Chinese, and the carpenters and builders are considered the lowest in the moral scale of tradesmen by all their countrymen. But of all kinds of Chinese workmen the greatest rogues are the painters. To give details of their mixtures of pig's blood and lime to serve for sizing, or soot and chalk for distemper, would be too ridiculous. Such things as brushes are unknown among Chinese painters, and hand-daubing with rags is universal. The mixture of groundnut oil, a native production of a light muddy colour, with linseed oil, and the use of half-boiled oil to produce stickiness in varnish, and enforce early repetition of the painting, are everyday practices.

Some time since a very graphic series of sketches appeared in one of the London comic papers. They were entitled, we believe, "The British workman, by one who knows him;" and the artist, in the text of Mr. Alford's contribution, might find subject matter for a set of companion drawings to his earlier cartoons. But, as it would be manifestly unjust to condemn the whole body of hardworking, badly paid, and not too well used, English mechanics and laborers, on account of the shortcomings of the worst specimens selected from their class, so it is unfair to judge of the majority of Chinese people in an analogous rank of life by the rascality and fraud of the no'er-do-weels among them. And this consideration is quite apart from the fact that Hongkong is notoriously an unsatisfactory place in which to observe the better phases of the Chinese character.

AS gross ignorance appears to prevail in France upon Far Eastern affairs and locality, as is frequently noticed among those who often pose as well informed themselves, and informants of the public, in England and America. The *Indépendant de Saigon* draws attention to an amazing mass of error on even the geography of Tonquin, propounded by two leading French papers which pretend to speak with authority. It seems also that the Parisian press has not been well-advised on the subject of the alleged difficulty with Annam. The *Indépendant*, however, finds comfort even in the mistakes formulated. It says that "all the noise, made about the Tonquin question in the European press, which noise has found an echo in the journals of China and Japan, will result in attracting attention to Cochin China, her riches, her future and her urgent need for vast reforms." Our contemporary asserts, with reference to the matter requiring adjustment between France and Annam, that there is no longer any question of military action. The French Government will confine itself to giving to the treaty of 1874 all the extension of which it is susceptible, and seeing that its provisions are thoroughly applied. This is what the position is said to be:—

In virtue of that treaty an actual French protectorate is already in existence, if not over the whole of Tonquin, at least in the ports open to European commerce. This protectorate will be rendered effective and efficacious. On the other hand the treaty of 1874 acknowledges that France has the right to navigate the Song-ca, which entails the right of

policing the stream and causing her flag to be respected upon it. Also, and for the form of insuring the execution of a part of this convention, France might be inclined to send a fleet of gunboats,—similar to those employed in preserving order on the rivers of Cochin-China,—which would be specially charged with the *surveillance* and survey of the Song-ca and its affluents.

The writer says that such a course as is here traced would merit applause; “for in place of an armed expedition, always subject to reverse, and involving an incalculable expense in men and money, we shall see a gradual and continuous action, habituating the populations to ourselves, our power, and our civilization; and in a near future, without a blow being struck and by the simple force of events, we shall have established in Tonquin what we may honestly desire to find there; that is to say, French influence and the French flag.” This is the sort of peaceful conquest to which the world is not much accustomed; and of which it will be highly satisfactory to witness a triumphant example.

THE days of enormous profits in the American petroleum trade would appear to have vanished for ever. An industry which has rewarded enterprise, and often mere luck, with astounding results, is being brought within the limits of the most unromantic transactions, and returns perhaps about as much on the capital invested as is derived from any average business of fair standing. And European rivalry now threatens the Pennsylvanian oil region, which though it will doubtless long continue to have the command of the Australian and Far Eastern markets, in addition to its own, cannot hope to maintain its hold upon those of Europe. An extensive and highly productive petroleum supply has been struck in Hanover, which, from the centrality of its geographical position, should be able to furnish all the demands of the old world for the illuminant.

CAPTAINS of all steamers trading to and from the port of Shanghai can testify to the loss and inconvenience occasioned by the Woosung bar. And this is not the worst that can be said of the obstruction. It is asserted on competent authority that it seriously imperils the prosperity of Shanghai, which, if no measures are adopted to reduce the bar and to prevent the constant accumulation of fresh deposits, will at some no far distant day cease to be a port. A meeting of the mercantile community of the settlement was convened to be held in the Shanghai Club on the 2nd instant, “for the purpose of considering a memorial to the Foreign Ministers at Peking with reference to the river conservancy dues.” This action has been taken at the suggestion of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce; and all who are interested in trade with China must desire that the ultimate result of the meeting will be, that the Government will direct the necessary operations to clear and keep unobstructed the navigation of the Woosung River.

NO indications, either from Europe or China, point to an improvement in the relations between the latter empire and Russia. The St. Petersburg press is very indignant at the refusal or delay of the Court at Peking to ratify the treaty made at Livadia; and official feeling in China is more than ever dissatisfied with the bargain. In view of the disagreement between the two countries, a notification, issued by the Russian Consul at Shanghai, is not without a certain significance. This document informs Chinese subjects that they will not be allowed to land at Vladivostok unless they are provided with a passport from their own authorities, countersigned at the Russian Consulate. Although this measure

of itself, may not indicate an impression that war is imminent, and may not even be intended as precautionary in case of the outbreak of hostilities, yet it is eminently unfriendly, the rather that a great portion of the trade of the eastern Siberian port is in the hands of Chinese merchants. Meanwhile, in that district of Central Asia which has been the source of the negotiations that have terminated so unsatisfactorily, matters are in such a state of confusion that a collision may take place at any moment, if it has not already occurred. “It is reported from Kuldja that the Russian authorities are making preparations for the evacuation of the portion of the province ceded to the Chinese, but that the Governor of Kashgaria has received no instructions from Peking yet to carry out the provisions of the treaty signed last year. On the one hand, the Russians in Turkestan are calling out at the loss of prestige they are experiencing through the cession of the Trans-Ili district; while on the other, the Chinese are bitterly complaining at receiving only a fraction of their demands. The clamour of the Turkestan officials arises only from their disappointment at not being able to accomplish the designs they had in view of invading and annexing Kashgaria.” Tso is known to be accumulating large forces, and what stores and munitions he can acquire; and certainly his movements will not pass unwatched or unchecked if necessary, by General Kaufmann and his lieutenants. As for the unhappy envoy, whose conduct of the conference on behalf of China with the government of the Czar, immediately produced the disagreement, his condition is not improved, nor is his life likely to be spared. A decree from the two Emperresses has approved the sentence of his decapitation.

MR. Cesar Celso Moreno does not mean to allow his scheme for a trans-Pacific telegraph cable to fade out of sight, if he can keep it before the public. It is known that his efforts to obtain the concurrence of the Chinese Government with the undertaking were eminently unsuccessful. He is now, or was at the beginning of the current year, in Honolulu, where he was supposed to be moving the Hawaiian authorities to enter into “direct commercial and postal communication” with the great Asiatic empire, his main object being to make some progress towards the attainment of his ultimate desire. Mr. Moreno’s plan is, broadly, to connect some important point in the Pacific States with the Far East by a telegraph line via the Sandwich or the Aleutian Islands. Although there is little doubt that the communication spoken of will be established at some time or other, yet that time will not be until the demands of commerce have announced its advent. At present no such demands exist; and, indeed, it must be evident to all those who are really familiar with the present conditions of foreign trade in the Orient that the projector, who is also an enthusiast, greatly overrates the advantages to be derived from the adoption of his proposals.

IT is probably too much to hope that the proposed extension of the Austrian Lloyd’s line of steam communication with Eastern Asia will be a source of much gain to the company. The most that seems to be expected as regards the direct enterprise, is that it will “pay sufficiently,” probably if supported by a handsome Government subsidy. The idea is to connect the large Adriatic port of Trieste with Singapore or Hongkong, with the principal object of “increasing the transit traffic with Germany, augmenting the trade of Trieste, and opening new, broad, perhaps quite unexpected prospects, to Austrian commerce in the East.” Of course it will be to the advantage of Austria that what goods she does export to Oriental or other regions should be conveyed in her own bottoms; but with the present prospects of trade here or in China, it is probable that the only persons who will



gain much by the additional means of communication are those who belong to the travelling public. They will have an additional route opened to them, and a fresh choice of conveyance between Europe and Singapore or Hongkong. If the scheme, as far as regards places still more remote than those ports, were very promising, it is probable that Yokohama would be the eastern terminus decided upon.

#### THE PALACE AT KIOTO.

THE yearly exhibition now being held at Kioto is drawing many former residents to revisit their favourite city, from which recent changes and the necessity of a more central capital have drawn them. Numerous are the nobles and gentry who have regretfully seen the ancient palace vacated by its Imperial inmate, and reluctantly did they themselves leave so lovely a spot to follow him to the modern capital, and join in the labours of national progress. It must be with no small relief that such individuals return to the locality of which it was said:—"This truly is the place when the gods do dwell,"—bidding farewell for a time to the busy centre of Government, with its devastating improvements and its motley array of novel constructions in all styles under the sun, from Gothic to Roman. In the nineteenth century, utilitarian considerations must take the lead; and, before them, all mere sentimental prejudices must be waived. Kioto was at first selected for the Imperial city for reasons quite apart from those which generally govern the choice of sites for large towns. It was never pretended that accessibility and commercial advantages had any weight in fixing the spot which, being made the residence of the Emperor, was honoured with the name of Miako.

Undisturbed natural loveliness of position and quiet seclusion were points which influenced the courtiers of Kuwammu Tenno, when, from a neighbouring hill, they looked down upon the verdant valley destined to become the sacred capital. Saikio has lost much of the wealth and prosperity that of necessity accumulated around the palace of a monarch. Apart from the absence of the higher classes, whom duty or fashion led to reside within its walls, many of the wealthier merchants and others have lost their gains and means of support. Still, with all these changes, it will always continue to be the favourite resort of seekers for pleasure and enjoyment, who find in it the comforts of a large town closely surrounded by all the beauties of natural scenery. Kioto now is the only city where one can enter fully into the spirit of the attractive old customs, and see occasionally some gay pageant recalling the pleasures which a changing civilization is rapidly converting into mere memories of the past.

The Imperial palace was the nucleus round which the city grew. It was built at the commencement of the fourteenth century, on an arrangement suggested by the palaces of China; and its walls were seven miles in circuit. On the occasion of the executive duties of government being assumed by the Shoguns, the edifices which had several times been destroyed by fire were much diminished in number, and the area occupied by them was reduced, the government offices being transferred to the eastern capital. The original buildings, then as now of one story only, surrounded by large walks, courts and gardens, including in fact two other separate palaces and eight large administrative departments, covered an immense space. The palace indeed formed a considerable city of itself, girt by high walls and entered through twelve gateways.

The visitor to Kioto will now observe wide public streets, cutting through what was once part of the Imperial grounds, and the remains of the former extensive erections confined in two separate enclosures. The palace proper, being the residence of the Emperor up to the time of his removal to Tokio, is generally known as the Okami Goshō; and the palace opposite to which the exhibition is now being held,—known as the Omiya Goshō,—was formerly occupied by the Empress Dowager. There is still another palace, once inhabited by the reigning sovereign, and called the Katsura Goshō. This mansion is situated some three miles from the city, upon the river side, amidst the most picturesque scenery at the base of the mountain. It

is hidden from view on the outside by thick groves of waving bamboo, and is chiefly interesting on account of its beautiful grounds, and a large expanse of clear water sprinkled with flower-clad islets and bowers, connected by fancy bridges. The buildings are very old and dilapidated, the wood-work being decayed, and the paintings upon the walls quite faded and dull. The Omiya Goshō, which has been mostly cleared of its fittings and furniture to be put to the use of an exhibition building, still retains several rooms fitted with the old decorative slides and wall pictures. One may here also see some fine specimens of Japanese art treasures in the way of lacquer-work and fine old bronze vases.

The grounds of the Emperor's private palace are now yearly open to view, and the construction and arrangement of the buildings is such that the interior plan and decoration of each can be well seen from the outside. The outer slides being removed, as they would be in the summer time, reveal between the supporting posts a vista of the handsome rooms within. The palace at present consists of seven independent blocks of buildings, connected by covered corridors, and arranged in an irregular manner so as to open different aspects to the wide gardens surrounding them. The first group reached is the Shishinden, a large ceremonial hall only used on special occasions. Upon the walls are old portraits, on silk, of the Chinese sages. The court in front of this hall contains several storehouses for the imperial cars and other ancient utensils; and immediately before the threshold are two sacred trees to which great antiquity is attributed. The next block reached is the Seirioden, or Summer palace; and next to this is the Kogoshō, or Small palace. These two structures were used as occasional residences of the Emperor or his household, or for private entertainments. The walls and slides are decorated in cream colour and gold, with paintings of landscapes, and figures in pale colours, and cloud shaped streaks of deep blue. The rooms contain the raised dais, recesses, and ornamental shelves, with lacquered and metal-work lavished upon the wooden beams and posts.

Another winding passage leads to the Gakumonshō, the name of which indicates a building for study; but it seems to have been also frequently used as a place of entertainment. The same idea of colour as was noticed in the last mentioned suite is here preserved in the adornment of the walls and screens, which are of a pale straw or cream coloured ground, spotted with gold, and painted with figure subjects, birds, rocks, and water, in bright colours. The prevailing tones are blue and emerald green upon the gold. Next in order comes the Tsunogoten, which is the largest building of the whole group, and is that now mostly occupied by the Emperor during his visits to Kioto. It consists of fourteen rooms, arranged in an oblong block, and surrounded by a wide passage, and an outer gallery thrown open in the summer time to the breezes. On the south side is a suite of three rooms, the floor of each successive room being raised above that of the other. The end room, which is the highest of the three, contains a small raised dais of mats in the centre, indicating the position of the imperial seat. The wall at the back of this raised seat is fitted with handsome slides having their frames heavily lacquered and fitted with bronze, the panels gilt, and painted with representations of the mythical bird called *hō-ō* with its gorgeous plumage. These slides open into a small room at the back, surrounded on all sides by other chambers arranged for purposes of protection; for here were kept the Emperor's regalia and personal treasures. The walls of this little room are decorated with the blossoming trees of spring and summer, painted on gold-sprinkled backgrounds. The larger rooms are furnished with handsome recesses, shelves and cupboards. The mural paintings represent scenes from Chinese history, landscapes, architectural groups, and animal life, the setting to all being rich gilding. At the side of, and approached from the Emperor's sitting room, is the sleeping apartment, which is placed so as to have rooms on every side of it. The panels of the walls and screens are painted with life-sized representations of tigers amidst bamboos, and rocks. The ceilings, like the posts and beams supporting them, are of clean white wood, ornamented with engraved metal nuts and clasps. Many buildings destined



for far less important uses are to be seen in Japan with gorgeously decorated ceilings; but a neat simplicity and elegance is all that these imperial chambers can boast.

From this chief building, one comes to the Koshunden, having small rooms decorated with large figures in monochrome, representing tigers, deer, horses and birds, upon a white and gold ground. The Noriodon is another small building, used for enjoying the cool breezes in the summer time; and the last block of all is a group of tiny chambers bearing the name of Chosetsutei and intended for the ceremony of tea-drinking. These rooms, in their miniature proportions and light construction, are a true type of the ordinary *Cha-no-ma* which one finds in most large Japanese buildings. The said ceremony of tea-drinking, which under the patronage of Taiko Sama became an important and complicated ceremonial pleasure, is now being revived among the wealthier families. The name of pleasurable idleness is to lounge in these fairy-like rooms, open to the spring winds and looking out upon the blossom-clad country; for facing each of the palatial buildings are gardens laid out in some different fancy manner, with lakes and bridges and all the peculiar charms of Japanese horticulture. Such is a description of what is left of the now all but deserted palace of the holy city.

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 5th April, 1880.

The recent elections shew a gain to the Liberal party of fifty. The *Times* supports the claims of Lord Granville to be Premier.

London, 8th April, 1880.

The returns, as far as known up to the present, shew that 283 Liberals and 163 Conservatives have been elected. Mr. Gladstone has been returned for Midlothian.

The telegram of the 1st instant should have read:—"Parliament will *reassemble* on the 29th of April."

### The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 10TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 4TH MONTH, 10TH DAY, DO-YO-NI.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

##### BIRTH.

On April 6th, 1880, at No. 203, Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of E. J. Moss, of a son.

Since Saturday last two home mails have come to hand, one by the M.M. steamer *Volga*, on the 4th instant, and the other by the P. M. S.S. steamer *City of Tokio*, on yesterday afternoon.

The latest American dates are to the 20th ultimo. Home-ward despatches went forward in the P. & O. steamer *Malacca*, on the 8th instant.

The French frigate *Kerguelen* left Hongkong, for Shanghai, on the 27th of March.

The O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* made her last passage between Yokohama and Hongkong in five days and twenty hours.

The Ocean Steamship Company's steamer *Ajac* left Singapore for Hongkong on the 20th ultimo.

The *Strathmore* also left Singapore for Hongkong on the 20th of March.

The American frigate *Ticonderoga*, 11, Captain Cromwell, bearing the flag of Commodore Shufeldt, arrived in Hongkong on the 26th of March.

The *Shanghai Courier* states that the *Seas* from London, left Singapore for Shanghai direct, on the 23rd ultimo.

Archimandrite Nicolai, now in Russia, chief of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Japan, has been appointed Orthodox Bishop of Tokio, where he may be expected to arrive shortly.

It having been stated in the China and India papers that the Chinese Government had made overtures to Colonel Gordon, who has just returned from Egypt, the *L. & C. Express* is in a position to contradict the announcement. The leader of the "ever victorious troops" will not renew his connection with either country.

In its statement that "not a single 'foreigner' fell a victim to the fury of the gale," in Hongkong, during the terrific typhoon of September, 1874, the *Shanghai Courier* is manifestly in error. The writer of this note has a vivid recollection of seeing the dead body of the captain of the Spanish steamer *Leonore*, on the morning which followed that destructive visitation. The deceased was found drowned in one of the steeply inclined alleys which connect the Praya, or Bund, with the Queen's Road. A Malay female passenger, certainly a "foreigner" in Hongkong, was also dead by the side of the master, who had, it was surmised, lost his life in the endeavor to preserve hers. Among the fifty or more bodies recovered from the wreck of the *Albay*, which vessel, in company with the *Leonore*, was wrecked close to Pedder's Wharf, the corpses of "foreigners" were easily distinguishable. Without files of the Hongkong daily papers of that period within our immediate reach, we will not presume to say how much of foreign life was absolutely sacrificed among the hundreds who fell victims, afloat and ashore, to that terrible blast in the few hours of its duration. Of course it was absurd that a telegram to England should have announced that the "whole island had been destroyed;" yet the calamity was one of tremendous magnitude of ruin; and the loss of life which it entailed cannot well be expressed in the phrase that "some natives were killed."

The effects of the typhoon above referred to were even more serious in Macao than in Hongkong. In the former place the ravage of wind and water was aided by the villainy of incendiary robbers. While the storm was at its height the town was ignited in several places by ruffians bent on plunder. In one of the conflagrations the cathedral suffered to a great extent. Next morning a telegram was received in Hongkong stating that Macao was in ruins. The actual damage was not quite so thorough as the concise description implied, but it was very wide-spread, notwithstanding, and the loss of life in a population of eighty thousand souls was vast. Indeed, it was found impossible to afford sepulture to the number of dead bodies which were collected in the harbour and on shore. From two to three thousand corpses were accordingly burned, by order of Governor San Juanario, in a furnace or furnaces specially erected without the city. Reference is casually made to these circumstances, not with the idea of magnifying the great typhoon of 1874. At the same time those who were anywhere within reach of its violence have reason not only to remember how fiercely severe it was, but to wonder that it did not work still wider destruction of life and property.

The "bill of lading" question is under consideration at the annual session of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, for the consideration of commercial questions needing legislative action, which was opened at the Westminster Palace Hotel in February. It was moved by Mr. Neil, of Greenock.—"That, looking to the great difference at present existing in the forms of bills of lading and to the unsatisfactory nature of clauses in some of these forms giving rise to disputes and often to litigation, this subject be remitted for consideration to the executive council with a view to securing the adoption of a satisfactory general form for bills of lading." The proposer of this resolution explained that its object "was to strike at a system of exceptions from liability inserted in bills of lading by the great steamship companies, they practically having the monopoly of carriage on certain lines of communication. What was wanted was a fair bill of lading, defining the rights of shippers and consignees, and what the action of that association was held to be. Mr. Moore (Plymouth) objected that the task was too herculean for the association to undertake without having a

special council appointed for the purpose of dealing with a draft bill of lading. After much debate, Mr. Plummer (Newcastle-on-Tyne) suggested that the only practical mode was to draft a bill of lading for the consideration of shipowners and shippers, and moved for a special committee to consider the matter before being submitted to the council of the association. Mr. Whitwell said it was proposed to appoint a maritime sub-committee to assist the council, and urged that the resolution should be submitted to the council with the assistance of that sub-committee. Mr. Monk, M.P., preferred Mr. Plummer's view, and suggested that the Greenock Chamber should draft a bill of lading to be submitted to the autumnal meeting." And here the matter apparently rests for the present.

Mr. Maury, Japanese Minister to the Court of St. James, was, among other distinguished guests, present at the annual dinner of the Associated Chambers of Commerce. Mr. Whitwell M.P., proposed the toast, "Success to our foreign and commercial relations with foreign countries and with our colonies." Among other themes he dwelt upon the great progress which Japan had made, and concluded by coupling the toast with the names of the Japanese Minister and Mr. Childers, M.P. Mr. Maury was enthusiastically applauded on rising to respond. He said:—

It is peculiarly pleasant to me that the occasion of my first attendance at any public dinner in this country should be one connected with so important an association as this now present. I need not say that the great value of Chambers of Commerce is known all over the world; they represent the vital interests of nations, and they promote international alliances. I am happy to say that the establishment of Chambers of Commerce in my country has already proved to be a vast benefit to my countrymen. (Cheers.) There are now in Japan several Chambers of Commerce, organised in nearly all the commercial centres of the country, instituted chiefly after the admirable models of this great commercial country of the West. (Cheers.) It is to be hoped that the Chambers of Commerce in Japan may soon become an important factor in the commercial progress of the world. I confidently trust that, when fresh arrangements for the commercial relations between England and Japan take place, all the Chambers of Commerce both in the East and West, especially this great institution of yours, will spare no effort in their power to bring about a satisfactory issue, equally just and beneficial to all the parties concerned. Speechmaking has not been introduced into Japan yet, and this is my first attempt. (Cheers.)

The following changes in the British consular service in China, although not yet gazetted, are said to be probable. Mr. Hughes will on the expiration of his leave proceed to Shanghai as Sir Brooke Robertson's successor. Mr. Alabaster, now officiating at Hankow, will be appointed Consul for that port, and Mr. Hewlett is confirmed as Consul at Canton. Among the other changes in the service we hear that Mr. Philipps will be appointed Consul at Taiwan, Mr. Forrest Consul at Amoy, Mr. Davenport Consul at Tientsin, Mr. McClatchie Consul at Chefoo, Mr. Jamieson Consul at Kiukiang, Mr. H. Allen Consul at Newchwang, Mr. C. Allen at Pakhoi, and Mr. B. C. G. Scott Vice-Consul at Shanghai.

Of Mr. F. A. Weld, C.M.G., late Governor of Tasmania, who has been appointed Governor of the Straits Settlements, it is recorded that he was a successful New Zealand politician, explorer and settler, and is also an author. He was appointed Governor of Western Australia in April, 1869, and of Tasmania in September, 1874. Mr. Weld was educated at Stonyhurst and Freiburg, Switzerland, and is a Roman Catholic. A North China contemporary says that, "by the exchange of Governments Mr. Weld will profit considerably in a pecuniary sense, the salary in Tasmania being, with allowances, £4,130 against some £6,000 in the Straits; but he will lose enormously so far as climate is concerned, that of Tasmania being simply unsurpassed in the world." The climate of Tasmania deserves the eulogium passed upon it. It very closely resembles that of this part of Japan.

The native papers seem determined to leave nothing undone to try to persuade their readers that there is a general desire among the people of this country for representative institutions. Having now pretty well exhausted every other class, one of our contemporaries gravely announces, only as a rumour however, that "several police sergeants and constables in the prefecture of Hiogo, have sent in an application to a certain authority demanding the establishment of a national assembly."

It is also announced that a society with two thousand members has been formed in Ibaraki. This new organization for "demanding the establishment of a national assembly" is styled the *Mimpu Shu*. It would be interesting to know what proportion the agitators for a constituent assembly bear to the thirty-three millions of inhabitants in Japan. Representative Government must be conceded to the people of this Empire in due time, but it will scarcely be seriously contended that the time has yet arrived.

Mr. Crane was greeted on Tuesday evening by a small but enthusiastic audience, on the occasion of his farewell concert before proceeding to "fresh fields and pastures new" in the United States. The programme was varied and admirably calculated to suit all tastes, from the classical purist, who found substantial food in the overtures and piano trio, to the ordinary lover of a "good song," who must have been thoroughly at home with the *Death of Nelson* and Rolandi's choice little romance in the first part. The overtures once more brought out our musical Siamese twins, and although one of them was evidently much out of health, the joyous *presti* flew along with undiminished vigor. A small choir of male voices gave an admirable rendering of Smart's *Legend of the Rhine*, while the *bénéficiaire* was heard to great advantage in the *Air varié* by De Beriot, in which all the mysteries of double-stopping, harmonics and playing in the shift, were finely displayed. Equally at home on the violoncello, Mr. Crane took the bass part in the two trios, and accompanied with beautiful feeling and expression the song, *A l'étoile confidente*. Mr. van Lissa, did good service as violinist in the trios; both being played with great precision, while the lion's share of work fell to the indefatigable Mr. Keil. Before the audience in every number, acting *kodukai* to remove music desks and arrange the platform generally, he seemed the very keystone of the whole affair. It is superfluous to "paint the lily" by speaking of his performances. Whether leading a trio, assisting in a *Duo brillante*, or in delicate accompaniments, his skill is unrivalled and invaluable. Indeed it is not too much to say that, without that gentleman's hearty coöperation, the concert would not have been brought off at all. Mr. Wagner delighted all hearers by his admirable rendering of some solos for the flute; and the vocal honors were equally divided between Mr. Black, an old favorite, and a young French amateur, of whose fine voice we have recently spoken. We can only regret once more that the attendance was so meagre: the absentees will certainly regret losing a performance the like of which will not soon be repeated.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the programme of a race meeting to be held at Toyama Park, Tokio, on the 17th and 18th instant. These races are under the auspices of Mr. Kusunoto, president; Messrs. Hachisuka and Tanabe, manager and assistant-manager; Messrs. Fuji, Asada and Koike, treasurers; an executive committee, consisting of Messrs. Hirasu, Iwahita, Matsumura, Harada, Hayashi and Kobayashi; and a general committee of nine members. Seven events are announced for each day, the stakes on the first day varying from thirty to seventy yen, and on the second day from thirty to one hundred. Tickets of admission to the stand and saddling paddock are one yen and fifty sen for both days, or one yen for either day. These tickets are to be obtained at (amongst other places) the tailoring establishment No. 16, Ginza, the restaurant No. 8, Kanda Mitoshicho, and No. 22, Kojimachi. As there are a large number of entries for the different events, a good meeting is anticipated; at any rate visitors from Yokohama will undoubtedly enjoy themselves if the weather prove fine.

Between the 21st of February and the 13th of March only one vessel left New York for Anjer,—the *Timour* with 30,000 cases of kerosene. No vessel sailed for either China or Japan during the same period, but at the date of last advices there were two vessels on the berth for Shanghai, and three for Yokohama.

We notice in our San Francisco files that Dennis Kearney, the hero of the sand-lots, has been sentenced to six months imprisonment and a fine of \$1,000 for using threatening language, and that Mrs. Smith, another prominent leader of the rabble, is in durance vile. Matters appear likely to settle down quietly, as Kearney and his fellow-ruffians seem to have realized at last what it is to array all the respectable classes against them.

The *Hiogo News* says:—there was a tragedy on board the American ship *Centennial* on Saturday afternoon, the 3rd instant. It appears that the second and first mates had a fight, in which the former got the worst of it. He then got a pistol and fired five shots at his antagonist, three of which struck him, and the unfortunate man expired before medical assistance could be obtained. An inquest was held on Saturday night, but, at the request of the U. S. Consul, we refrain from publishing a report of it. The steward of the ship also received a bullet in the knee, and it is feared amputation will be necessary. The second mate now lies in the municipal gaol, awaiting trial.

It was subsequently announced that the pistol shot received by the steward is not likely to result so seriously as was at first expected, and that amputation will be unnecessary.

The telegraph has already informed us of the success of Oxford in the thirty-sixth aquatic contest between the two great seats of learning in England. The following table records the various races that have already taken place:—

Year.	Place of Rowing.	Winner.	M. S.	Won by
1836	Westmin. to Put.	Camb.	36 0	1 minute.
1839	do.	do.	31 0	1 minute 15 seconds.
1840	do.	do.	29 30	2-3ds. length.
1841	do.	do.	32 30	1 minute 28 seconds.
1842	do.	Oxford	30 45	13 seconds.
1843	Putney to Mort.	Camb.	23 30	30 seconds.
1846	Mortlake to Put.	do.	21 53	2 lengths.
1848	Putney to Mort.	do.	22 0	Many lengths.
1849	do.	Oxford	Foul	Foul.
1852	do.	do.	21 36	27 seconds.
1854	do.	do.	25 29	11 strokes.
1856	Mortlake to Put.	Camb.	25 50	Half length.
1857	Putney to Mort.	Oxford	22 50	35 seconds.
1858	do.	Camb.	21 23	22 seconds.
1859	do.	Oxford	24 30	Cambridge sank.
1860	do.	Camb.	26 0	1 length.
1861	do.	Oxford	23 27	48 seconds.
1862	do.	do.	24 40	30 seconds.
1863	Mortlake to Put.	do.	23 5	42 seconds.
1864	Putney to Mort.	do.	21 48	23 seconds.
1865	do.	do.	21 23	13 seconds.
1866	do.	do.	25 48	15 seconds.
1867	do.	do.	23 22	Half length.
1868	do.	do.	20 56	6 lengths.
1869	do.	do.	20 22	3 lengths.
1870	do.	Camb.	22 0	1½ length.
1871	do.	do.	23 5	1 length.
1872	do.	do.	21 16	2 lengths.
1873	do.	do.	19 35	3½ lengths.
1874	do.	do.	22 35	2½ lengths.
1875	do.	Oxford	22 2	7 lengths.
1876	do.	Camb.	20 20	8 lengths.
1877	do.	dead heat.		
1878	do.	Oxford	18 18	10 lengths.
1879	do.	Camb.		3½ lengths.
1880	do.	Oxford		

#### PARIS LETTER. (On Scientific Subjects).

FEBRUARY 14TH, 1880.

The Academy of Sciences invited Mr. Crookes to come and deliver before its members his remarkable lecture on "radiant matter," illustrated by a series of the most delicate physical experiments. As the academy building was insufficient to accommodate the immense crowd, the National Astronomer came to the aid of the body by giving a *soirée*, where Mr. Crookes obligingly delivered his attractive discourse and repeated his wonderful experiments. In both he was completely successful and created a profound impression. *Savants* differed about theories and conclusions, but none questioned the new and startling facts revealed by the lecturer's series of delicate experiments, palpable to sight and to test. We know matter under three forms, solid, liquid and gaseous. The process of passing to the latter stage is comprehensible, yet Faraday long ago surmised that matter existed in a form more simple, in a condition of more absolute unity beyond the state of gas, free from all trammels, and radiating without embarrassment. He called this, "radiating matter,"—a name retained by Mr. Crookes. The progress of science has confirmed Faraday's surmises. Gases are now viewed as composed of an immense quantity of tiny particles, animated by rapid and incessant move-

ments. The number of these particles has even been mathematically calculated; and in less space than one-third of a cubic inch, there are more than seven hundred millions. Now these atoms, when confined in a certain space, cannot move without knocking against each other. If a portion of the gas in this fixed limit be expelled, the particles which remain can move about more freely, even to the extent of never encountering, colossal as their number may be. It is like a crowd, closely pressed into a circumscribed spot. No one can stir; but let the crowd disperse, and then each individual can circulate freely, and resume his special volition. Now it is exactly this difference that the particles of gas display when heaped together, and when at liberty—a difference as sensible as that between matter in the liquid and the gaseous state, which, according to Mr. Crookes, justifies the belief in a fourth form of matter. That he calls "radiant," and to demonstrate that this fourth form possesses properties quite distinct from the gaseous condition with which we are familiar, was the object of his series of wonderful experiments. He rarefied gases in tubes hermetically closed. In the vacuum the isolated particles can move without obstruction, driven by electricity from the negative pole, radiating with an enormous rapidity from one end of the tube to the other. When they strike against the end of the tube, and bombard it, as it were, they cause the glass to become luminous. A diamond introduced into this vacuum, and exposed to the flow of radiant atoms, will become suffused with a light as brilliant as that of an ordinary candle. It is a beautiful experiment. Similarly, rubies, when subjected to the current of radiant matter, emitted a red light equal to that of incandescent charcoal. The air in the tubes is rarefied by a peculiar process. The pressure is reduced to the one-twenty-millionth of ordinary atmospheric pressure. It may be said "if this radiant matter possesses an impulsive force, why not test it by mechanical effects?" Mr. Crookes does so. He places, in a tube of rarefied air, two little parallel glass rods, on which rests a wheel made of mica spangles; in front of the wheel is the negative pole, which when rendered active impels the radiant matter, which causes the wheel to revolve, just as if on a railway, forcing it up the incline of the tube when held in a slanting position. Again the reader may say; "all these phenomena or movements are due to electric current." Let us see. Mr. Crookes fixes two negative poles side by side in the same tube. Down the length of the tube two currents of matter radiate, and sensibly, since they mark their presence along a fixed screen. It is an axiom in physics that two electric currents in the same sense, attract each other. Now if we were in the presence of two currents, since both are negative, the two brilliant lines of radiant matter ought to come together. Instead of this they repel each other. Hence, the effects are not due to electric currents. Collision produces heat. A ball fired at a target has often been picked up burning hot, and the heat will be the greater, as the motion of the ball has been more rapid. Mr. Crookes placed in a little tube, a morsel of platinum and subjected it to a veritable cross-fire of currents of radiant matter. The metal quickly acquired a white heat, and became so luminous that the eyes experienced pain in looking at it. Ultimately the platinum was melted. Now all these effects are new to scientists. In the case of Mr. Crookes's experiments, abnormal phenomena have been proved to be caused by the subtraction of matter. It is by reducing it almost to nothing, or varying it to a condition so tenuous as to be almost incomprehensible, that the action of matter becomes most striking. To give an idea of how far matter may be impalpable, the lecturer stated that if, after exhausting one of the tubes of air, he made a hole of the most microscopic dimensions in the glass with an electric spark, the external air would not the less rush in, and at the rate of one hundred millions of molecules per second. And of this speed to fill the tube with particles at the ordinary density of atmospheric air, would require four hundred million years—a period fixed by astronomers for the extinction of the heat producing power of the sun. Mr. Crookes left his audience under the impression that we are on the confines of a new world, where matter and force seem to confound themselves, or to be lost between the known and the unknown.

The manufacture of sweetmeats, until recently, was amongst



the most unhealthy of trades. An immense pan, one yard in diameter, was suspended from an iron bar over an intense charcoal fire, near which the baker stood, assiduously inclining from side to side and shaking the pan. He was never long-lived. The exhalations of carbonic acid and oxide did their work speedily. Yet strange to say, when Peysson invented machinery to replace the man, the trade resented the invention. The end of sugar-baking is, to cover the kernel—almonds, nut, caraway, or artificial cores containing special liqueurs or perfumes—with a thick coating of white and compact sugar; the surface must not only be firm, but smooth and glossy. The modern basin is whisked round by steam, the rapidity being graduated as required. On one side of the rim, is an air-valve, which admits a current to dry the contents. The baker has only from time to time to wet the mass with about one pound of sirup. The rotatory motion and the ventilation, cause a slender skin or layer to form round the kernel; and the wetting repeated one hundred times during twelve hours produces "almonds" and "confits," &c.; for all sizes can be made, from the "seed," employed to dredge gingerbread, up to "Spanish almonds," each weighing half an ounce. After leaving the pan, the sugar plums are ranged on shelves to be packed in boxes. It is to many like the fly-in-amber puzzle, to know how the inside of a hard, compact, bonbon can contain a drop of essence of coffee, roses, or some aromatic cordial. This is due to a peculiar property possessed by sugar in the form of sirup, not to wet starch. That is to say, if a drop of sirup be allowed to fall into a mass of starch, an analogous effect will be produced to that which ensues when water is spilled on a surface at white heat—the liquid assumes a spheroidal shape. In making sugar-plums starch is first placed in a square box; then a model is pressed into it and the cavities are formed; into these a drop of sirup is poured, and the box is carried to the drying room; in time a small film is formed on the surface of the cavities, sufficient to retain the sirup: the box is then emptied, and the delicate kernels separated, trembling like jelly, but becoming more and more consistent as they are dusted with gum, and dried. Later these artificial cores receive their first coating of sugar, and in twelve hours the whole operation can be terminated. It is to this property of sirup being run in a mould without adhering, that the whole category of "melling" sweetmeats can be prepared, in any shape or color. When the simulacra of doves, animals, edifices, &c., are in question, they are made almost in the same manner as that employed by a potter attaching the handle to a jug or pitcher. Sugar-sticks, lollies, drops, &c., are produced by machinery, not unlike the press for printing a newspaper. To conserve or fix the perfumes employed, a little tartaric or citric acid is added. Artificial perfumes are prepared from coal tar, but their duration is short and they are devoid of delicacy. One sugar baker in Paris manufactures annually, seven hundred tons of sweetmeats, a similar quantity of coal being consumed to work his machinery.

Many families object to embalming deceased relatives, because the necessary operations employed require, generally, twelve hours. The process for forty years has consisted in injecting some antiseptic solution into one of the principal arteries, and so distributing it throughout the body. The distribution not being always satisfactory, the desired preservation is not secured. M. Audigier has just patented an ingredient for embalming whose efficacy merits serious attention. He introduces into the mouth of the deceased two glass-fulls of a certain liquid, and covers the body with a vegetable powder impregnated with the same liquid. Twenty minutes suffice for the operation. A medical commission nominated in Marseilles, and another in Algiers, testify that some embalmed bodies, where decomposition had set in before they had seen treated by the Audigier method, were after two years found to be in a perfect state of preservation. They were completely mummified, and as hard as stone or wood. The skin had become brown, but the features were unchanged, and when covered with linen had retained a natural color.

Dr. Colin devotes much attention to the temperature of the body, as an indication and measure of disease. When the temperature of the various parts of the system is known, then only, he maintains, can be fixed the normal temperature of the

body and the law governing the distribution of animal heat. In the case of the horse for example; the temperature of its interior is always 38 degrees C., while the surface may be from 4 to 26 degrees lower. The same gentleman instituted some experiments last December at the Veterinary College of Alfort, on the cold-resisting power of animals. He exposed rats, rabbits and dogs during a whole day and night to a temperature of 10, 12, and 16 degrees below zero C. Some he buried in snow all but the head, others he enclosed in receptacles made of ice. These animals, while losing from a tenth to a sixteenth of their weight, none the less maintained almost their normal heat on the surface of the skin, but where once a certain inferior temperature was reached, paralysis set in. The snow acted as a protection, and M. Colin is of opinion that a man could live under an avalanche of snow, provided he could only respire. It was only when the cavity became humid, by the melting of the sides, that the animals enclosed in the ice receptacle suffered. Then while their trunk registered only three or four degrees of diminished temperature, the extremities recorded thirteen and fourteen less than their normal heat.

M. Perry has found that the potash contained in arable soils, whether they be of clay, lime, or almost of pure sand origin, contain from two to five and eight per cent of that alkali, and that vegetation derives its supply of potash more easily when it is contained in clay, than in sand.

M. Marié-Davy, the eminent meteorologist, has tested the presence of carbonic acid in the air daily, during four years, and finds that in 100,000 parts of air, the acid varies from 22 to 20. It is greatest it seems during humid weather and the predominance of the equatorial current. Rain has no very marked action on the presence of carbonic acid, while the latter neither affects the transparency of the air, nor the state of the atmosphere.

## SYLVAN SOUNDS.

(From the Japanese.)

### VI.

#### A FANCY.

Where mountain forests mingle  
Their dark with silver sheen  
Of filmy clouds that haunt them,  
With high-piled snows between,  
Shut up in some piny cloister,  
Hid from the golden day,  
Trees hoar with mossy tresses,  
Are hasting to decay.  
And, like to trees that wither  
In forest old and gray,  
Age touches us with wrinkled hand,  
And soon we pass away;  
But though they fade—these mortal powers,  
The Heart—may bear immortal flowers.

F. B. H.

Tokio, 10th April, 1880.

## JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

When Her Majesty the Empress Dowager takes her contemplated journey to Isé, she will make a *detour* for the purpose of visiting Kioto and the mausoleum of Komei Tenno.

His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Germany had an audience of His Majesty the Emperor on the 2nd instant, and was subsequently entertained at a banquet by the Princes of the Blood. His Royal Highness' vessel, the *Prinz Adalbert*, sailed Monday last for Shanghai and thence, visiting the various China ports and Hongkong, for Europe.

It is stated that General Yamada will accompany His Majesty the Emperor on his proposed visit to the provinces.

Mr. Nabeshima, the Governor of Okinawa Ken (Loochoo) who recently arrived in Tokio, has made a report on the state of his prefecture.



The appropriations for the Council of State are to be increased, and those for the Finance and Judicial Departments decreased.

Owing to the recent extension of the telegraph lines and further contemplated additions, the Authorities of the Department have decided to engage one hundred and seventy probationer-operators in a short time.

Their Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa, (the Junior Prime Minister), the two Fushimi, and Kita-Shira-kawa, and Their Excellencies, Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs, General Oyama, Minister for War, Admiral Enomoto, Naval Minister, and Awoki, Minister to the Court of Berlin, &c., called upon His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Germany, on board the *Prinz Adalbert*, on the 3rd instant, for the purpose of bidding farewell.

Two naval officers, Messrs. Takata and Magaki, have been appointed second-class secretaries of the Foreign Affairs Department and attached to the Japanese Legation in St. Petersburg. Messrs. Ioriye and Yoshida, of the Foreign Office, have been made third-class secretaries of the same Department, the former as an attaché to the Japanese Consulate at Korsacoff, and the latter as an attaché to the Japanese Legation at Copenhagen.

Mr. Senator Hayashi, who was ordered to Niigata to report upon the state of public opinion in that prefecture, has telegraphed to Tokio his arrival at his destination, on the afternoon of the 1st instant.

It is stated that His Majesty's departure on his intended progress will take place about the 10th of next month. This is to enable the trip to be accomplished prior to the approaching season for the breeding of silk worms, so as not to injure the industry. In consequence, Mr. Yama-oka, the Secretary of the Household, and Mr. Nishimura, the Secretary of the Interior, will start from the capital to inspect the road to be traversed by His Majesty. They will first pass along the Koshiu road to Yamanashi, and thence to Nagoya, and then return to Yamanashi, where they will remain, awaiting the arrival of the Imperial procession. On the first day of the Imperial journey, His Majesty will proceed as far as Itochi and rest there, and on the morning of the fourth day His Majesty will arrive at Yamanashi, where he will remain for two days. It is also currently reported that His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa, the Junior Prime Minister, will also accompany His Majesty, but this has not yet been definitely decided.

Judge Kishira, the President of the *Dai-shin-in*, who has lately been suffering from ill health, resumed the duties of his office on the 1st instant. Judge Ozaki has accordingly retired from the position of Acting President of the Court.

Dr. P. Mayet, of the Fire Insurance Bureau in the Finance Department, was appointed advisor to the Financial Section of the Council of State, on the 31st ultimo. He will still retain his former position.

A notice has been issued by the Minister for Public Works that, after the fifth instant, telegraphic business, both public and private, may be transacted at the different police stations.

The Military, Naval and Public Works Departments, are going to establish an Iron Works at Sapporo. The requisite buildings are said to have been already commenced.

His Excellency Tanaka, the newly appointed Minister for Justice, has, in commemoration of his appointment, entertained the officers of his former and present Departments and the Foreign Representatives, at his private residence at Shin-hana-cho, Hongo.

A local court, under the name of the *Tokushima Saibansho*, will be established in the new prefecture of Tokushima.

The Foreign Department has forwarded a quantity of medicines to Corea, amounting in value, it is said, to the sum of one thousand yen.

Mr. Chida, Chief Secretary of Tokio *Fu*, has been appointed Governor of the prefecture of Hiroshima, and will probably be replaced by Mr. Hiroyama, Chief Secretary of the latter prefecture.

Her Majesty the Empress Dowager leaving the palace at 8 a.m., on Thursday last, proceeded to the village of Koganeri, in the prefecture of Kanagawa, to view the cherry trees now in full blossom.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* informs its readers that Generals Saigo and Yamagata, Privy Counsellors, have discontinued the use of an escort of cavalry when in the capital.

The same paper states that Mr. Hannbusa will not go to Corea as *Chargé d'Affaires*, on account of a Korean Ambassador being now on the way to Japan.

The *Hiroshima Maru*, which left here on the 7th instant, had on board ten police officers for Corea. Thirty more are to be conveyed by the next steamer. The sum of 50,000 yen was also forwarded, to pay for the construction of Police Stations.

Mr. Kanai, the secretary for the Cabinet, has been appointed an officer connected with the proposed Imperial progress.

Messrs. Asai and Hirano, officers of the Agricultural Bureau, proceeded to the Shimosa Farm on the 6th instant.

Mr. Ono, Superintendent of the Osaka Mint, and Mr. Kitagaki, Governor of the prefecture of Kochi, left for their posts in the *Hiroshima Maru* the day before yesterday.

The rules for the local assemblies in the different cities and prefectures, passed at the recent meeting of Local Governors, will be published in a few days.

His Majesty the Emperor will attend the race-meeting at Toyama Park, on the 17th instant.

Mr. Funakashi, the newly appointed Governor of the prefecture of Chiba, left for his post the day before yesterday.

Mr. Kondo, Vice-Consul for Corea, left for Fusan on the 7th instant, and Mr. Kobayashi, Vice-Consul for Korsacoff, will leave for his post about the 20th instant.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The Japanese man-of-war *Hiei Kan*, left on the 5th instant on the cruise to the Indian Seas, &c., of which mention has already been made. Mr. Yoshida Masaharu, Envoy to Persia was on board.

The Commanders of the different Japanese men-of-war under sailing orders, viz:—Captain Matsura and Commander Arai of the *Tankuba Kan*, Captain Ito and Commander Hattori of the *Hiei Kan*, and Commander Takino of the *Amaki Kan*, were presented in farewell audience to His Majesty the Emperor, at 10 a.m., on the 2nd instant.

The four torpedo boats ordered in England by the Japanese Naval Department last autumn, will arrive here in May or June next.

The rifle invented by Major Murata has been definitely adopted into the Japanese army, after undergoing exhaustive trial. It is known as the "Murata" rifle.

Mr. Hanegawa, an officer of the Navy Department, has been appointed Chief Superintendent of the Ship-building Bureau, and ordered to the Yokosuka dockyard.

The number of men drawn by conscription in Tokio *Fu* for the present year to serve in the army, were:—212 for the infantry, 14 for the cavalry, 35 for the artillery, 14 for the sappers, and 6 for the commissariat corps; in all, 437 men.

Lieutenant General Shijo, Commander of the Nagoya Garrison, who has been in Tokio attending the meeting of the commanding officers in the army, returned to his post yesterday.

It is considered that three years will be required for the completion of the Iwahana arsenal, in the province of Joshiu.

A sergeant and ten privates, belonging to the first battalion of the artillery force of the Imperial Guard, were suddenly arrested, and brought before the military Court, the day before yesterday. The cause of their arrest is as yet unknown.

General Oyama, Minister for War, has forwarded to His Majesty the Emperor the resolutions passed at the recent meeting of the commanding officers of the army.

#### INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

Nine hundred and ninety-five persons visited the Competitive Exhibition of cotton and sugar at Osaka, during the week ending on the 27th of March ultimo.

On the 2nd instant, permission was granted for the establishment of a fish-market, at Hamacho, Tokio.

One of the native journals states that a Chinese merchant of Yokohama has purchased, for export to his native country, one thousand breech-loading rifles, sold by the Government.

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce is considering several measures connected with the Cotton and Sugar trades.

Mr. Yoshida, Envoy to Persia, who left here on the 5th

instant in the *Hiyei Kan*, was accompanied by Mr. Yokoyama (of Messrs. Okura and Co.), and an agent of the *Kunho Kwaisaku*, and Mikawayama, a fan maker at Horiyochō. It is understood that Mr. Yokoyama and other merchants will remain in Persia for a while, for the purpose of obtaining information on commercial subjects. Mr. Yoshida, on his way home, will visit Asia Minor and Constantinople.

A telegram, dated the 4th instant, from Sapporo, announces that, the snow having now decreased, agricultural work has been resumed.

The amount required to complete the organization of the Tokio fire brigade, under the Police authorities, is stated to be about 80,000 yen.

The usual meeting of the Tokio Chamber of Commerce was held last evening.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* gives as a rumour, for the truth of which it cannot vouch, that several police sergeants visited the premises of the Rice Guilds, at Kabuto-cho and Kakigara-cho, on the 7th instant, and a great disturbance ensued which lasted for some time. No cause for the proceeding is given.

A trading association has been formed at Kotaru, Yesso, under the name of *Taiyusha*, for the purpose of dealing in the products of Yesso, Yechigo, and the neighboring localities. It was at first proposed to fix the capital of the concern at 70,000 yen, divided into shares of 500 yen each, but so many persons showed a desire to join in the speculation that the capital has been increased to 100,000 yen. The company has already purchased a number of sailing vessels, and will commence operations at once. Mr. Horimoto has been appointed managing director, with Mr. Tanshiwa and several other assistant managers under his control.

The *Shokio Chosa Nippo* (a commercial paper) states that, in the settlement of commercial transactions, such as rice, salt, &c. in the central provinces, payment in specie is demanded, kinsatsu being at such a great discount. The farmers also have commenced to object to receive kinsatsu.

Prime rice from Akita has been selling at a good price, and several wealthy farmers in that prefecture have applied for permission to establish a Rice Company, under the name of the *Koen-ri-sha* (Improving Society) with a capital of 50,000 yen, for the purpose of improving the quality of the rice grown in the district.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The dockyard at Kagoshima is to be leased to the people of that prefecture for a term of thirty years.

The *Hochi Shimbun* mentions that the rivers in Kofu, in Yamanashi Ken, have become flooded, and carried away several bridges.

A native paper says that a number of Chinese gamblers in Yokohama have been arrested and punished by their Consul. The chief offender was fined four hundred yen and the others were whipped.

A telegram from Nagasaki announces that an explosion of fire-damp occurred in drive No. 2, in the Takashima coal-mine, at 9 a.m., on the 4th instant. About fifty-five miners were killed and sixty were seriously injured, but no particular damage was done to the workings.

During the month of March, 18,137 passengers were conveyed between Yokohama and Yokosuka.

Mr. Tsuruda, the sub-editor of the *Kofu Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, has been sentenced to forty days imprisonment under the 16th article of the Press Laws, for publishing a copy of a memorial forwarded to the Government by the people of Okayama, on the subject of a National Assembly.

A fire took place at 8 a.m., the day before yesterday, at Fukuzumi cho, Tokio, and was not extinguished until 9.15, after having destroyed twenty-five houses.

The works for the improvement of the Atami road were commenced by the Shizuoka people on the 1st instant. The road will be completed within four months.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 4th April, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$8,820.95
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 814.20

Total.....\$9,635.15

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$8,651.50
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 857.43

Total.....\$9,508.93

Miles open 18.

##### KOBE AND OOTZU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 4th April, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$16,976.31
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,811.44

Total.....\$18,787.75

Miles open 53.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$13,603.36
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,435.74

Total.....\$15,039.10

Miles open 47.

#### THE NEW REGULATIONS RESPECTING POLITICAL MEETINGS OR SOCIETIES.

(Came into force on the 5th of April, 1880.)

1.—If anyone shall desire to give a lecture on political subjects, or assemble a meeting to debate such subjects, the promoter, president or manager shall, three days at least before the lecture is to be given or meeting held, send in an application to the nearest police station for permission. Every such application shall state the subjects of the lecture or debate, and the names and addresses of the lecturers or speakers.

2.—Every person desirous of forming a political society shall, before doing so, make application for permission at the nearest police station. Every such application shall give the name of the proposed society, the rules for its government, the place of meeting of the society, and the names of the members. Any alterations in the rules of the society or in the members, after the establishment of the society has been authorised, shall be reported to the police authorities, who shall at all times have power to make such inquiries as they may deem expedient, respecting the affairs of the society.

3.—After the establishment of a society has been once authorised, three days previous notice of the first meeting must be given at the nearest police station. After the first meeting has been held, it shall not be necessary to give notice of the subsequent regular meetings, but any alterations must be notified as provided in article number 1 of these regulations.

4.—Whenever the police authorities consider that granting the applications referred to in the three preceding articles would be prejudicial to the interests of the public, they may decline to do so.

5.—Police officers in uniform, shall have power to visit all lectures or meetings, and demand the production of the license to hold the same.

6.—If the license shall not be produced when demanded, or if any subject not specified in the report shall be lectured upon or discussed, or if the lecture or debate is considered prejudicial to the public interest, or liable to incite the hearers to commit offences against the laws, or if persons are in attendance who ought not to have been admitted, and who refuse to leave when requested to do so, then and in every such case it shall be lawful for the police officers to close the meeting.

7.—The following persons are forbidden to attend or take part in political lectures or meetings, or to become members of political societies:—Men belonging to the army or navy, the first and second reserves, police officers, professors and students in government, public, or private schools, and students in the schools of art and agriculture.

8.—Every political society is prohibited from advertising the subject of its lectures or debates, or sending out agents or circulars to induce the public to attend its meetings. The combination of one society with another, and all communication between societies, are strictly forbidden.

9.—Open-air lectures or debates upon political subjects are hereby prohibited.

10.—If any lecture shall be given or meeting held, without the permission mentioned in article 1 being first obtained, the promoter of the lecture or meeting shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty and not less than two yen, or to imprisonment not exceeding three months and not less than eleven days. The person who lent or rented the place of meeting, the president, manager, lecturers and speakers, shall severally be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty and not less than two yen, and every breach of article 3 shall be punished in like manner.

11.—For every breach of the provisions of article 2, the president of a society shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty and not less than two yen. If false regulations or fraudulent lists of members of a society are forwarded to the police authorities, or incorrect answers returned to questions asked, the president of the society shall be liable, in addition to the monetary penalty hereinbefore provided, to imprisonment not exceeding three months and not less than eleven days.

12.—If a police officer is refused admission to any lecture or meeting, contrary to article 5, the promoter of the lecture or meeting, the president and the manager, shall each be liable to a fine not more than fifty and not less than five yen, or to be imprisoned of not more than one year and not less than one month. Every person who refuses to answer questions, or returns false answers, respecting any lecture or debate, shall be liable to a similar punishment to that hereinbefore mentioned. In the event of any person being guilty of a similar offence a second time, he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred and not less than ten yen, or to be imprisoned not more than two years and not less than two months.

13.—When the persons assembled at any meeting are ordered to disperse, everyone refusing to do so shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty and not less than two yen, or to be imprisoned for not more than six months and not less than eleven days.

14.—For every breach of article number 7, the conductors and president of a meeting, or the president and officers of a society, will be severally liable to a fine not exceeding twenty and not less than two yen, or to be imprisoned for not more than three months and not less than eleven days. If the offence committed shall be considered aggravated, the society may be suppressed altogether; and should any persons persist in holding a meeting after being prohibited from doing so, they shall each be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty and not less than two yen.

15.—For every breach of article number 8, the promoter of a meeting, the manager and president, and the president and officers of a society, shall each be liable to a fine not exceeding fifty and not less than five yen, or to be imprisoned not more than one year or less than one month. In addition, the society will be suppressed, and all persons found implicated in a breach of the said article will be liable to a similar punishment to that hereinbefore provided. Any person who shall compel another to join a society, or who has been previously convicted for a breach of article number 8, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred and not less than ten yen, or to be imprisoned for not more than two years and not less than two months. The president and director shall also be prohibited from forming or joining any other society for a term of not more than five years or less than one year.

16.—The foregoing regulations do not extend to meetings held in accordance with established custom.

#### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

#### THE EMPEROR'S ADDRESS TO THE LOCAL GOVERNORS.

(Translated from the *Fuso Shinshi*.)

AFTER the conclusion of the Local Governors' Assembly, His Majesty the Emperor entertained the members and their principal assistants at the palace. His Majesty delivered a speech on the occasion which was much

talked about, but as it was not officially made known at the time we did not think fit to refer to it, although we were fully acquainted with the reports current. Now, however, this important speech has been published in several of the papers, and this has caused us very great pleasure, because it shows very plainly that our Government has shaken off the detestable policy of secrecy so common among Eastern nations. The speech we refer to is as follows:—"When I ascended the throne I implored the aid of my illustrious forefathers to restore the former power of the dynasty, to establish great reforms in our country, and to promote the welfare of the inhabitants of Japan. Among the great changes carried out, the formation of the Empire into *fu* and *ken*, and the abolition of the feudal system, certainly occupy the first rank. The policy I adopted proved to be a good one; reforms prudently introduced, either in the Government or in the administration, lead us surely towards improvement, and I hope that I shall soon be enabled to grant to my people the benefits of constitutional Government. Much, however, remains to be done. The people, harassed by internal commotions had but seldom the opportunity to enjoy the advantages of peace. The nobility are getting instructed, but they are poor, while the wealthy men are, for the most part, to the great detriment of the country, still in a state of ignorance. I wish to alter this, and I hope that my officers will assist me with all their intellect and power to accomplish the difficult task. You, the Governors of the provinces, are well aware of the requirements of your districts, and I wish that you should apply yourselves to follow my instructions, and to carry out my schemes for the benefit of the whole country. If there are in your localities some noblemen, well educated, but without the means to take advantage of their knowledge, you will have to assist them and, if required, appoint them to suitable offices, and those who are wanting in knowledge you will try to engage to take advantage of the various means of instruction placed at their disposal. If some of my subjects, not sufficiently acquainted with the political necessities of the country, should come to criticize the actions of my Government, or express their dissatisfaction with the measures adopted, you will endeavour to correct any false impressions they may have adopted and impress upon them the necessity of the steps taken; but avoid all violence: use but the power of persuasion, and be good counsellors to them. Assist me in carrying out the great schemes I have formed for the welfare of my people, to increase the influence of our country and advance it in the path of civilization." Every Japanese subject who has read this gracious speech, cannot but admire the beneficent wishes of His Majesty. We have all long since been aware that the Emperor has, in his wisdom, been ever desirous of establishing a constitutional form of government and abolishing the old system of despotism, and it is very evident that His Majesty is now anxious to see the reform take place as early as possible, so that he can witness his subjects' participation in the enjoyment of tranquillity and prosperity. This fact gives us great cause for thankfulness, and we cannot, under the circumstances, avoid addressing a few words of advice to the Governors and officials who were honored with the foregoing exposition of the Imperial wishes, in order that they may not misunderstand the will of the Emperor.

We would point out that it is far preferable for the local Governors and functionaries, to endeavour to act within their instructions from the higher authorities, than to carry them out to the letter; because the injuries to the public good involved in the rigid fulfilment of all orders is infinitely greater than can possibly accrue from acting leniently. It is very noticeable that subordinate officers are only desirous of carrying into operation the instructions of their superiors as completely as possible, altogether regardless of consequences; and the result is that their zeal frequently outruns their discretion, and they exceed their duty without being actually aware of it themselves. It thus happens that they act against the wishes of the higher authorities and excite the anger and opposition of the people. Instances of this have hitherto been very common.

What guarantee is there that the Local Governors may not fall into the selfsame error after hearing the Emperor's gracious speech? His Majesty said, "the nobles are getting instructed but they are poor, while the wealthy men are for the most part, to the great detriment of the country, still in a state of ignorance, &c." These remarks



show great thoughtfulness on the part of His Majesty, but if the local functionaries, in their ardent desire to carry the Emperor's wishes into execution, should meddle excessively with the encouragement of education and industry, so that the people find themselves trammelled and hampered on every side, how can it be possible for the real objects of His Majesty to be accomplished, and peace and tranquillity preserved?

Again, the Emperor said, "If some of my subjects, not sufficiently acquainted with the political necessities of the country, should criticize the actions of my government, or express their dissatisfaction with the measures adopted, you will endeavour to correct any false impressions they may have adopted, and impress upon them the necessity of the steps taken; but avoid all violence: use but the power of persuasion, and be good counsellors to them." Now, these remarks have a very profound meaning, and if the local Governors, either through accident or design, misconstrue them in a single iota, the peace of the country and the lives of its inhabitants will be placed in the utmost jeopardy.

As His Majesty has well pointed out, there are many among those taking a warm interest in political matters who are without a proper understanding of the principles actually involved in many of the questions which arise, and they therefore rush into extremes. At the same time there are many patriotic men associated with them, who are fully imbued with a sense of the duty of obedience to the laws; and it is wholly impossible to distinguish between the law-abiding patriots, and those rash and turbulent spirits who are ready to carry out their desires at all hazards. It follows, therefore, that if the local authorities, in endeavouring to carry out His Majesty's ideas, confound one class with the other, it is hard to tell what dire results may ensue.

Rumours have lately been current that the Governor of one of the prefectures warned the President of the Local Assembly against joining in a petition for the establishment of representative government, and also that the Governor of one of the cities gave similar instructions to a number of the local politicians. We also read in the *Osaka Nippo*:—"Some time since we published a circular emanating from the *shizoku* of Miyazu, in Kioto *fu*, calling upon their associates to join in making an application for the granting of representative institutions. We now learn that the prominent members of the league were subsequently summoned to the office of the Kioto *fu*, and, as they insisted upon their right to address the Government as proposed, Governor Makimura invited them to his private residence and addressed them to the following effect:—"Now, gentlemen, when I was in Tokio lately, attending the Local Governors' Assembly, there were a number of politicians from Fukuoka, Okayama and other districts, who forwarded memorials similar to that you propose sending, but I understand His Majesty the Emperor considers that it would be premature to establish representative institutions in this country; therefore, I consider it quite useless for you to persevere in your present course, and that you are only throwing away valuable time and money. You had better postpone further action for the present; but if, notwithstanding the wishes of the Emperor, you still persist in arousing the passions of the people by forming a league and getting up these political manifestations, I, to whom the government of this prefecture is committed will have something to say in the matter." Now, what does Governor Makimura mean by this? If the persons he addressed were those to whom His Majesty alluded when he spoke of some of his subjects not being sufficiently acquainted with public affairs, and the Governor is trying to pacify them and prevent their doing mischief, then, of course, we have nothing to say; but no man, however clever, can always steer clear of mistakes, and if it should unfortunately turn out that these men are peaceful, law-abiding subjects, who are treated in this manner, then most assuredly the general public will come to the conclusion that His Majesty's speech was actuated by a desire to deprive the people of their inherent rights. Thus, instead of feeling grateful to the Emperor for his gracious words, the public will censure His Majesty. Who will be to blame for that unhappy result?

Oh! If the Governors and functionaries who had the honour to listen to the Imperial oration would only direct their attention to the questions we have raised, so as not to

discredit his Majesty on the one hand, nor excite the ill-will of the people on the other; then indeed would there be some probability of the happy visions being realized which we indulged in when we first perused the Emperor's magnanimous speech.

## THE OPENING OF COREA.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

IF the question is asked why we desire to open up Corea to trade, the answer will probably be that we wish to introduce our civilization to the country, and in so doing enlighten the inhabitants. Again, it may be remarked that it is a very fortunate circumstance for Japan that Corea is in a savage state, because in consequence we need not pay attention to the defence of the south-western coast, and therefore it is an unwise proceeding to strive to enlighten the Coreans. This is a very narrow and selfish view to take, and in opposition to any such argument we would remark:—It must be borne in mind that in bygone times, men struggled one with the other for food, and the powerful lived upon the flesh of the weak. Then again, in the middle ages, men went forth to fight in large armies; one country battled with another, and the vanquished became the prey of the victors. Such, however, is not the state of international relations at the present time. Every country is governed by its own laws, and nations are guided in their dealings with one another by a recognized code of international rules. But it is nevertheless true that, however well recognized these facts may be, the old feeling of the strong preying upon the weak is still very noticeable in many instances. The history of Europe for the past two hundred years affords numerous remarkable instances of the truth of this, and we find England, France, Russia, and other states, rising to wealth and power upon the ruins of vanquished nationalities. It is, however, unquestionable that Europe, as a whole, has wonderfully increased in strength and influence during the period referred to.

Let us now turn to Asia and see the condition of its two empires and six kingdoms. In the fifteenth century Portugal commenced intercourse with the great Empire of India, and since then the Dutch, the French, and the English have in succession traded there, and the ultimate result has been that the country has now fallen into the hands of Great Britain. Then look at China. Since that Empire entered into treaties with the Western Powers, several wars have taken place, notably about the opium trade, and the Chinese, being defeated, have been despoiled of territory and vast sums of money, and thus lost influence and prestige. This being the experience of the two powerful empires, how could the kingdoms hope to escape? Ever since the eighteenth century we find that Persia has been harassed by the Russians and English, and Afghanistan, Siam, Burmah, Annam, &c., have all had to endure the dismemberment of their country at the hands of either Great Britain or France. It is impossible to tell whether the whole of Asia will not sooner or later be absorbed by the European Powers, and it is certainly an important question, worthy of the gravest consideration at this particular juncture by all Oriental nationalities.

Fortunately, however, for the future of the East, the empire of Japan has survived, unimpaired, the effects of war with the West, and, during the last ten years, has made rapid strides along the path of civilization. Thus Heaven seems to have appointed Japan the chosen instrument for the salvation of the Orient from the dangers which menace it from the West; and if, the people of this country will only acknowledge the duty devolving upon them, they will find in it an irresistible argument in favour of guiding China and Corea to the haven of safety, by the benign light of the torch of civilization.

Then again, Corea is a small state, with Japan on the east, China on the west, and Russia on the north: it thus forms one of the most important positions in the east. Now what is the character of Russia, one of the neighbours of Corea? For over two hundred years, ever since the great Emperor Peter founded the policy of self-aggrandizement at the expense of other nations, this state has been perpetually engaged in foreign wars. Russia has despoiled Turkey, robbed Sweden, shared in the execrable dismemberment of Poland, and appropriated Siberia, Turkostan and several



portions of Chinese territory, upon various shallow pretends. Happily for Oriental nations, Russia has hitherto been so busily employed in the West that no time could be devoted to the East, but as soon as ever Russian designs in the West are either accomplished or definitely thwarted, then will that greedy, powerful and unscrupulous nation turn to the East for further conquests. How can Japan, Corea and China hope to maintain peace under such circumstances?

Russia has already plundered China of a large extent of territory, and established a strong garrison in the fortress of Vladivostock. This shows that the Colossus of the North entertains sinister designs in the Far East, and it is also a fact pregnant with meaning that this Russian stronghold is only fifteen or sixteen miles distant from Kan-kin-dai in Corea. It is evident that Russia wishes to absorb Corea into her vast domains, because six years since she wanted to establish a Russian Colony in the country, under the specious pretext of entering into commercial relations. Now, if Russia seized Corea and turned Fusan into a naval station, it would be very serious indeed for both China and Japan. Therefore, it is very easy to realize our desire to see Corea opened up to civilization and thus placed in a position to defend successfully any attempt at encroachment on her territory.

For the past five years we have been constantly advocating the same line of policy; and, as clouds are again gathering on the political horizon, we think this a fitting moment to bring this important subject once more to public notice.

#### THE NEW LAW FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

A REPORT was circulated the other day that, at a secret meeting of the Senate, held on the 30th of March ultimo, a law was passed without opposition or comment, having for its object the regulation of public meetings. It was also said that Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto, as the representative of the cabinet, introduced the measure. We cannot vouch for the truth of either rumour, but there can be little doubt that, if correct, the result will soon be apparent in the promulgation of a set of regulations which will be binding upon the people of this country. It is well known that there are many different kinds of meetings or assemblies. A congregation of people listening to a priest expounding the tenets of religion, is a meeting. Is the Government about to restrict our religious liberty? We cannot believe it possible. Then again, agriculturists, artisans, and merchants, often assemble for the purpose of discussing matters connected with their several callings. Does the Government wish to prevent these meetings and thus hamper trade? It is scarcely to be imagined. Now, although we have no means of ascertaining what took place at the secret meeting of the Senate, still we cannot avoid coming to the conclusion that the Government, being aware of the frequency of lectures upon political subjects, and the great increase in political organizations all through the country, with the avowed object of securing the establishment of representative government and the enlargement of the power of the people, has come to the determination to pass a law regulating the proceedings of these associations, and the lectures given under their auspices. It is well known that numbers of politicians from the North, South, East and West, have assembled in the capital for the purpose of sending in memorials asking for the establishment of a national assembly, and that the Risshi-sha (Resolute Society) in the South, has planted the seeds of political aspirations in the minds of the people of that locality, while the Aikoku-sha (Patriotic Society) of Osaka, has despatched agents throughout the length and breadth of the land to disseminate the views of the society, thus making Osaka the centre of the national movement for the accomplishment of the great object—the establishment of representative institutions. It therefore appears reasonable that the new regulations are aimed at political societies and lecturers only.

Now, there are two sides to every question, and each has its advantages and disadvantages. A wise ruler balances these evenly, takes no heed of trifles, but unerringly chooses the course which presents fewest grave objections, and thus controls the country in harmony, and promotes its prosperity. Here, in Japan, the political societies number thousands and tens of thousands of adherents, and are to be found in every

part of the Empire. It may be that, at some of the meetings, expressions have been made use of occasionally by unthinking persons which have aroused the apprehensions of the authorities. But these people are like a current without a source. If left severely to themselves they will soon be relegated to obscurity, without having occasioned any damage, or even left any trace behind them. The existing police regulations are, we imagine, sufficiently stringent to effectually prevent anyone from long continuing a course which the authorities find obnoxious. If a man thinks otherwise, let him try it, he will soon find his mouth closed. Why then does the Government think it necessary to make fresh rules for the purpose of abridging the liberty of our public speakers and politicians?

Our Government is just and impartial, and should therefore discriminate between the few rash and turbulent demagogues and the true patriots. If laws, passed for the suppression of the former class, are applied also to the latter, what fruit will our political vines bear? Two very distasteful ones at least. In the first place, all concord and harmony between the Government and people will be destroyed, and the latter will come to look upon the former with hatred, and, in fact, as if they were suffering under the evils of foreign domination. And, secondly, the action of the authorities will interpose formidable obstacles to the progress of civilization in the country. Under the first of these evils peace may, perhaps, be maintained for a time, but disturbances will surely follow the second.

Let those who take an interest in the preservation of peace in our country, observe attentively the condition of the community in this present year of Meiji (1880). How can the passing of a mere law or regulation suppress the interest felt in political questions? The desire for liberty has now permeated all ranks of society, and we find even the ignorant farmers attending the political gatherings, and loudly expressing their anxiety for the establishment of a national assembly.

If we compare the present movement with that at the close of the Tokugawa domination, which had for its object the restoration of the imperial authority to its original position, we find that it is ten times greater both in power and intensity. Then the samurai and upper classes in the western provinces alone took part in the restoration; while the traders and farmers knew little and cared apparently less, about what was going on. But now the whole population of the country is actuated with one burning desire for representative institutions, and the movement has become as powerful and uncontrollable as a vast conflagration or the current of a mighty river. Under these circumstances, if the Government has promulgated these new regulations with a view to stifle the political aspirations of the people, we greatly fear, that instead of tranquillity and peace, the enforcement of these laws will result in fearful disturbances, with all their long train of attendant evils.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

Berlin, March 2nd.—The German Army Bill has been referred to a select committee. A convention has been concluded between England and Germany, assuring the co-operation of the navies of the two countries in the suppression of the slave trade.

London, March 3rd.—Mr. Whitworth, the Liberal candidate, has been elected member of Parliament for Drogheda, in place of the deceased member.

Constantinople, March 3rd.—M. Commuraoff, who was lately fired at here and wounded, has since died from the injuries received.

London, March 4th.—Charles Edmund Grissell, who was arrested last year upon a warrant issued by the Speaker of the House of Commons for breach of privilege, and confined, has again been arrested and committed to Newgate.

Lord Mark Kerr, Colonel of the 54th Regiment, has been appointed Colonel of the 13th Foot, and Lieutenant-General John Stuart, has been appointed Colonel of the 54th Foot.

London, March 5th.—The President of the Board of Trade, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that a lighthouse on the island of Galita in the Mediterranean had been promised, and that negotiations were progressing for the erection of others in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

Ismalia, March 4th.—The steamer *Athena*, from Bombay to Genoa, is seriously ashore in the Suez Canal, and is unloading. The passage is stopped.

Berlin, March 4th.—The Emperor William, at a dinner yesterday at which Count St. Viller, the French Ambassador, was present, expressed most friendly sentiments towards France, and said that there was no reason to fear any interruption in the friendly relations existing between Germany and France.

London, March 6th.—The *Times* publishes a letter received from Mr. Roper Lethbridge, the Press Commissioner, containing a defence of the Indian Vernacular Press Act, in reply to an article which appeared in the *Contemporary Review*.

Latest advices from the seat of war in South America state that the Chilean fleet attacked the town of Arica, and during the action the commander of the *Huascar* was killed.

Aden, March 8th.—The steamer *Bataria*, the first of the Cunard new line to the East, ran ashore on the island of Perim, but was towed off on the 6th March, by the gunboat *Philomel*, uninjured.

London, March 8th.—The Board of Trade Returns of Imports for the past month amount to £33,250,000, showing an increase of £4,562,500, as compared with the same period last year; and the Returns of Exports for the past month amount to £16,500,000, showing an increase £781,250, as compared with the same period last year.

Washington, March 8th.—President Hayes, in his message to the Senate, states that it is necessary that the proposed Panama Canal should be under the control of the United States.

London, March 9th.—The steamer *Travancore* is expected to become a total wreck. All the specie on board was saved and none of the ship's company were lost.

A manifesto has been issued by the Premier, addressed to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, pointing out the attempts made to dismember the Empire, and inviting the opinion of the country on the maintenance of the Union, as it is a necessity in the interests of peace that British influence should be predominant in the Councils of Europe.

Berlin, March 9th.—Prince Bismarck has expressed his approval of the action of the French Government in refusing the extradition of Hartmann, charged with complicity in the Moscow attempt on the life of the Czar.

London, March 10th.—Brigadier-Generals Keyes and Ross, of the Madras and Bengal Staff Corps, have been created Knights Commanders of the Bath.

London, March 11th.—A manifesto has been issued by Lord Hartington, in which he emphatically denies that the Liberals desire the severance of the colonies from the mother country. Whilst firmly opposing Home Rule, he promises to give attention to the reasonable demands of Ireland. As regards the foreign policy of the Government, he says it has everywhere failed, and immense responsibility remains. The Afghan nation has been destroyed, whose independence was admittedly important for the security of our North Western frontier. He then promises reform in the franchise, local Government and land laws, and finishes by stating that the Liberal party, while up-holding the power and integrity of the Empire, will avoid a policy of disturbance and needless annexation.

Sir Stafford Northcote, in his address to his constituents, trusts that the period of anxiety is terminating, and that the next Parliament will be able to devote its undivided energies to domestic improvements. The manifesto of the Home Rule party has been issued, and severely attacks the Government.

London, March 11th.—The Under-Secretary for India, in answer to a question in the House of Commons, said that communications are now being exchanged between the Viceroy and Lord Cranbrook, concerning the whole British policy in Afghanistan.

Colonel Stanley, replying to a question, said the proximate cost of bringing the Indian troops to Malta was £470,000.

Sir Stafford Northcote submitted the Budget to the House. The revenue for the past financial year amounts to £80,860,000, and the expenditure to £84,216,000. The

revenue for the ensuing financial year is estimated at £81,560,000, and the expenditure at £81,485,000. An alteration in the probate duties, raises the surplus to £774,000. Of accumulated eight million exchequer bills, it is proposed to convert six million into terminable annuities, the last to terminate in 1887, thus reducing the surplus to £178,000.

Sir Stafford Northcote, replying to a question, said that the Afghan war expenses were to be borne by India; therefore there was no intention of asking the House for a vote on that account.

The troopship *Jumna* has sailed for Bombay.

London, March 5th.—The House of Commons has read, a second time, the Army Discipline Bill.

Mr. Gladstone has issued his address, which follows close in the lines of Lord Hartington's.

In the House of Commons this evening, Mr. Fawcett's motion that England should contribute towards the Afghan war expenses was brought forward.

Mr. Stanhope said that the best guarantee for economy in India, was by letting her pay for her own wars and not by burdening England with the cost of the same. The motion was negatived without a division.

Aden, March 12th.—The *Zambezi*, with the mails of the 27th ultimo, sailed for Bombay at three this afternoon; and the *Cathay* for Gallo and Calcutta at seven this evening.

London, March 13th.—Mr. Gladstone, at a Liberal meeting held yesterday at Marylebone, expressed his firm belief that Lord Derby will henceforth associate himself definitely with the Liberal party.

The *Standard* publishes a paragraph stating that Sir Garnet Wolseley has been appointed Quarter-Master-General at head-quarters. Consols 97½.

Bombay, February 28th.—The Russian Government has appointed M. Vonillon, the Manager of the French Bank, Russian Consul at Bombay. This is the first appointment to a Russian Consulate in India.

Bombay, March 1st.—Further particulars regarding the loss of the *Vingoria* state that she sailed with eight saloon passengers, including three children, eight second-class, and ninety-five deck passengers. All went well, the sea being smooth, and the wind light, till half-past nine the same evening, when the officer on watch observed the ship settling down by the head. On opening the main hatch, water was found in the hold within five feet of the main deck. Every effort was made to discover the leak, but without success, and the water gained so rapidly that the pumps were unable to keep it under. Orders were then given to clear away the boats. The mail-boat was placed in charge of Mr. Wood, the second officer, and took all the saloon passengers and their servants, making a total of nineteen souls. The gig was lowered under the superintendence of Mr. Conroy, the chief officer, and was filled with women and children, but as it was being lowered a number of native passengers crowded on board, and the excessive weight broke the boat. All on board were drowned. The port life-boat was placed in charge of a tindal, and took one second-class, 15 native passengers, and 24 of the crew. The starboard life-boat, in charge of the sorang, took 35 native passengers, and 12 of the crew.

Under the captain's orders the boats lay to some distance from the ship, and the commander and chief officer and third officer, tried to ascertain the cause of the leak, but unsuccessfully; and with the exception of the third officer, who jumped overboard and swam to the boats, all five went down, the captain being seen, as the vessel foundered, standing on the bridge, and burning a blue light. The boats cruised over the place where the vessel sank, for two hours, in the hope of picking up some of those left on board the steamer when she foundered, but without success.

The survivors speak highly of the conduct of the captain and officers in maintaining discipline, and of the assistance rendered by the second-class passengers in clearing away the cargo, in order to discover the leak.

The cause of the sudden leak is unknown.

A Court of Inquiry will be held to-morrow.

The total loss of life is 68, including 56 native deck passengers.

## ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

London, March 15th.—An unsuccessful attempt was made yesterday to haul the steamer *Montana* off the rocks.

London, March 15th.—The position of the *Montana* is unchanged. Receding tides lessen the chances of saving the vessel. Steam tugs and lighters are getting out her cargo.

Later.—The steamer's taffrail is covered at high water. A large part of the cargo, including all the meat and live stock, is saved. Salvage is proceeding. The vessel lies heavily on the rocks, which are under the boilers.

Dixon's colliery, near Glasgow, is on fire from an explosion. A thousand men are thrown out of employment. One death occurred.

London, March 15th.—Lord Derby writes that he will in future rank himself among the Liberals.

Lord Hartington, in an address, repels the charge made by Beaconsfield that the Liberals are endeavoring to separate the Colonies from England by the policy of decomposition.

London, March 15th.—The new British Arctic expedition sails May next.

London, March 16th.—Gladstone has started on an electioneering tour through Midlothian.

A meeting of the Radical Association of Lambeth, to support Henry Labouchere, editor of *Truth*, for Parliament, ended in a free fight. Lights were extinguished, and chairs and tables broken. Cheers, groans and hisses prevented speaking. An attempt to storm the platform was vigorously and successfully resisted with fists, sticks and chairs.

London, March 16th.—In addressing a crowd at a railway station, Gladstone said: "I am going to gain a victory. I expect to be supported with a zeal such as will make Scotland an example for the rest of the kingdom, and I will sweep out of their seats a great many men who now represent constituencies in Parliament, and consign them to that retirement for which they are more fitted."

London, March 16th.—Brand, Speaker of the House of Commons, after the announcement of dissolution, placed his resignation in the hands of the Premier on account of ill-health, but, through the solicitation of the Government, he consented to continue in the performance of his duties, if elected, during next Parliament.

London, March 17th.—It is rumored that the Duke of Connaught will succeed the Duke of Marlborough as Viceroy of Ireland.

It is said there will shortly be a change in the chief editorship of the *Times*.

London, March 17th.—Silver 52 1-16 per ounce.

London, March 18th.—Mauager Cafel denies that he is about to start for America.

The Council of the Irish Home Rule League has issued another manifesto to the Electors of Ireland, mainly attacking Lord Beaconsfield.

London, March 18th.—*Parole*, *Falsetto*, *Mistake* and *Wallerstein* are entered for the Manchester Cup Race.

Liverpool, March 19th.—*Parole* came in first to-day in the cup race; *Advance*, second; *Strathblane*, third. Eleven started. *Parole* was objected to on the ground of cross, [crossing the track in front of other horses] and disqualified. The race was awarded to Captain Machel's *Advance*.

The Grand National Steeple Chase was won by *Empress*; *The Liberator* second; *Downpatrick* third. Fourteen horses ran.

Liverpool, March 19th.—The Jockey Jaffrey rode *Parole*. The betting just before the start was 9 to 4 against *Advance*, 6 to 1 against *Chocolate*, 7 to 1 against *Parole*, and 10 to 1 against the others. *Parole* at the finish was half a length in front of *Advance*, with a length between the second and third horses.

New York, March 19th.—A Liverpool special says: *Parole* was not placed by the judges, who gave the race to *Advance*; *Strathblane*, second; *Emperor Titus*, third. The owner of *Advance* obtained the stakes. *Parole* swerved on the home stretch.

Dublin, March 19th.—The distress in the famine districts is deepening daily. The grants of money by the Mansion House Committee exceed the receipts. Land Leaguers say it is desirable that Parrell's arrival shall be marked by an expression of national feeling. Bonfires on the hills and bands of music in the towns throughout Ireland are suggested for Sunday evening next.

London, March 19th.—The House of Commons has adjourned until the 24th instant.

The *Times* says: The Ballot Act and the new registrations under the extended franchise have made a great change in the character of the constituency. Political organization cannot evade the effect of secret voting, and cannot make sure beforehand of results, in spite of the great change in population and public opinion.

## RUSSIA.

Berlin, March 15th.—A special revives the story of the retirement of Prince Gortchakoff.

St. Petersburg, March 15th.—Two officials of the Russian Embassy at Paris are expected to-day with documents explaining the refusal to extradite Hartmann. The Russian Government will be guided in its further conduct by the contents of these papers.

Warsaw, March 15th.—The police in surprising a meeting of Socialists, captured two civil engineers, one medical student and thirteen artisans.

St. Petersburg, March 16th.—The answer of the Municipal Council of Kharkoff to the Government communication urging the co-operation of the work of maintaining order, points out the impossibility of complying with the Government's request. It complains of restrictions upon the liberty of discussions, the bad system of education, and expresses the opinion that these circumstances tend to prevent the possibility of supporting the Government in their struggle against the revolutionary propaganda.

St. Petersburg, March 16th.—General Melikoff has taken under his control one division of the Privy Chancery, the Gendarmerie, leaving secret agents subject to the orders of the Minister of the Interior.

St. Petersburg, March 16th.—Gen. Gourko has been replaced by Gen. Kostander in command of the Guard and Military Districts of St. Petersburg, and Gen. Batiano, Commander of the Regiment of the Guard, has been appointed head of the police in place of Gen. Courtoff removed.

London, March 17th.—The winter sowing of wheat in South Russia suffered greatly from frost.

St. Petersburg, March 18th.—There is said to be so much disappointment and anger over the Hartmann affair that it is likely to lead to the displacement of those diplomatists responsible for raising the issue between Russia and France, without being sure of succeeding. If General Melikoff can maintain his position against the intrigues of officials surrounding the Czar, he will abolish the third section of the Police Department and its evil system of repressive and secret persecution.

St. Petersburg, March 18th.—The first sitting of the Executive Commission was held to-day, Gen. Melikoff presiding. Prince Lieowen, Minister of Domain; Makeoff, Minister of the Interior; Batianoff, Chief and others were present. Deputies from Town Councils will attend the next sitting.

## FRANCE.

Paris, March 15th.—Millaud and Vallier, Radicals, take the place in the Senate of Jules Favre and Valentin, Republicans. The supplementary elections for Deputies for Narbonne and Rambouillet resulted in the return of Labodie, Extreme Left, and Dreyfus, Republican.

Paris, March 15th.—Georges de Cassagnac, son of the late Garnier de Cassagnac, has been elected Deputy.

London, March 15th.—Information has been received of a rupture between France and Madagascar, in consequence of a misunderstanding between the French Consul and the Government. The Consul hauled down his flag, and appeals to his Government for support.

New York, March 16th.—A Paris special of this evening says: The great event of the season here was a grand reception and ball, given by the Chinese Ambassador and suite last night. It is doubtful whether Parisian society has ever had a similar surprise and such a novel treat. The affair came off at the magnificent hotel of the Embassy, within a short distance of the Arc de Triomphe. It was an event of the most unique and interesting character, and was attended by notables of the diplomatic, political, literary and artistic world. There could not have been less than 1,000 people present.

Paris, March 16th.—The *Temps* and *Pays* say, if the Porte cannot protect the Greek Boundary Commission, the Powers themselves can protect it by a joint escort of their own forces.

Paris, March 18th.—Fournier, the French Ambassador, has left Constantinople for Paris, to confer with Premier De Freycinet, respecting the disagreement between Turkey and Greece regarding the frontier. Prince Orloff merely takes a long projected leave of absence, and will return to Paris very soon.

## GERMANY.

Berlin, March 15th.—Queen Victoria, during her sojourn on the Continent, will meet the German Emperor.

Berlin, March 15th.—The Reichstag Committee on the military bill has approved its principal provisions.

Berlin, March 16th.—The Government is said to be elaborating a plan for a tobacco monopoly.

The lady to whom the eldest son of the Crown Prince is betrothed, is Princess Auguste Victoria, eldest daughter of the late Prince Frederick of Schleswig-Holstein.

Berlin, March 18th.—The committee of the Reichstag, to whom was referred the bill for the prolongation of the law against Socialism, have decided, ten to three, to report in favor of prolonging the operation of the law until September 30, 1884, instead of 1886, as proposed by the Government; and also in favor of declaring the law for the expulsion of members of the Reichstag and Landtag from Berlin, inoperative during the session.



Berlin, March 19th.—It is likely that diplomatic relations with the Vatican will be shortly resumed.

Berlin, March 19th.—Prince Alexander, of Hesse, the Czar's brother-in-law, has arrived at Berlin from St. Petersburg, with a mission from the Czar to Emperor William for completing the reconciliation between Russia and Germany.

#### ITALY.

Rome, March 17th.—During a speech in the Italian Chamber of Deputies last evening, Premier Crispienari inquired whether the Cabinet of the Right displayed great political wisdom in 1870, when they announced that they would respect the convention with France guaranteeing the integrity of the Papal territory, only a few days before the force of events drove them from Rome. Lanza, who was Premier when Rome was occupied by the French, denied that the government took that step unwillingly. A scene of wild confusion and uproar ensued. Furious attacks were bandied between the Right and Left, drowning the voice of the speakers. The declarations of Lanza, Sella and Visconti Venosta included some curious revelations regarding the Government's course toward France and the Pope; and, respecting the September convention, Crispienari asserted that there were differences of opinion in Lanza's Cabinet about occupying Rome. Lanza denied this absolutely, but Sella confirmed it, almost occasioning a quarrel between Lanza and Sella. The sitting was one of the most sensational in the annals of the Italian Parliament.

Rome, March 19th.—During a debate in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, Cavallotti of the Extreme Left, defended the Italia Irredenta Association. He admitted that the actual condition of affairs required their sentiments towards Austria to be kept in check, but a policy of fear was worse and more dangerous than a policy of adventure. He held the opinion that Austria was threatening Italy, not because of Irredenta agitation, but because of internal necessities. She had need of war against Italy, and her military party desired it. Premier Crispienari replied that the Government was pursuing a policy which had the full support of the country. The friendship between Italy and Austria is founded on respect for treaties and in sentiments of duty.

Vienna, March 19th.—The official *Gazette* says: The debate in the Italian Chamber of Deputies on foreign relations, has cleared up the situation in the most gratifying manner.

Trieste, March 19th.—An Austrian revenue cutter seized two Italian trading vessels in South Dalmatian waters, because they surreptitiously conveyed 6,000 breach-loading rifles and a quantity of ammunition, apparently destined for Albania or Herzegovina.

Rome, March 19th.—In the discussion in Parliament, to-day, the Premier said: "The recent Austrian arguments, the published reports of which were greatly exaggerated, were explained in cordial and spontaneous communications from the Austrian Government. We appreciate the good-will of that Government, and we intend to maintain the best relations with it."

Signor Bovio, of the Extreme Left, and a member of the Italia Irredenta Society, said the Irredenta Association did not desire war with Austria, but they would not allow National rights to be forgotten. Since 1881, men of note in all parts of Italy had affirmed Italy's right to Trieste and Isria. The democratic programme was, at home, an enlargement of the franchise, and, abroad, the maintenance of National dignity and rights.

#### SPAIN.

Madrid, March 16th.—The Court of Cassation rejected the appeal of Gonzalez, and sentenced him to death for attempted regicide.

Madrid, March 17th.—The Marquis of Orrovia, Minister of Finance, has resigned on the ground of ill health. It is expected that Canyayo will succeed him. It is reported that Elduayen will shortly take the portfolio of foreign affairs, and that Sanchez Castillejo will succeed as Minister of Colonies.

#### AUSTRIA.

Vienna, March 18th.—The Austrian and Servian Commissioners have signed a convention regarding a railway junction, two points of agreement, respecting the Bulgarian junction and the tariff of tolls, being reserved for the decision of the Servian Government.

#### TURKEY.

Constantinople, March 16th.—The Brigands who seized Captain Synges and wife demand, as a primary condition of their release, that the troops coming after them be recalled.

Constantinople, March 19th.—Field Marshal Fual Pasha is on trial before a special tribunal, charged with conspiracy against the Sultan.

#### SOUTH AFRICA.

Cape town, March 15th.—A committee of leaders of the Boer party have decided to adjourn *sine die*. It is proposed to hold a mass meeting in the Transvaal.

Affairs in Basuto Land are critical, in consequence of the determination of the Cape Government to insist upon the disarmament of the natives.

#### CENTRAL ASIA.

Tehran, March 15th.—Russian Troops with a large quantity of stores left Telihsar for Chatteroo.

Cabul, March 19th.—It is reported that twelve regiments of infantry and four of cavalry, from Herat, are marching on Ghuznee.

#### ALGERIA.

Algiers, March 15th.—A steamer burst her boiler in the harbor of Bona, and, driving into two feluccas, seriously injured twenty-five men. Two firemen and an engineer were killed.

#### LAW REPORT.

##### IN H. B. M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. T. RENNIE, Esq., Judge.

Thursday, the 8th day of April, 1880.

FRANCIS STILLFRIED versus WILLIAM WAGGOTT.

His Honour this day delivered the following judgment:—This is a re-hearing of a summary case, heard before the Acting Assistant Judge on the 11th ultimo, in which judgment was given for the defendant with costs.

The plaintiff claims \$16.00 for photographic portraits taken by him for defendant, at his (defendant's) request, but which he now refuses to pay for, on the ground that he did not consider the proofs sent him to be good. At the original hearing the defendant called a witness to prove that it was not customary for photographers in Yokohama to call upon their clients, to take and pay for photographs, if they (the clients) are not satisfied with the proofs sent to them, and on the re-hearing the plaintiff alleged that he was taken by surprise in regard to this evidence, and proposed to call further evidence in rebuttal of it.

As it appears to me, however, evidence of such a custom would be of little weight in law, in any case; and that in this particular instance, as it was proposed to give evidence only as to the practice of one other photographic business carried on by foreigners in Yokohama, I declined to receive this evidence, and re-heard the case upon that of the parties alone.

There is no important question of fact in dispute, and the issue is one of law only. It is admitted that the defendant, knowing the scale of the plaintiff's charges (\$8.00 per dozen for each portrait taken) went to his studio with a Japanese woman and her son, and requested plaintiff to take their portraits. Plaintiff accordingly did so, taking the boy twice and the woman three times. He subsequently sent the proofs to the defendant in the ordinary way, but the defendant returned them, saying that he was not satisfied with them—that the tint was too red, and that he would go to another photographer. The plaintiff told him that all his photographs had this red tint at the beginning, but darkened afterwards, and that, if these particular photographs did not acquire the desired tint in three or four weeks, he would not claim any payment for them. The defendant, however, declined to listen to the offer, and still maintains that he is entitled to reject the portraits, and to refuse payment to the plaintiff, on the ground that the proofs were not to his satisfaction.

In this contention I am of opinion he is wholly wrong. I think it is very likely that photographers, in what they consider the best interests of their business, do not often claim payment from their customers, in cases where the proofs do not please the latter, but this in no way affects their legal right to recover.

When the defendant, being aware of the plaintiff's terms, instructed him to take the portraits in question, the law implied an understanding on his part to pay for the work at the ordinary rate of plaintiff's charges, provided the plaintiff executed the order with reasonable photographic skill and diligence; whilst the plaintiff, in undertaking the commission, implicitly warranted that he was possessed of such reasonable skill, and would use due diligence in and about the matter. Now the proofs produced, which are those originally sent to the defendant by the plaintiff, appear to me to be very fair specimens of photographs; and indeed even the defendant does not allege that they were not so: he only says that, when originally sent to him, they had a red tint. I cannot think that he was justified in rejecting them, and refusing payment on this pretext alone, the more especially as the plaintiff guaranteed them darkening, and I am therefore of opinion that the defendant must pay the amount claimed,



with costs of both hearing and re-hearing, and there will be judgment to that effect. But the plaintiff must supply the defendant, should he desire it, with two dozen copies of such of the photographs as the defendant may select. As the plaintiff is out of the jurisdiction of the Court, he must bring the photographs into Court before receiving out the amount of the judgment.

## MY WIFE'S INHERITANCE.

IN THREE CHAPTERS.

### CHAPTER III.—HOW IT WAS REGAINED.

I returned to Cottam saddened and disappointed, but by no means convinced. I had, however, no choice but to leave the mystery to be solved by time. In due course Ellen and I were married. She received her two hundred and fifty pounds; and opportunity just then occurring, I bought a practice at Kinton, to which place we removed. We saw nothing of Charles, but heard that he had gone abroad. And so days and months passed on; I was happy in the love of my dear wife, and we both tried to forget 'what might have been,' or that we had ever looked forward to the possession of a fortune.

One evening about twelve months after I had settled at Kinton, I was called into the surgery to attend a lady. Of course I had no other thought than that it was a patient; nor was my opinion changed when I saw her, for her cheeks were hollow and her eyes sunken; but what was my surprise on looking closer to recognise in that wasted form the once passably fair, if not brilliant Miss Leclerc.

She saw I recognised her, and without waiting for me to speak, said: 'You are surprised to see me here, doctor; but I have something important to say to you. Can we be alone?'

'We shall not be disturbed here,' I said; and still not doubting that it was medical advice she required, I added: 'Well now, tell me your symptoms, and I will prescribe for you.'

'No, doctor; your medicines would do me no good in the purpose I have in view. I require your help, not medicine; and let me say, that in helping me, you will help yourself in a way you little expect.'

'Tell me how; and if I can do it, I will.'

'You can do it, I am sure; and equally sure you *will*, after you have heard my story.'

'I am all attention.'

'Well then, listen. I must go back to the time of Mr. Russel's death. You were very much surprised and disappointed at the disposition of his property; were you not?'

I bowed assent.

'In fact the will was a complete mystery to you?'

'It was indeed a deep mystery.'

'I can explain it.'

'You? I said, springing to my feet—you! Why, you had very little communication with Mr. Russel in his last illness.'

'No; and yet I tell you I can explain the mystery; and on two conditions, I will.'

'Name them. They must be onerous indeed if I fail to comply with them.'

'Oh, they are not difficult; they are simply these. First, that in consideration of this my assistance in obtaining your rights, you will not have me punished for the part I myself took in the matter; and secondly, that you will supply me with money enough to go to America, where I have friends.'

'But if a crime was committed, have I the power to promise you immunity from punishment?'

'Be content. You have; for the crime—and I won't deny that there *was* a crime—injured no one but you and Miss Ellen; and if I make restitution by enabling you to secure the real culprit, you can surely let the tool go free.'

'Well, I promise,' I said, after a few moments' consideration. 'Do what you have said, and I pledge my word that neither I nor any one on my behalf shall bring you to justice for your share in the transaction. That being granted, the other condition is easily fulfilled.'

'That is enough. I will now proceed. But first I must tell you why I do this.' It is not, as you might suppose, out of consideration for you, or even for Miss Ellen, although my conscience has often troubled me for my ingratitude towards her. No, she said: 'I have a purpose to serve, and that purpose is—*Revenge*. Nay; start not. It is the desire for revenge that nerves me to the confession. You remember what I once was. Look at me now. See my hollow cheek and wasted form; hear of my blighted life, and then cease to wonder that I crave for revenge on the cause. But pardon me; I must begin at the beginning. Soon after Mr. Russel's death, and the affairs were all settled, Charles left England for Paris. This you knew; but you did not know that I went with him.—As his wife, do you ask? No! Poor silly fool that I was; I trusted to his promise, that we would be married in Paris. Well, we lived gaily enough for two or three months; the marriage was put off on one pretext or another, until one day he went out, and never returned. He had left me—left me almost penniless—to starve or die, not caring which. It was some days before I could realise the fact that I was indeed deserted. I thought some accident had befallen him, and made inquiries in all directions. I even visited the dreadful Morgue, but without avail. At length I learnt that he had gone to Lyons, on his way to Venice; and thither I determined to follow him, but on the road was struck down by illness. When I recovered, all trace of him was lost. How I got back to England, I hardly know; but I was buoyed up by the hope that after all there might be some mistake, and that I should find him here, glad to receive me back.

I did find him; but how! The Willows has now both master and mistress. Yes; he is married, notwithstanding all his promises to me. Another reign in the house where I ought to be supreme. Oh, but he shall regret it. Little did he know my power, or he would have sacrificed his right hand ere he offended me. I did not tell him, because I wanted his love, not his fear; and when I would have told him, it was too late, for he had gone, and left me the wreck you see; married another, after the most sacred promises to me. But I will be revenged. Yes; revenged to the uttermost. He has known my love; now he shall learn my hate. I will drag him down—down, even as he has dragged me. It is impossible to convey the emphasis with which all this, especially the latter part, was said. I could see that the spirit of revenge was in her, its fire burning her very life out.

'Still,' I said, 'you have not yet told me anything about the will. I am anxious to hear about that.'

'I am coming to it now; but I cannot talk any more to-night. See here; in this packet I have written a full history of the transaction. Take it and read it, and I will come again to-morrow at this time to complete the evidence. Now let me go, for I am very weak.'

In truth she appeared weak and almost ready to faint; so I gave her a cordial, and sending for a conveyance, handed her to it, and bade her good-night.

Need I say that I hastened to my room to peruse the packet. I was far too anxious to delay. I found it addressed to myself, and inside headed: 'The History of the Will of Mr. Charles Russel, as related by Jeannette Leclerc.'

Miss Leclerc's History of the Will ran as follows:

'In order that you may comprehend all the circumstances of the case, I must go back nearly seven years, to the time when I first entered the family of Mr. Russel, as governess to his niece Ellen. I was then only seventeen years of age, and my pupil fourteen. The family consisted of Mr. Russel, Ellen, and a nephew Charles. This nephew was about a year younger than myself, and a fine handsome lad. There were whispers that young as he was, his habits were very irregular; and it may have been so. I had no means of judging. I only know that to my girlish mind he seemed all that a young man ought to be, and so when he began to take notice of me and make love to me, I lent a very willing ear. This went on with more and more warmth, until, for some reason or other, he was compelled to leave his uncle's roof; but even after this we managed to meet at frequent intervals, although of course all unknown to Mr. Russel or Ellen; indeed they neither of them had the slightest idea of there being anything between us. At length Charles left his uncle's office altogether, and decided to go to London. I will remember the last night before he went away. People said he was wild and wicked; but I only knew that I loved him, and he declared that he also loved me. He said that when he got a situation in London, he would send for me; in the meantime, he wished me to remain in Mr. Russel's service, and keep him informed of all that occurred. I faithfully promised; and when on the completion of Ellen's education, I was asked to remain as her companion, I gladly agreed, for Charles's sake. Well, time passed on, and nothing particular occurred. Mr. Russel retired from business, and we removed to Cottam; then came his illness, and your introduction to the family. I was ever on the watch for any scrap of information that might be interesting to Charles, and I did not fail to tell him of the growing intimacy between you and Ellen, as well as Mr. Russel's partiality for you. These last items seemed to give him considerable annoyance, and he requested me to redouble my vigilance.'

'One day I heard a servant tell you, that Mr. Russel wished to see you in his bedroom. You remember how these rooms were arranged; that opening out of the bedroom was a small dressing-room, which itself communicated with the servants' staircase, to afford facilities for lighting the fire, bringing water, &c. Now, as you went up the main stairs, I very quietly slipped into the dressing-room by the others, as I thought it possible that something might be said touching the interests of my dear Charles. I thus managed to overhear enough of the conversation to gather its import; especially did I take note of the directions for opening the secret place in the desk; and when I got to my own room I wrote them down, lest I should forget. Well, I immediately wrote off to Charles; and the news must have troubled him considerably, for in a very short time I had a letter saying that he would arrive at Kinton the next day, and appointing a time and place for me to meet him. I did so; and after making me repeat as well as I could all that I had heard, he boldly proposed that I should get possession of the will and bring it to him. He proposed (to facilitate matters) that as he was quite unknown in Cottam, he would go there and engage rooms at an obscure inn called the *Red Lion*, and I should find him there any evening. I confess this proposal startled me, partly because of its difficulty, and partly because it was my first step in crime. However, he overcame my scruples, and I promised to do what I could; at any rate I would visit him at the *Red Lion* at seven the next evening. Fortune favoured me. The next day, just at dusk—it was the latter end of February—Ellen asked me to sit by the bedside a few minutes until the night-nurse arrived; of course I agreed, secretly delighted, for Mr. Russel being asleep, I had little difficulty in securing the will. I remembered perfectly the directions: "Top middle drawer, and a penholder through the top right-hand corner, then look at the back." In fact, I had opened the secret panel more than once, to see if I had heard aright. Soon after the nurse arriving, I was at liberty, and hastened to meet Charles. I found him alone in an upper room of the *Red Lion*, and the table strewn with papers.

'Have you got it?' he eagerly inquired, the instant the door closed behind me.

'My only reply was to hand it to him. Without a word he broke the seal, and having read the contents, said: "You were quite right. It is as you supposed. He has left the whole of his pro-

perty to Ellen, except a few paltry legacies. Now, you shall see what I will do."

"Do. Why, I suppose you will burn it, and then you will come in for an equal share with Ellen. But mind, there is something left to me in that will, and it is only because we are to be married that I agree to its being destroyed."

"Fear not; you shall be made all right. But I think I can do better than what you suggest. I was not five years in my uncle's office for nothing."

"He then searched amongst the papers until he found a blank sheet as near like the one the will was written on as possible. "You see," he continued, "the old fellow was so methodical in all his ways, that I was pretty sure he would make his will on a certain sort of paper and in a certain way. I provided myself accordingly; obtained similar paper, wax, &c, to that which he always used, and had a copy of his seal made—I had plenty of impressions by me—you know you can get anything in London. Now see me write."

"He then began to copy the will, word for word, and I was astonished at the similitude. Five years' practice under his uncle's eye and with his uncle's writing constantly before him, joined to a natural aptitude for imitation, enabled him to copy every stroke and turn exactly. "There," he said, when he had finished. "A fair exchange is no robbery. I have written everything as it was before, except that Ellen's name now occupies my place, while I have taken hers. Not a very great change, but one that will make considerable difference to us both, I reckon. Now for the most difficult part, and that is to copy the signatures of the witnesses. I have practised uncle's often enough; but of course I did not know theirs; however, I must try."

"He did try, and succeeded so well that I could see no difference."

"There now," said he; "just you compare these two, while I go and get a glass of brandy."

"He left the room; and I, placing the two side by side, could only distinguish the one from the other by the change of names."

"Well," he said as he re-entered—"will it do?"

"Excellently well," I replied. "I cannot tell which was written by you and which by your uncle."

"Well, then; now to fold them;" and from a heap of various sorts of envelopes, choosing two, he took up the original will, sealed and indorsed it as before, but putting a small, almost imperceptible mark in the corner. He then took the new will and did the same, but without the mark."

"Now," said he, "listen carefully to my instructions. When you get home, replace the original will in the desk. You will know which it is by this mark;" pointing to the corner. "It is extremely unlikely that Mr. Russel has been out of bed and missed it during the two hours you have been absent, so that will be all right. This other envelope you must keep by you until he is actually dead, and then take the very first opportunity of changing them. The old will you may bring to me, and I will destroy it."

"But why not make the change at once? I could as easily put one in the desk as the other."

"No; no. We must not risk it. There is just a chance that uncle may get about again and take it into his head to open the will, and then where should we be? No; make the change when that is impossible, and we are all right."

"I see, I see," said I, half-sickening at the dreadful deception, and yet too far committed to draw back: "as I shall gain equally with yourself, I promise to do all you wish."

"When I arrived at home, all was quiet, so I presently went into the sick-room. "Nurse, I said, "supper is ready. If you would like to go down, I will sit here half an hour for you."

"She gladly accepted my offer; and as Mr. Russel was dozing with the curtains drawn and the lamp turned down, I silently and quickly replaced the old gentleman's will."

"Well, time went on. Mr. Russel, as you know, got gradually worse, and towards the end was more than half his time unconscious. One day you gave it as your opinion that he could not possibly live till the next, and it was during that last night that I stealthily made the change. In the morning he was dead; and so far our plot had succeeded completely. The result I need say nothing about, as you are so well acquainted with it."

"But now I must tell you of a little scheme of my own. I loved Charles, and would have done anything for him, and had no compunction in helping him, as I thought doing so was a means to love, marriage, and fortune. Still, he had taught me to be almost as wily as himself, and to take every precaution; so I determined to have a hold upon him, in case he should endeavour to play me false. To this end, when I got possession of the original will, I went into my bedroom, and with a sharp penknife, cut carefully the end of the envelope, drew out the contents, which I carefully transferred to my pocket, and then replaced them with blank paper the same size and thickness, gumming the edges of the envelope together again with pale gum. I daresay it was not very skilfully done, but it answered my purpose very well. Afterwards, when I gave it to Charles, he glanced at it, saw the seal was unbroken, and suspecting nothing, committed it to the flames. We both watched it until it was consumed, Charles exclaiming: "Now I am really master of the Willows."

"And I soon shall be the mistress," I added.

"Oh, that of course," he replied.

"I have told you how he kept his promise—villain that he is!"

Thus finished this remarkable confession—a confession which to me was as acceptable as unexpected. Of course there was now no mystery, and I am only surprised that something of the sort had not occurred to me before; but it must be remembered that I knew very little of Charles, and no one had even hinted—even if they knew—of any connection between him and Miss Leclerc. I read the confession all over again to Ellen, and we both rejoiced at the turn events had taken. Miss Leclerc came in for a certain amount of pity; yet we could not but remember that had it not been for

her connivance and assistance, Charles would have been unable to carry out his nefarious scheme.

"Still," Ellen said, "I am not sorry that you promised to allow her to escape punishment. If we get our own again, we can well afford to let her go."

In the morning I called upon Mr. Sparks, my legal friend, and somewhat triumphantly laid the matter before him. He was very pleased, and at once offered to assist me all he could. We both agreed that after my promise to Miss Leclerc, it would be better to try to settle the matter amicably with Charles too. We therefore decided to wait upon him and tell him that all was discovered; and if he confessed and gave up the property, we would then arrange without publicity or exposure. If, however, he resisted, we determined at once to proceed to law. It was Ellen's wish that, for the sake of the relationship between them, we should be as lenient as possible in case he yielded.

Miss Leclerc duly kept her appointment, and brought the oft-mentioned will with her. The conditions were again insisted on, and again agreed to: in fact I gave her fifty pounds on the spot, and promised another fifty pounds when all was settled. She then gave me the will, and was about to go, when I said: "There is just one difficulty. Suppose Charles to defend the case, he might say this confession was altogether a trumped-up tale, this will a forgery; and as he has possession, I am not sure but that with a good lawyer he would beat us."

"Ah! I don't think he will attempt to stand when he knows that I have told you all. But in case he does, then—with sudden energy—then, will I attend and give evidence against him, ay, even if I have to stand in the dock beside him. No; no. He must and shall disgorge his wealth. Yes; that shall be my revenge."

Next morning Mr. Sparks and myself went over to Cottam, and were ushered into the presence of Charles. He was not too well pleased to see us, and his manner towards us was brusque and abrupt.

"May I ask why I am favoured with a call so early in the morning?" he said with an attempt at hauteur, although I thought that in reality he was not quite at his ease.

"We have called on a very serious matter, Mr. Charles Russel," I said gravely.

"State it then please, as quickly as may be, or I cannot stay to hear you, as my time is precious."

"Not more precious than your liberty, I presume?"

"My liberty! What do you mean? What has your presence here to do with my liberty?"

"Simply this. If you refuse to hear us, we shall have you arrested at once."

"Arrested! Are you mad? On what charge?"

"On the charge of forging your uncle's signature and changing the wills."

"I—I—don't understand you." These were his words; but they were belied by his ashy-pale face and staring eyes.

"Oh, you don't understand. Perhaps you have forgotten. Then let me remind you of that night at the *Red Lion*, of the new will you made, and of the instructions you gave to Miss Leclerc—instructions which she so well carried out."

"It is false! I know nothing of what you are taking about. You have evidently come here to insult me. If so, you have come to the wrong place, I can tell you; and the sooner you pack off to Kinton again, the better." All this with an attempt at bravado, which, however, did not deceive either of us, as we saw in his face plenty of evidence of the real terror behind.

"Ah well, perhaps you do not remember these things. Then I have only one other bit of information for you, and that is—looking him straight in the face—we have possession of the original will."

"It's a lie—an infamous lie! for I myself saw it bur—" But here his courage failed him, and he could hold out no longer, he saw the fatal admission he had made; and after that we had very little trouble with him. He whined for mercy, and prayed that he might not be sent to prison. As it was not our wish to proceed to extremes, we were as lenient with him as possible; and it was eventually arranged that the two hundred and fifty pounds paid to Ellen should be returned to him, and that he should emigrate to Australia. This he did; and I think that not the least bitter portion of his punishment was the knowledge that it all came about through the instrumentality of the girl he had first tempted, and then so cruelly deserted.

Miss Leclerc was paid another fifty pounds, and joined her friends in America. We were never troubled with either of them again.

All that the world knew of the matter was, that a new will had been discovered leaving the property to Ellen. All the legal formalities were complied with, and we took possession; happy that at length my Wife's Inheritance was regained—*Chamber's Journal*.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XLIV.

#### THE FRIARS OF YOSHINO.

When the level beams of morning came on the following day to light up the impassive faces of the deities in the shrine of Mount Yoshino, they found there an inmate fair enough to be one of the gods themselves, but not less insensible to the pitying caresses of the sunshine than the stone effigies at whose feet she lay. Obedient to the instinct

of self-preservation, Shidzuka had done what she might, during the first watches of the night, to feed and foster such scanty embers as remained of the fire her companions had kindled, and when everything capable of being converted into fuel was exhausted, she had shrunk in terror from the frosts' breath as it stole in across the moonlight, wrapping about her an icy shroud that seemed to cling closer and closer till the pulses of her heart grew faint and the shadow of death began to hide the past from her sight. It was a hapless thing, she thought, to perish thus among the lonely snow-drifts; to lie unwept and untended, until men coming months hence to gather spring-flowers on the hill-sides, should find her there deformed by decay, and cast her body perchance into some pit or tarn, knowing nothing of the love it had once been her blessing to win.

Little by little, however, she had grown indifferent to these considerations, and yielded almost gladly to the lethargy that overpowered her. Whether this were death or sleep, it was at any rate a gain to escape from the fellowship of sharp sorrow and the sadness of constantly recurring memories that could never now be renewed, and so at last she had sunk down beside the ashes of the lifeless fire; and the moonlight, looking in, found that it could add nothing to the pallor of her face nor the bitter wind wring any fresh moan from her blanched lips.

She lay thus until the day was some hours old, only recovering consciousness just as the sunshine, failing in its efforts to rouse her, was beginning to give place to shadows in which the spirit of the frost brooded even at noontide. She knew now beyond a doubt that she had been wilfully deserted by the men chosen to guide her, and that whatever chance she had of seeing Yoshitsune's face again depended entirely on her own efforts. No other thought could have nerved her to venture forth into the mountain solitudes, for her wounded feet and weary limbs made it well-nigh hopeless that she should achieve the descent without aid. Twice indeed she turned on her way, thinking to creep back to the shrine before her strength utterly failed and lie down there to die in peace, but life is dear under any aspect to those that are still upon its threshold. Slowly, and sometimes with scarcely sufferable pain, she followed the rugged path, her eyes dazzled by the unchanging glare of the snow or dimmed by tears that welled up ever and anon despite her utmost efforts to restrain them, until at last as the gloaming was changing to darkness, she discovered a light in the valley before her and heard the chiming of pilgrims' bells in the distance.

It had been a festival day at the fane of Gongen, and the inhabitants of the mountain village were now assembled in the courtyard of the shrine to see the devotees dance by torchlight. Shidzuka would fain have avoided all this crowd and turmoil, but now that the dread of death was past, her strength had completely deserted her, and she knew that unless she found speedy rest and shelter it would be impossible for her to hold out any longer. Fortunately, however, the peoples' attention was for the moment entirely engrossed by the dancing, which had just commenced, so that Shidzuka was enabled to creep round the outskirts of the crowd and reach the back of the fane unobserved. Here she lay down until the silence told her that the pilgrims and their peasant observers had dispersed, and then once more stealing forth, she mounted the steps of the shrine, thinking to invoke the protection of the god before she sought the hospitality of the cenobites. Her prayer, however, lasted longer than she had proposed, for when she found herself standing with clasped hands before the fane, she forgot everything but her loneliness and with many and oft repeated supplications, besought heaven to shorten her separation from the man she loved.

Just then a party of cenobites passed through the courtyard on their way to the village, and seeing Shidzuka as she knelt upon the steps, the moonbeams lighting up her lovely face, they stopped in astonished contemplation of her beauty. It needed no second scrutiny to tell them that she had nothing in common with the peasant girls who so often came to lay the burthen of their little sorrows at Gongen's feet, or purchase amulets against illness and inconstancy. For all her travel-stained garb and unattended state, she was evidently a worshipper such as seldom visited the cloisters of Yoshino, and the friars, marvelling at her comeliness, knew not whether to wonder more at the girl herself, or at the strange circumstances of her coming.

Shidzuka, meanwhile, was too much absorbed in the memories her prayer had awakened to take any heed of what was going on around, and it was not till she turned to descend the steps that she became conscious of the cenobites' presence. Not knowing how much of her thoughts she might have betrayed by word or gesture, and shrinking from the curious looks of which she was the object, she drew her hood across her face and would fain have turned back by the way she had come, so fearful was she of affording some clue to Yoshitsune's retreat, when the eldest of the friars, stepping forward, prevented her from accomplishing her purpose. He had no desire, he said courteously, to seem inquisitive, but neither he nor his companions had failed to remark the fervour of her prayer, and since it was part of their sacred office to give what help they might to all faithful worshippers, they had not chosen to pass without teaching her how certainly to enlist the sympathy of the god whose shrine they tended.

Shidzuka looked half timidly, half wonderingly, into the speaker's grave face, but reading there only a benevolent purpose, bowed her head in acknowledgment of his kindly interest. "You do not perhaps know," the friar resumed, "that this fane was founded by men who desired that its divinity should be propitiated not merely by incense or litanies, but also by the exhibition of some of those accomplishments in which they had themselves learned to excel, as for example, music, dancing and poetry. No prayer unsupported by one or other of these adjuncts can hope to meet with a favourable response here, while on the contrary, petitions thus supplemented, have seldom, if ever, been unsuccessful. Other fanes there are indeed, where a hundred vigils or a thousand pilgrimages are sufficient to merit mercy, but here it is not so. The place has been consecrated under certain conditions, and he that fails to comply with them need not look for the aid of our deity."

"Alas! Sir, if that be so," said Shidzuka sadly, "I fear that such as I have little to expect, being, as I am, but a country girl and possessed of no skill in any of the arts you mention."

"Nay, child," the priest replied, "such comeliness can scarcely have been left entirely without those graces so easily accessible by a little training and a slight effort. It is a small matter to us, in truth, yet were it better for your own sake and the sake of those you love, that you had never raised your hands to this altar than that you should mock the gods by asking of them so much more than you are willing yourself to give."

Too weary and heart-sick to offer any further objection, and feeling that it was least of all things likely she should be recognized by any of the spectators, Shidzuka prepared at once to follow the friar's suggestion. She remembered too, that it was when dancing before the shrine of Kumano she had first attracted Yoshitsune's attention, and it seemed a not unfitting thing to commemorate her parting with him in a similar fashion. Thus though her eyes were blinded by tears and her tired limbs might scarcely adapt themselves to the conventional postures, she essayed to recall something of the art in which she had once so signally excelled, chaunting the while a few simple lines, spoken rather by her heart than by her lips. Much as the music of her motions must have been marred by exhaustion and pain, she was still the fairest and most graceful being that had ever entered these mountain-cloisters or been imagined by their inmates, and at the conclusion of the dance the cenobites greeted her performance with an applause that sounded in her ears like a mocking echo of happier days.

It was the last effort of which her strength was capable, and even while these approving voices were at their loudest, she sank down at the foot of the steps insensible. The friars raised her gently, and then for the first time observing her wounded feet and the traces of bitter suffering in her face, carried her in to the abbot's house, and tended her with all care and patience. They were no longer in any doubt as to her identity, for the abbot at once recognized the girl whose beauty and grace had been the common theme of remark at Kiyoto in the spring when the gods themselves acknowledged her charms by granting the much needed rain at her request. Shidzuka could not indeed have chosen a more unfortunate asylum, for the temple's most puissant patron had been the very baron who led the thirty galleys against Yoshitsune's stranded vessels and lost his own life in the unsuccessful attack. So soon therefore as it became known that the Minamoto Chief's well-beloved wife had wandered to the fane



unattended and wayworn, not only was Yoshitsune's presence in the neighbourhood immediately divined, but also the scanty nature of his following made apparent, else surely he had not left Shidzuka to roam alone among the mountains at such a season.

It may well be supposed that under any other circumstances the friars, so far from courting a contest with such an enemy, would have sacrificed a good deal to avoid it, but since they could muster fully three hundred stout soldiers while they did not give Yoshitsune credit for a tithe of that number, and since the patron their shrine had lost would be replaced a thousand-fold could they but carry the proscribed man's head to Yoritomo at Kamakura, they determined unanimously to make the attempt without delay.

Not indeed quite unanimously, for the abbot did everything in his power to dissuade them from their attempt. He pointed out to them that Yoshitsune was neither their enemy nor the enemy of Japan. That his whole fault consisted in having incurred the jealousy of a despotic nobleman, and that instead of fostering a feud so unnatural and unjust, it ought to be their aim as peaceful friars to aid him in his never to be too much lauded flight. But the cenobites were not to be turned from their purpose by any such considerations. It was easy for them to persuade themselves that they were upholding the law since Yoritomo as Lord High Constable was chief of the executive in the Empire, and for the rest, when has not greed been more powerful than good?

But first it was essential to ascertain exactly where Yoshitsune was. These men knew their mountain passes sufficiently well to foresee that an uncertain quest was in all probability destined to be an unsuccessful one, and having the means of avoiding this embarrassment at hand, they resolved to utilize them forth with. Shidzuka should be questioned; gently if moderation sufficed, but if otherwise, with whatever severity the occasion demanded.

Here again the abbot vainly essayed to shield his gentle guest. Accustomed to see and sympathize with every form of grief, he had not failed to perceive that Shidzuka's exhaustion was the result of mental rather than of physical suffering, and while he knew from his fellows' mood that they would shrink from nothing which might compass their end, he felt equally assured that, child though she was, this fainting girl would die rather than betray her love. But his authority was again set at naught, and that so unceremoniously that fearing to find himself completely powerless at a time of even greater need, he was constrained to withdraw his opposition for the moment. What he might do, however, to prepare Shidzuka for her grievous trial by supplying her with food and afterwards warning her of the things that were on foot, he did not leave undone.

Foremost among the friars interested in the carriage of this affair was one Kakuhau, a man who stood a head and shoulders above all his fellows, and drew a bow that three ordinary soldiers could scarcely string. To him, by common consent, was entrusted the leading part in Shidzuka's examination, for while these holy friars were willing to postpone extreme measures in deference to the cloth they wore, they were not sorry to let their victim foresee from the first the consequences of obstinacy. She was therefore led in as a prisoner with her hands tied behind her back, but for the rest the solemn mien of her inquisitors and the preparations they had made to overawe her proved of no avail, for she never once raised her eyes nor seemed to take any note of what was in progress about her.

It cannot be that the cenobites were unmoved by the sight of her beauty and helplessness or that they were entirely without sympathy for her sufferings, but they had well chosen their leader. Completely beyond the reach of life's gentler influences, Kakuhau only saw in Shidzuka's pallid face and fragile frame a promise of speedy submission, and even though her plight had been doubly pitiful—if that indeed were possible—it had failed to waken any feeling of ruth in a heart that only vibrated to influences of brutality and lust.

He prefaced the inquiry by declaring that the friars' only object was to obtain Yoshitsune's departure from their vicinity. It was out of the question to suppose that he would be left unmolested, and they had no desire to see their cloisters converted into a fortress by either party. All they asked of Shidzuka was to let them know where her husband had taken refuge, that they might send him a message praying him to choose some other asylum, and warning him of their hostility in the event of refusal. If Shidzuka gave them the informa-

tion they desired, they pledged themselves to provide her with a safe escort to Kiyoto, but if she declined to do so, they were resolved to elicit it by any means in their power, since the sacrifice of her one life might be the means of preserving many others.

The import of this terrible threat was not to be mistaken, neither did it seem possible that one of Shidzuka's gentle nurture and tender years could for a moment brave the consequences of resistance. Those indeed who had seen her tearful supplication before the shrine of Gongen, and afterwards helped to carry her childlike form from the courtyard, deemed that Kakuhau had framed his question in terms needlessly severe. But they were soon undeceived. In a low voice, but yet without any symptom of perturbation, Shidzuka replied, that she had parted from her husband after the battle on the seashore and that of his subsequent movements she knew nothing. To this simple statement she added neither remonstrance nor entreaty, and when Kakuhau, rising from his place, took in his hand a heavy faggot of split bamboos that lay beside him, she only bowed her head on her bosom, and gave one broken sob, such as that which the memory of pain wrings from the lips of a weary child.

Resting the cruel weapon on his shoulder, the friar advanced to her side and sternly repeated his question, but Shidzuka made no answer, and in that interval of anxious silence many a stout man turned away his face from the horror that was about to be perpetrated. Those who had strength to look said afterwards, that the girl seemed like one in a trance, and that from first to last the merciless strokes Kakuhau dealt her, elicited no evidence of suffering nor indeed produced any effect other than the mere mechanical result of their weight and force. Between each blow the same inquiry was repeated, and to the surprise of all the abbot himself coming forward, applauded Kakuhau's zeal and urged Shidzuka to confess. For a moment it appeared as though the loss of this her only friend was more than the unhappy girl could endure. She raised her eyes to the old man's face with a glance of piteous despair and her lips moved slightly, but neither word nor wail was audible. Immediately afterwards she fell into her former attitude, her head drooping more and more upon her bosom, until at last as the bamboos descended heavily on her shoulders, she sank quietly to the ground in happy unconsciousness of her misery.

The friars were disappointed but not discouraged. Many of them indeed would have been content to proceed no further with the examination, but Kakuhau had a hundred other expedients to propose. Shidzuka had borne herself staunchly enough up to the present, he said, but when she recovered from her fainting fit they would probably find her in a very different mood. Moreover, whatever it cost to elicit a confession, they must remember that nothing but a successful result could justify the measures they were adopting, and consequently to stop short would be at once unwise and inexpedient. All this the abbot endorsed, offering himself to supply medicaments which would speedily restore Shidzuka to consciousness. He had been averse to the inquiry at first, but now that it was irrevocably commenced, he declared himself as much concerned as any in the issue, for it would be a grievous thing if they gave men cause to say that they had tortured a helpless woman to no purpose.

This action of their chiefs was not inconsistent with his previous conduct, and the cenobites were by no means sorry to have the sanction of his authority for what they had undertaken. Once more, then, Shidzuka was entrusted to his care, but this time with a very different result, for the kind-hearted old man was now resolved at all hazards to save her from her persecutors. From the commencement of the examination he had pursued a preconceived plan and no sooner did he succeed in persuading the cenobites to leave Shidzuka in his charge, than he caused her to be placed in a litter and carried to the house of a trusty friend in the village.

Meanwhile the friars, at Kakuhau's instigation, were preparing some more effectual means of extracting a confession. They were determined that their second attempt should be of such a nature as to preclude the possibility of failure, for they were impatient of delay, which might be the means of baulking their designs altogether. If their disappointment then was extreme on receiving the abbot's report that his patient had fallen into a second swoon from which all his skill was ineffectual to restore her, they were equally rejoiced at the false news that in her brief interval of consciousness she had furnished the desired information. Yoshitsune was hiding



in the Valley of Chiuiu, and his whole force only amounted to a score and a half of men.

Then followed a noisy discussion in which a multitude of strange schemes were proposed and considered by these tyro warriors. Should the assault be delivered at one point by their total force, or would it be more expedient to enter the valley from either end simultaneously, so as to prevent all chance of the enemy's escape? Some were for a night attack, others opposed to it, and a few advised that they should content themselves with observing the approaches to the valley until more experienced guidance could be obtained. The abbot, whose conduct during Shidzuka's examination had won him considerable favour, did not directly approve or oppose anything, but by a few skillful suggestions succeeded in preventing unanimity of counsel, so that the dawn of day found them still undecided.

Kakuhian, who saw that this hesitation might easily end in a total abandonment of the enterprise, now put a period to the discussion by causing an alarm to be rung on the great bell of the temple and ordering the friars to arm themselves forthwith. He counted on arousing some enthusiastic impulse sufficient to dispel his comrades' vacillation, and his device was successful, for so many of the cenobites obeyed his summons that even without the concurrence of the rest he felt himself strong enough to commence the attack at once.

Now when the abbot said that Yoshitsune was lying concealed in the valley of Chiuiu, he had spoken with just so much calculation as was needed to make his statement plausible. He had of course no certain knowledge of the Genji chief's retreat, but of all places among the neighbouring mountains, none was more likely to have been chosen by the fugitives than this, while at the same time none was more difficult of access.

And it fell out strangely enough that the old man's conjecture was right. Yoshitsune had resolved, if possible, to remain among the mountains until the army sent against him from Kamakura should have reached Kiyoto, when he proposed to attempt a retreat to Oshiu by the routes over which his enemies had just passed. Benkei, whose boyhood had been passed among these hills, knew every copse and dell for miles round, and at his suggestion the Valley of Chiuiu had been selected; most wisely too as it seemed, for while a little fane buried deep in the forest afforded a retreat on whose one approach the dead leaves and ice spikelets rested well nigh undisturbed by pilgrim's foot from autumn to spring, the defile leading from the crest of the hill to the village below was of such a nature that it could be at once easily observed and successfully defended by a very small force.

On the evening of the day that followed his parting with Shidzuka Yoshitsune had reached this fane, and at daybreak the next morning, he and his knights were roused from their slumbers by the clanging of the alarm bell in the cloisters of Yoshino. The deep notes came booming through the still frosty air with such distinctness that at their first sound everyone was on foot, and long before the friars had begun to buckle on their harness, the men they meant to surprise were holding quiet council at the head of the defile that overlooked the village. There was no mistaking the import of this signal. Some hostile movement was certainly in progress, but who were their assailants and what was to be the fashion of the assault? Without a knowledge of these things they might not determine whether to attempt a retreat or await the worst where they stood, while at the same time no feasible method of procuring intelligence suggested itself.

It was truly a momentous decision they were called on to make, since its issue was nothing less than life or death. For such men as these the nature of the fight or the odds they were destined to encounter were matters of very secondary moment, but none the less did their martial habits constrain them to consider all the contingencies of the combat. Now the position they had chosen—or rather which they were obliged to occupy, since it was the only point of vantage in the valley—although admirably suited to oppose an advance from the direction of Yoshino, was at the same time commanded by the hills on either side, so that a skillful enemy, provided his numbers sufficed, might annihilate the defenders of the plateau by a easy combination of front and flank attack. To fall into such a trap as this would ill beseeem these veteran campaigners, while on the other hand, should their foes find them anywhere else in the defile, they could only hope to make the very briefest resistance. How then

was their resolve to be guided or who might accept its responsibility?

Yoshitsune himself had already made his election. Nothing remained to him now in the world but the approval of brave men, and this thought forbade him to preface his death by flight. Before announcing this determination, however, he looked round his little band of followers, careful not to anticipate any expression of their desire, and then he saw that Benkei had laid aside his greaves and girt up his loins like one preparing for a journey.

Since his departure from Kiyoto the glavesman had not shaved his head or beard, so that his huge face was surrounded by a forest of black bristles, and these contrasted with a red kerchief knotted round his brows, gave him an appearance of almost appalling ferocity. It was his fancy, also, to wear armour with black points, and over this he had now thrown a bearskin cloak looped up to his girdle on the left side, so as to leave the hilt of his sword unimpeded: a sword that measured more than four feet from point to rivet, and in Benkei's hands could bite its way through casque and cranium as easily as a mattock can divide a bean-stalk.

"Tis many a day, master," he said, "since I last visited the village of Yoshino, and I would fain find out who these varlets are that have set the cloister bell ringing. With your good leave therefore I will e'en become a spy for the nonce, and if you will bide my coming here a little space, I doubt not I shall bring you the intelligence we need."

"But you do not surely propose to go down to the village and into the midst of our enemies alone, Benkei?" asked Yoshitsune in amazement.

"That do I, master," replied the glavesman stoutly, "and if any in the village remember my face, I warrant you he will not bar my path. As for the friars, if it be they indeed who are causing this disturbance, I think I can unravel their purpose without much peril, unless they are governed by shrewder counsels than they were fifteen years ago."

"And what if by awaiting your return, Benkei, we should forfeit our opportunity of escape?" Yoshitsune suggested, for while secretly approving and admiring the other's brave purpose, he could not consent to let his old comrade incur such an apparently hopeless risk.

"Nay, master, twere scarcely fair to make me bear that burthen," Benkei laughingly remonstrated. "Whether I go or stay, you are not likely, I ween, to turn your back on yonder knaves, and the worst injury I can do you is to be before hand, perchance, in the tussle."

"And to separate me, perchance, from one I had hoped to have beside me at the last: one whom I can least of all afford to part with now."

"Sir," the glavesman said, coming forward and kneeling before Yoshitsune, "Should you not see me again before the sun has passed the pine tops, you may know that I am waiting for you on the road to the Happy Mountains, but unless I am much mistaken the Gods have not willed that we should part yet."

So saying he sprang to his feet, and using the handle of his long glaive as a staff, strode off down the mountain side, scattering the snow like withered leaves from his path.

(To be continued.)

## LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag R. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag F. (white ball on red ground) all commercial colts, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

## YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

### DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
7.0	8.15	9.30	10.45	12.0	2.0	3.15	4.30	5.45	7.0	8.15
									9.30	10.45

### UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
7.0	8.15	9.30	10.45	12.0	2.0	3.15	4.30	5.45	7.0	8.15
									9.30	10.45

## DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

When earthquake shock and typhoon blast  
Are o'er, and all their terrors past,  
'Tis then thy worst defects I scan  
And wish I'd called some better man.

1.

Much of the money that just now I've got  
Has never been near the melting pot

2.

It is not hexagonal : not certainly less,  
And not a felicitous word to guess.

3.

Bright flash of plumage darting swift along,  
With chirp or whistle, but not quite a song,

4.

An epithet by Shakespeare well applied,  
Old age is merciless to beauty's pride.

5.

You hurt me with your bitterness of speech.  
With much less pungency you'd better teach.

6.

If you possess this, you may solve my riddle.  
You have it also if you play the fiddle.

7.

What is the preacher who those truths makes plain,  
Whose hidden meaning I had sought in vain?

8.

Read, mark, learn, ponder, inwardly digest :—  
All in two words are happily expressed.

9.

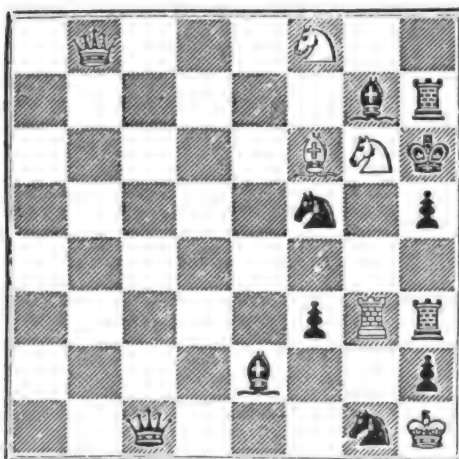
To these my couplets, it applies not quite,  
If they were otherwise, perhaps it might.

QUAM.

## CHESS PROBLEM,

BY H. TURTON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF APR. 3RD, BY J. G. C.

White.

- 1.—R. to K. Kt. 7.
- 2.—R. to Q. R. 6.
- 3.—B. or Kt. mates.

Black.

- 1.—B. takes Q.
- 2.—Any.

If 1.—B. takes E.

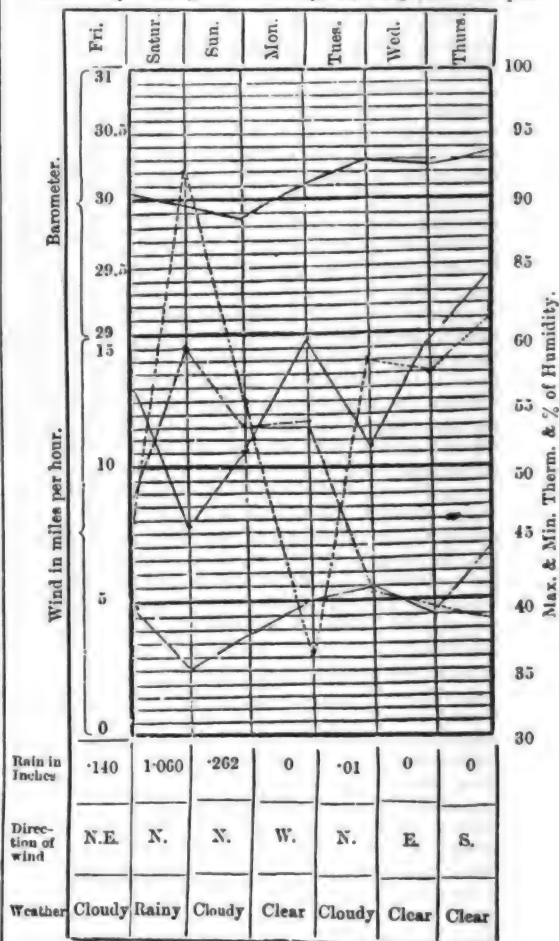
- 2.—Q. takes B.
- 3.—Q. mates.

Correct answer received from Q.

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND, 1880.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. &amp; min. thermometers.

-----represents velocity of wind

.....percentage of humidity

Max. velocity of wind 22 miles per hour on Monday, at 8 a.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.350 inches on Thursday at 10 p.m.—and the lowest was 29.783 inches on Sunday at 2 p.m. The first half of the week was characterized by a low barometer, but during the remainder it was steadily high. A considerable rise in the temperature also took place during the latter part of the week. The total amount of rain-fall was 1.472 inches.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

- April 4, British steamer *Meath*, Johnson, 1,337, from London via China, General, to Hudson & Co.  
 April 4, British steamer *Glencastle*, McBain, 1,823, from London via China, General to Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
 April 5, Japanese steamer *Kanamoto Maru*, Drummond, 1,240, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 7, British brig *Lady Aberlour*, Holm, 289, from Hongkong, Ballast, to P. Bohm.  
 April 7, Japanese steamer *Mitsunage Maru*, Hay, 600, from Hakodate, General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 8, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 8, French steamer *Volga*, Guiraud, 1,502, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.  
 April 8, British gun-boat *Siviger*, Licut.-Com. Tudor, 4-guns, 59 men, from Nagasaki.  
 April 9, American steamer *City of Tokio*, Maury, 5,050, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to P. M. S. S. Co.  
 April 9, British steamer *Elphinstone*, Morgan, 1,286, from London via Singapore, General, to Adamson, Bell & Co.  
 April 10, American ship *Bullion*, Reed, 1,300, from New York, Oil etc., to J. D. Carroll & Co.



## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
City of Tokio	Maury	American steamer	5,050	San Francisco	Apr. 9	P. M. Co.
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 1679	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Flintshire	Morgan	British steamer	1,286	London via Singapore	Apr. 9	Adamson, Bell & Co
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 1378	M. B. Co.
Tanais	De la Marcelle	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Mar. 28	M. M. Co.
Tokio Maru	Swain	Japanese steamer	1,146	Shanghai & ports	Apr. 8	M. B. Co.
Volga	Guiraud	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Apr. 8	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Bullion	Reed	American ship	1,300	New York	Apr. 10	J. D. Carroll & Co.
Columbia	Fumell	American ship	1,490	New York	Mar. 28	R. Isaacs and Brother
Crossfield	Ewart	British barque	774	London	Apr. 1	M. Raspe
Lady Aberdour	Holm	British brig	289	Hongkong	Apr. 7	P. Bohm
Lady Bowen	Pain	British barque	891	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Mar. 26	Mollison, Frazer & Co.
L. J. Morse	Ames	American ship	1,300	New York	Mar. 26	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Rainbow	Cogan	American barque	331	Bonin Island	Apr. 8	Captain

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH—Swinger ... ..	4	430	461	Gun-Boat	Nagasaki	Lieut.-Com. O.P. Tudor
RUSSIAN—Abreck ... ..	8	1,069	300	Corvette	Vladivostok	Captain Schance

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong ... ..	Tanais	M. M. Co.	April 14th at 7 a.m.
Hongkong ... ..	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	April 11th at daylight
Hongkong via Kobe ... ..	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	April 17th at 6 p.m.
San Francisco ... ..	Gaelic	O. & O. Co.	About April 17th.
Shanghai and way-ports ... ..	Tokio Maru	M. B. Co.	April 12th at 6 p.m.



## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**IMPORTS.**—Market thoroughly disorganised by the great fall in kinsaten, both here and in Osaka. We leave quotations unchanged, but it must be understood that all are purely nominal, and that to effect sales large concessions would have to be made.

**COTTON YARNS:—**

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$30.00 to 35.50
" " Good to Best ... ..	\$34.00 to 37.50
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... ..	\$31.00 to 33.00
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... ..	\$38.00 to 40.00
" " Good to Best ... ..	\$40.50 to 41.50
" 38 to 42 ... ..	\$40.00 to 42.00

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—**

Gray Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.65 to 1.95
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.90 to 2.27½
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.20 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.80
Drills, English: 14-16 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12 " 44 in.	\$1.70 to 1.75
Prints:—Assorted " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italian & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.11 to 0.14
Turkey Reds: 2 to 3½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.62½
Do. 3½ to 3½ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.82½
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.**

Velvets:—Black ... 35 " 22 in. per piece	\$8.00 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns:— " 12 " 42/2 in.	\$0.85 to 0.88½
Taffetas:— " 12 " 43 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

**WOOLLENS:—**

Plain Orleans ... .. 40-42 yds. 32 in.	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... .. 29-30 yds. 31 in.	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... .. 29-30 yds. 31 in.	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... .. 30 yds. 32 in.	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Cord ... .. 29-30 yds. 22 in.	4.00 to 5.25
Mousseline de Laines:—Orange 24 yds. 30 in.	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in.	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 yds. 30 in.	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... .. 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents ... .. 54 in. to 56 in.	0.55 to 0.60
Union ... .. 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb.	0.38 to 0.41

**SUGAR.**—The market is quiet. Some 5,000 bags have changed hands during the week, at \$4.55.

**KEROSENE.**—Sales of about 3,000 cases have been made at \$1.60. The *Bullion* has arrived from New York with a full cargo.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... .. per picul	\$4.57½ to \$4.60
Taiwanfocin bag ... ..	\$4.40 to \$4.55
Ohing-pak and Ke-pak ... ..	\$8.00 to \$8.50
China No. 4-5 Kongfau & Kook-fah ... ..	\$6.25 to \$8.00

Daitong ... .. per picul	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... ..	\$2.70 to \$2.90
Kerosene Oil ... ..	\$1.60
Newchwang Peas ... ..	\$2.20

## EXPORTS.

**SILK.**—Very little business was done in Silk for the first part of the week under review; during the past few days, however, there has been rather more activity and altogether about 300 shipping bales have changed hands. Buying is only confined to a few firms, however, one house alone has transacted about half the business reported.

Prices in some cases about \$10 per picul lower than last week, but the business done has been so irregular that it is difficult to estimate them exactly.

Total Export to date 16,927 bales against 17,522 bales at the corresponding period last season.

	In London at 3/10½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.95. per kilo.			In London at 3/10½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 4.95. per kilo.
Hanks, —Superior, nom...			Kakada, —Extra .....	\$720 to 740 24/8 to 25/3	frs. 68.90 to 70.15	
" Best .....	\$665 to 680 22/11 to 23/5	frs. 61.40 to 64.90	" Best .....	\$670 to 690 23/ to 23/9	frs. 63.70 to 65.40	
" Good .....	\$650 to 660 22/5 to 22/9	frs. 62.20 to 62.90	" Good .....	\$610 to 630 21/3 to 22/5	frs. 59.90 to 62.20	
" Good Medium .....	\$630 to 640 21/9 to 22/	frs. 60.90 to 61.40	" Medium .....	\$670 to 790 26/3 to 26/11	frs. 72.90 to 74.40	
" Medium .....	\$600 to 610 21/2 to 21/5	frs. 59.15 to 59.90	" Common .....	\$720 to 750 24/8 to 25/7	frs. 68.90 to 70.90	
" Common, In'r. ....	\$550 to 570 19/2 to 19/10	frs. 51.20 to 54.90	" Med. & C'n .....	\$660 to 700 22/9 to 24/	frs. 62.90 to 66.15	
Oshius, —Best .....	\$620 to 650 21/5 to 22/5	frs. 60.70 to 62.20				
" Medium .....	\$580 to 610 20/2 to 21/3	frs. 55.70 to 59.90				
Hamataki .....						

## EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight .....	3/10½
" Bank Bills on demand .....	3/9½
" Private 4 months' sight .....	3/11
" 6 " " " .....	3/11½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight .....	4.82
" Private 6 ms. sight .....	5.01
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight .....	½ dia.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight .....	1 % dia.

ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight .....	72½
" Private 10 days' sight .....	73½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand .....	93
" 30 days' sight Private .....	94½
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand .....	93
" 30 days' sight Private .....	94½
Kinsats .....	58 dia.
Gold Yen .....	8 prem.

## SHIPPING.

**SHIPPING.**—During the past week, the *S. S. Meath* and *Gleneagles* have arrived, discharged their cargoes, and left for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki.

## MISCELLANEOUS

# J. & E. ATKINSON'S PERFUMERY,

CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained the following

**EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,**  
LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA, 1872. PHILADELPHIA, 1876. VIENNA, 1873.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY,"  
PARIS, 1878.

## ATKINSON'S GOLD MEDAL EAU DE COLOGNE

Is strongly recommended, being more lasting and fragrant than the German kinds.

## ATKINSON'S OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP,

Celebrated for so many years, continues to be made as heretofore. It is strongly Perfumed, and will be found very durable in use.

## ATKINSON'S

Bears' Grease, Cold Cream, Sachet Powders, Transparent Glycerine Soap, Rose Toilet Powder, Toilet Vinegar, Veloutine, White Rose Tooth Paste,

And other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the Manufacturers.

**J. & E. ATKINSON,**  
24, Old Bond Street, London, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

**CAUTION.**—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, "a White Rose on a Golden Lyre;" printed in seven colours.

**ESTABLISHED 1799.**

July 26, 1879.

12m. 26in.

**H. MacARTHUR.,**

**No. 179.**

**LANDS, <sup>AND</sup><sub>OR</sub> SHIPS, & CLEARS  
CARGO,  
AT MODERATE RATES.**

Yokohama, January 12th, 1880.

tf

## MISCELLANEOUS.

# CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.

*Nine Priss Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,  
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,  
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED CHEESE,  
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,  
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,  
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,  
PLUM PUDDINGS,  
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.*

## CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars they should invariably be destroyed when empty.

Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.

*All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles, Jars and Tins.*

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL,**  
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,  
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

52 ins.

# ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, ST. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,  
ENGLAND.

**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND  
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

**MACHINERY.**

May 4, 1878.

## THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

*CAMOMILE PILLS* are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach." "Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years. Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

## CAUTION.

*Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.*

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

# ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London.  
BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.

Manufacture all kinds of

## IRON WORK,

Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.  
ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.*

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Railings. Balcony Panels.	Columns. Column Capitals.
Gates. Street Posts.	Brackets. Gratings.
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.	Windows. Casements.
Balusters. Newels.	Fountains. Drinking Fountains.
Creastings. Terminals.	Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

### SMITH'S HEARTHS & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.*

Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,  
LONDON.

26 ins.

## NOTICE.

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JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART,

VOL. IV. No. 16.]

Yokohama, April 17, 1880.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.

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## RAILWAY EXTENSION.

A SHORT time since\* we shewed from the returns published by the Imperial Railway Department that the short lines now open for traffic in Japan are giving a very handsome revenue as compared with railways in most other countries : in fact, that, with the exception of the lines in Great Britain and Ireland, no equally favourable gross earnings are to be found in any country under British rule. This is in itself a very strong argument for the extension of railway communication in this empire, because it proves that the traffic necessary to make a line remunerative exists, and that the people of the country avail themselves with avidity of the advantages afforded by an expeditious, certain, cheap and safe method of travelling and conveying merchandize from one locality to another. If, however, any further arguments are necessary in order to impress upon the authorities the necessity which exists under the circumstances of the country for increasing the means of internal communication, the memorial presented by the Osaka Chamber of Commerce to the Government on the subject of treaty revision, will be found to supply them in abundance. In the document referred to, which is a remarkably clear, moderate, and well considered statement of the views of the Chamber upon the many vital questions affecting the future prosperity of the commercial interests of Japan, it will be found that facilities of communication in the interior of the country occupy, as they undoubtedly deserve, a very prominent place. We feel sure that we cannot do better than quote at length the views of the native merchants of the commercial capital

of Japan upon this subject. Their memorial states :—"The greater the exports (of Japan) the greater will be the imports, and the increase of exports is accordingly the only hope we have for a prosperous trade in future. The most important step to be taken towards developing trade is the opening of facilities for communication with the interior. Japan is naturally a mountainous country, and the principal object kept in view in road-making during the time of the feudal system was to lead the roads over as difficult a country as possible, in order that they might afford numerous places easy of defence in time of war. So far indeed was this principle carried, that the highways in a flat country were purposely made winding. This plan was uniformly followed for over five hundred years, or until the abolition of the feudal system in 1871 and the formation of the provinces into prefectures. Since then, several of the principal roads have been improved, but the time has been so short and funds so scarce, that nothing of much consequence has yet been done. Now, unless easy communication with the interior is provided, the expense of transporting all produce is materially increased, and this is especially noticeable in the case of bulky articles such as raw silk, tea, &c. It is evident, therefore, that this want of communication exercises a very serious effect upon the development of our industries and thus checks the increase of foreign trade. To give one instance of the prejudicial result of this want of proper roads, we may mention the vast quantities of tea growing wild in the mountains of Shikoku, Kinaihu, &c. As the roads (or rather tracks), are only accessible for men and pack-horses, the produce can only be obtained at an enormous expense for transit which leaves no profit, and all this vast quantity of tea is therefore allowed to go to waste. It must also be evident that when an article produced spontaneously, without care or cultivation, cannot be utilised, it is ridiculous to talk of expending capital in establishing industries which would be subject to the same drawback. It seems to us questionable if the government is not to some extent to blame for not devoting more of the public revenue to the improvement of the country roads. The same state of things exists in the silk producing districts—except perhaps Kodzuke and Shimotsuke—they are all crying out for better means of communication and complaining of the high price of carriage. The exports of Japan are almost entirely natural products, but few of them being the result of manufacture. Natural products are almost always bulky and when, as here, a very high price has to be paid for carriage, the profit of the native producer is lessened and the price to the foreign purchaser materially increased. This want of good roads also affects imports. About seven or eight-tenths of the articles now imported are intended for the lower class who principally reside in remote places. The difficulties of transit from the port to the consumer increases the price and lessens the consumption. It is therefore apparent, that if good means of communication were provided, the price of imports and exports would de-

\* Japan Weekly Mail, April 3rd, 1880.

crease and both natives and foreigners derive a great benefit. This is especially the case with imported goods. Their beauty, utility and comfort, already recommend them to the people, and if the price was only reduced, an enormous increase in the consumption would inevitably follow."

The Chamber's allusion to the roads in this country, coupled with a slight experience of them, is sufficient to recall the descriptions given of the roads, or rather tracks in England up to the close of the last century before the time when Macadam, Rennie and Telford revolutionized the land traffic of the country, and made possible the enormous expansion of the commercial interests of the British Empire. Then, as now in Japan, pack-horses were almost entirely used for the conveyance of merchandize; the whole of the cloth brought to Leeds market came on mens' and horses' backs. Coals were in like manner carried from the pits on horseback, the stated weight of a "horse-pack" being eighteen stone. In the rural districts of Yorkshire manure was also carried a-field on horses' backs, and sometimes on women's backs, while the men sat at home knitting. We are informed that pack-horses only ceased to travel about the year 1794. In Scotland matters were no better. "Nothing" says the author of "Rural Recollections," in an interesting memoir, "can be a greater contrast with the roads of modern times. In some places where there was a space for taking room, it was not spared. There might be seen four or five or more tracks, all collateral to one another, as each in its turn had to be abandoned and another chosen and all at last equally impassible. In wet weather they became mere sloughs, in which the carts or carriages had to slumber through in a half swimming state, whilst in time of drought it was a continued jolting out of one hole into another." It is evident, therefore, that our grandfathers had little to boast of in the way of facilities for communication, and it is little to be wondered at that the resources and capabilities of the country slumbered until the enchanter's wand—the genius of the early engineers—instilled life, hope, activity, into the commercial heart of the nation. Similar results, if not to so great an extent, may be reasonably expected to be repeated in this Empire. Circumstances, however, render a different course of procedure necessary. No object is now to be gained by the construction of a road where a line of railway might just as well be laid. The initial expense is not so much as may at first be thought; the cost of maintenance is infinitely less, and the encouragement to commerce beyond all comparison. The great bugbear in the case of railways has generally been the expense which it is supposed they entail; and too frequently this outlay has been assumed as inevitable, without taking into consideration any of the exceptional circumstances of the particular case under notice. For instance, the cost of land and the enormous sums given to proprietors as compensation for severance, &c., parliamentary expenses for getting acts passed, and the insane competition between rival companies to obtain legislative sanction for the construction of their lines, were all important factors in running up the average cost of English railways to the startling sum of £39,000 per mile. The experience of late years has shewn that these figures afford no guide to similar undertakings in other countries and under different conditions. Here in Japan, for example, there would be no vast sums to pay for land or parliamentary expenses. High speed, always a cause of increased cost, is wholly unnecessary. It is evident, from the memorial of the Osaka Chamber, that the prime necessity here is to go at all, and it should always be borne in mind that, both in first cost and in maintenance, expenditure is indispensable if speed be demanded. The

example of America in this particular should be followed rather than that of Great Britain, and we believe that an adoption of the system pursued in the United States will be found the best solution of the difficulty of establishing a satisfactory means of communication between the different districts of this country. We notice in the *Philadelphia Press* a striking instance of what may be accomplished in railway enterprise by a judicious employment of the resources at disposal to the end desired. A narrow-gauge road is being built from Bloomington to the Elkgarden coal region for the purpose of opening up the bituminous coal-fields in that locality, and the whole cost of the line, including rolling stock, will not exceed £1,700 per mile. It is very probable that in the case of this line there exist some exceptionally favourable conditions, but still it shews at how low a cost a railway can now be constructed, as compared with the expenditure thought imperatively necessary a few years since. Japan, we consider, enjoys considerable advantages in the matter of railway construction, labour is abundant, cheap and reliable, sleepers can be obtained in any quantity and at fair prices, ballast is almost everywhere at hand, and there really appears to be no reason why a judicious expenditure, carried over comparatively few years, should not relieve the country from that want of internal communication which has proved so great an obstacle to its increased prosperity.

#### THE FOREIGN TRADE OF CHINA.\*

IN a bulky volume the reports of foreign inspectors of Chinese Customs are here collated from all the Treaty Ports with the exception of Tientsin. In view of the amount of information given and the number of statistics to be consulted, connected, and compared, it is not surprising that no general report on the trade of the whole empire for the period, details of which are here reviewed, has yet been published. But in the special tables, which are first encountered in the compilation before us, there is much of considerable interest.

The approximate value of the entire foreign commerce of China in 1865 was estimated at one hundred and ten million Haikwan taels. In 1878 it was one hundred and thirty-eight million. The largest annual amount was in 1872, reaching one hundred and forty-three million. Of the total imports,—more than seventy million,—in 1878, sixty-five million's worth was from British possessions. From North and South America they were Tls. 2,848,712: from the whole continent of Europe, Russia excepted, they only amounted to Tls. 826,128. Russian Manchuria supplied Tls. 148,626: Japan, Tls. 4,050,558; and less than a million taels worth of produce was brought from the Philippines, Cochin China, Siam, Java and Suez. Of sixty-seven million taels of exports, forty-six went to Great Britain or her possessions: six and a half million to North and South America, eight and a half million to the continent of Europe, exclusive of Russia, to which country and Siberia three million's worth went by way of Kiakhta. Japan received to the value of Tls. 1,682,718; and the Philippines and other countries Tls. 1,084,056. These figures will show how enormously preponderant British trade and interests are in China. In other words, English possessions supply the inhabitants of China with 88.74 per cent of their imports: take 68.51 per cent of their exports; and participate in the total foreign trade to the

\* Imperial Maritime Customs. 1.—Statistical series: No. 4. Reports on trade at the Treaty Ports, for the year 1878. Published by order of the Inspector General of Customs.

extent of 79.06 per cent. Again, of 2,070 vessels inward in 1878, 1,534 were British: of 2,016 outward 1,543 belonged to the same nationality. Of the coast trade the percentage carried under the British flag varied between 37.29 per cent in 1873 and 45.26 per cent in 1878. Two curious statistical facts are, the decline of the American and the almost corresponding rise of the Chinese carrying trade on the coast. The percentages for six years are as follows. American:—1873, 52.76; 1872, 45.02; 1875, 34.49; 1876, 33.64; 1877, 5.80; 1878, 2.75. Chinese:—1873, 3.20; 1874, 8.15; 1875, 12.02; 1876, 42.86; 1878, 44.51. German vessels carried about five and a half per cent: French 0.89. Thus it may be said that at the present day England and China almost divide the coast trade of the empire between them.

The port where the most extensive foreign trade is done is of course Shanghai. Transactions there in 1878, were of the value of Tls. 47,883,945. This shows a decline of two million from the previous year and of twelve million from 1876. The foreign trade of Pakhoi, for which, notwithstanding, the Assistant Commissioner in charge, Mr. Piry, foretells a prosperous future, was nil. In 1877, when it was first opened, it only realized Tls. 11,714. As regards other places opened at or about the same period, the commerce of Wenchow has slightly retrograded, while that of Ichang, on the Yang-tse-kiang, and of Wuhu and Kiung-chow, has slightly developed. Tientsin, Hankow, and Canton have each a business of upwards of twenty million: Kinkiang, Chinkiang, Ningpo, Foochow, and Swatow, respectively, more than ten million: Chefoo and Amoy rather less; while Tamsui and Takow are represented by Tls. 8,048,351 and Tls. 2,493,883 respectively.

Coming to the table of percentages borne by the chief classes of imports to the total value of imports, we find in 1878, opium 45.57, a marked increase from 1869, when it was 36.80. In the same interval, other imports, with the exception of metals and sundries, had fallen off. In the twelve months of 1878, cotton goods were 22.87 per cent of the whole importation: in 1869, they were 33.65. Woollens 0.89 in 1878: 8.72 in 1869. The net opium trade stands, in piculs, for three years, as follows:—1878, 72,424; 1877, 70,179; 1876, 69,851. Malwa is the principal source of supply, though it appears to be ceding something to both Patna and Benares, the import from which centres is increasing while that from the first named place is declining. The local consumption of the drug is greatest at Shanghai which consumed 14,735 piculs. Chinkiang follows closely with nearly eleven thousand, and Amoy with nine and a-half thousand piculs. The import into Canton was only 771 piculs, an increase certainly over the transactions of the previous year, but a quantity small in comparison with that passed through the customs in other ports, as—for instance Tamsui and Takao in Formosa,—when the population of the different places is taken into consideration. We shall probably have occasion to refer to the peculiar circumstances of Canton in this respect, when we come to consider the literary portion of the reports before us. At present we can only deal with the statistical records, and that, we fear, but imperfectly. We trust, however, that the subject is not without interest for many of our readers. From 1864, when the import was only fifty-two thousand piculs, to 1878, when, as we have above seen, it had reached a total of seventy-two thousand, the augmentation has been almost steady. Prices, however, have fluctuated within wide limits. Malwa, for instance, which brought Shanghai Tls. 500 (the lowest figure) in January 1878,

was quoted at 635 (highest) in July. As for the native opium exported from Hankow, the business, though varying much in different years, has, on the whole, augmented. In 1868 it was only 110 piculs: in 1876 it was 1,696; and in 1878, 880. Under any circumstances it is not important, at any rate as compared with the import of the drug, the value of which we think we are within the mark in estimating at not less than forty million of dollars annually.

The value of cotton goods, including yarn and thread, imported in 1878, was twenty million dollars, of which amount, as far as can be ascertained, Tls. 2,263,662 were paid for American fabrics, showing a considerable advance in favor of those articles from the previous year, when sales to the amount of only Tls. 1,601,076 were reported. Of woollen stuffs, principally British, including woollen and cotton mixtures, the value was Tls. 5,299,851. Metals arrived to the extent of Tls. 4,178,876.

The amount of rice received at Tientsin from the treaty ports and Hongkong was considerable in 1878, being estimated to be worth Tls. 5,906,518. In previous years the figures stood thus:—1877, Tls. 7,975,661; 1876, Tls. 2,128,809; 1875, Tls. 1,481,821. The import of foreign rice at Foochow, Amoy, and Swatow was, during three years, in piculs:—1876, 568,093; 1877, 1,048,859; 1878, 223,101. During the same periods, the native rice brought to the principal receiving ports was 8,196,721; 8,286,863; 8,994,495. The import trade in coal has augmented from 113,430 tons in 1867 to 203,746 in 1878.

In exports the percentages of value were, in 1878:—Tea, 47.06; Silk, 37.40; Sugar, 2.78; Sundries (chiefly *Cassia lignia*, matting, China-ware, paper and crackers) 12.16. The last class has increased in value. Tea shows a decline from the average of former years. In 1867-70 it was 54.57. England is, of course, China's best customer for the leaf. Of 227 millions of pounds, the average yearly export during eleven years, Great Britain took nearly 138: Australia and Hongkong between them 28: United States about 81½: Russia and Siberia, via Kiakhta, 19; and other countries 10½. The average value of this entire trade may be estimated at from thirty-three to thirty-five million taels annually. That of silk for 1878 was twenty-five millions: in 1876 it was thirty-five million. Of a total 50,490 piculs expedited from Shanghai, 16,502 went to England; 23,195 to France; 5,823 to America, and the remainder to other countries. If we include the amount sent to Hongkong from Canton, we shall find that England, in this staple again, has the largest dealings.

Of 1,897,578 piculs of sugar sent from the principal ports only 532,494 "went to foreign countries and Hongkong," the remainder being shipped to Chinese ports. Ningpo straw hats are now a considerable item in the outward trade; and if the demand continues there will be a head-gear of this description to every male in Europe and America. In 1873 only 1,214,043 pieces were exported: in 1878 the figure had reached 11,938,646, of which more than eight and a half million went to Great Britain and nearly three million to the United States. Curiously enough Japan, who in the first mentioned year took 65,863, continued to receive the hats in much diminished numbers in following years, thus:—114; 280; 130; 404; and 485.

Passing over other interesting information on exports we come in these exhaustive tables to statements of transit trade and revenue. The transit dues collected in 1878 were Tls. 273,102, on a value of Tls. 11,119,532, a sum in excess of that of the previous year but less than that of



1872. British percentage of interest in this is 61.89: American 11.39: German 1.09: French 0.10: Spanish 2.42: Swedish 0.11: Russian 5.16: Chinese 17.84. The proportion of percentage paid to the revenue by the powers named is of course in much the same proportion. Of Tls. 7,697,586, contributed by import and export duties and tonnage dues, British subjects pay the handsome amount of Tls. 6,240,863, not a bad average even in the total collection of Customs revenue, which is derived from coast trade and transit dues, as well as from the sources above-named.

#### SANSKRIT VESTIGES IN JAPAN.

**A**LTHOUGH it is not yet established that the much found long lost ten tribes of Israel did wander as far as Japan, and there made their home, yet an authentic discovery of scarcely, if any, less interest has lately been made by Orientalists. Search instituted under the auspices of Professor H. H. Wilson, nearly twenty years ago, for Sanskrit texts in the enormous masses of old literature stored in Buddhist monasteries and temples in China having proved practically fruitless,—though the missing scrolls had left evident traces in translations,—the investigation has extended to Japan. One result has been already attained, and it is much to be desired that the attention of priests and recluses in the religious institutions of this country should be directed to an interesting object of research. An article in the *Times* runs as follows:—

Japan has had many surprises in store for us, but certainly none, it would seem, more astounding than the discovery of Sanskrit texts in its ancient libraries; and yet we are told that Sanskrit scholars had long been upon the alert, and had for years been making inquiries as to the whereabouts of these literary treasures that are now coming to light in Japan. Japan is Buddhist. Out of its 84,888,300 inhabitants, 100,000 only seem to belong to the old Shinto religion. The rest are all followers of Buddha, though divided into numerous sects. The heart of Buddhism beat in India, and it was from India that the life-blood of that religion flowed in all directions to the very extremities of the Asiatic continent. About the time when Nero was bent on exterminating Christianity in the West, the Emperor of China opened his vast empire to the religion of Buddha, and received its missionaries with open arms. From that time onward—i.e., from the middle of the first century of our era—India became the Holy Land of China. In spite of the difficulties, which even now seem insurmountable to our most adventurous travellers, ambassadors and pilgrims made their way from China to India undismayed by the dangers of the road, and they brought back to their native country, not only statues of Buddha and sacred relics, but thousands of Sanskrit MSS., which were translated into Chinese by the combined labours of Indian and Chinese scholars. Several of those Chinese pilgrims have left us accurate descriptions of their travels, and it was the translation into French by the late Stanislas Julien of the Travels of Hiouen-tsang (629-645 A. D.), published in 1853, which filled Sanskrit scholars with the conviction that some of the masses of MSS., which had been carried from India to China must still be in existence in the temples and monasteries of that country. It was chiefly due to the late Professor H. H. Wilson that a systematic search was instituted in China for the recovery of Sanskrit MSS. Sir John Bowring and Dr. Edkins did all in their power to carry out Professor Wilson's instructions. The whole correspondence on the subject is published in the "Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society," 1856. But, unfortunately, the result was *nil*. Though there was an enormous amount of Buddhist literature, translated from Sanskrit into Chinese, the Sanskrit MSS. seemed all to have vanished. Sanskrit scholars, however, were not disheartened. On the contrary, they turned their eyes from China to

Japan, as the last hiding place of those MSS. which, 1,800 years ago, had been carried away from India to China. Though Buddhism did not reach Japan direct from China, but from Corea, it was known that Buddhist priests came from Japan to study in China, and that several of them had been pupils of that very Hiouen-tsang whose travels in India, as translated by Stanislas Julien, had given the first impulse to the search for Sanskrit MSS. in China. Some years ago Dr. Edkins, the learned Chinese scholar, who had formerly assisted Professor Wilson, sent a small vocabulary printed in Japan to Professor Max Müller. It contained Sanskrit words, explained in Chinese, and transliterated in Japanese. This proved at one time or other Sanskrit had been studied in Japan. Another piece of good luck followed soon after. One of the greatest Buddhist communities in Japan sent a young Buddhist priest, Mr. Bunyiu Nanjio, to Professor Max Müller at Oxford, in order that he might learn Sanskrit and Pali, and thus be able to read the sacred writings of Buddha in the original. Professor Max Müller urged his pupil to make inquiries through his friends at home for Sanskrit MSS., and in December last a learned priest, Shuntai Tashikawa, sent the Professor a book containing one of the sacred texts of their religion in the original Sanskrit. The Sanskrit was written in the old Nepalese alphabet, each word transliterated with Japanese letters, and translated into Chinese. He requested Professor Max Müller to read the text, correct it, and send it back to Japan. Though the Sanskrit was written in a difficult alphabet and full of mistakes, Professor Max Müller was able to lay a correct copy, with translation and notes, before the members of the Royal Asiatic Society at their meeting on Monday. It turned out to be the hitherto unknown Sanskrit original of a Sutra, translated into Chinese 400 A. D., possibly 200 A. D., and contained a description of the Buddhist Paradise, which with the Northern Buddhists took the place of Buddha's Nirvana. It may be hoped that new treasures will be forthcoming from the same quarter. Anyhow, this one discovery has proved two important points—first, that the Chinese translations of Buddhist texts, when compared with their Sanskrit originals, are full of misunderstandings, sometimes affecting the very essence of Buddha's teaching; secondly, that the Buddhism of Japan, being chiefly founded on the Mahayana school, is on many points in direct opposition to the original teaching of Buddha, and that no greater boon could be conferred on the 80,000,000 of Buddhists in that country than to have the simple words of Buddha translated for them into Japanese direct from Sanskrit and Pali.

The above quoted article having attracted the notice of Orientalists, the following letter was addressed to the *Times*:—

Sir,—The interest of your article on the discovery of Sanskrit texts in Japan, read and corrected by Professor Max Müller, is enhanced by the fact that the first missionaries arrived in China, not about the time of Nero, but as early as B. C. 250, when "a number of 18 Buddhist emissaries reached China where they are held in remembrance to the present day, their images occupying a conspicuous place in every larger temple" (Eitel, "Buddhism," p. 20). A remarkable, though indirect confirmation of this fact has lately come to light. Professor Beal, author of "The Romantic History of Buddha," has last year published in p. 142 f. of his Chinese version of "The Dhammapadam, or Texts from Buddhist Canon" (Trübner's Oriental Series II.), Buddha's sermon on falsehood, which is alluded to by Asoka in the second Bairat rock inscription. This Indian King, who had become a Buddhist ("Tainism, or the Early Faith of Asoka," by Thomas) convoked the first Buddhist general council and established a Board for foreign missions, the Dharmamahamatra, in B. C. 250, and his son Mahinda, accompanied by monks, went to Ceylon. Asoka caused several of his edicts to be engraved in different Prakrit dialects on pillars or rocks, "whose wide distance from one another is sufficient to show the great extent of Asoka's empire" (Rhys David, "Buddhism.")

In one of these rock edicts, addressed to the Buddhist monks in council assembled, the King, who saw in Buddhism the safeguard of his dynasty, enumerates the



principal Buddhist records of what was "spoken by the blessed Buddha," and what he declares to regard "as authority." Among these then existing records is mentioned "the exhortations to Rahula regarding falsehood." Of this document nothing was known, till last year Professor Deal pointed out in one of his lectures that he had found and translated it "from the great body of books comprising the Chinese Buddhist Canon." These are indeed stones crying out, for they prove that in the middle of the third pre-Christian century, records existed of the sayings of Buddha, while the Chinese texts from the Buddhist Canon prove that one of these Buddhist Scriptures, to which an existing stone-cut edict refers, and which Asoka, the Constantine of Buddhism, solemnly declared to regard as authoritative, was preserved in China. It cannot be determined whether or not it had been introduced into China already by the first Buddhist missionaries in B. C. 250, in which year, according to Mr. Rhys David, the 18th year of his reign, the rock-cut edict had referred to this same Scripture.

Yours respectfully,

ERNEST DE BUNSEN.

IT is with great satisfaction that we greet the publication, by the German Asiatic Society, of an Index to the first ten volumes of their transactions (1873-1876). This index is very complete, containing all the terms occurring in the transactions, be they names of men, places or otherwise, with an indication of the page on which each is found, and it thus forms a most important addition to the valuable publications of the Society. We are pleased to see that the Japanese words occurring in the various articles, and there spelt in different ways, have in the index all been reduced to one uniform system of transliteration. The principle followed is in every respect satisfactory, being in fact the phonetic system found in the Second edition of Dr. Hepburn's dictionary, with one or two slight modifications, which consistency demanded. Thus in analogy to *cha, chi, cho, sha, shi, sho, shu*, the German Society writes *chu*,—not *chin*; *kuea* is rendered by *ka* from which in the Tokio pronunciation it cannot be distinguished; and *y* before *e* is dropped as superfluous, in such words as *Ebi, Echigo, Eta*. The publication shows that there is no lack of vitality within the Society, the work entailed in its compilation being of such a nature as would require the serious consideration and co-operation of several members. The Society should now go a step further, and take measures to have the system of transliteration, here adopted, followed out in all future contributions to its journal. We hope that the English sister Society will not overlook the importance of having a similar index drawn up for its transactions published to date.

CENTRAL ASIA, which should be a land of prosperity and fertility, is overburdened with the presence of armies which impoverish it. A writer in the North China *Daily News* shows that the country, already more than fully populated, is unable to bear the extra burden. It is held that "the feeling of exhaustion produced is at the foundation of the aggressive propensities of the Russian commanders" in those territories. This suggestion may have some truth in it. "General Kaufmann views with envy the rich countries surrounding the arid plains of Turkestan. Once in occupation he would have no more requisitions to make on an impoverished treasury, and would meet none of the repulses to which he had to submit from time to time from the Government at St. Petersburg. The latter in its way has been urging him onward; has been suggesting to him that he should make his wars self-supporting, and has never grumbled at any action of his so long as it did not entail further expenditure from the imperial treasury."

Now it is undeniable that the position of Russia amongst the tribes of Central Asia is one upheld merely by force of arms. There is no friendly feeling nor any desire to assimilate to Russian ways and Russian ideas on the part of the population. However benevolent may be the march of the Muscovite, it involves the maintenance of large armies of occupation, the harsh oppressiveness of military rule, and a sullen submission by the conquered. These latter neglect both industry and thrift in fear of being robbed of the results of either, and so have a measure of revenge upon their victors by rendering the fruits of their conquests not only unprofitable but costly.

THERE is not much to choose between Russia and China, in the ability of either to attract and assimilate subject nations: witness the modern history of Western and Eastern Turkestan. Each invasion has circumscribed the resources of the country; and the desert has encroached on grounds once fertile and supporting comparatively large populations. Of China's rule in the provinces subdued and held by her armies, it is well said that it was of a nature to desiccate the soil. As has been well remarked, there has been no attempt to civilise the people and unite them under one polity. On the contrary, tribe has been set against tribe, and each in turn was crushed when it seemed likely to be becoming too strong for the feeble foreign garrisons to control. If such a system of government has a tendency to keep a country in subjection so long as the different constituents in its population can be induced to waste their strength in internecine conflict, it has no tendency to promote good feeling on the part of any towards the ruling power; and Chinese government in Turkestan has proved no exception to the rule. The different tribes inhabiting the country could only say that, however much they hated each other, they hated their victor more. Hence the one point in common in the uprisings was that, whatever was the object of the rebellion, the alien troops were destroyed with perfect impartiality. Hence, likewise, in the recent reconquest of the Altai-Shahr, China has entered a land from which she can derive no strength for future conquests. In fine, those who are responsible for the military policy of the Middle Kingdom in the heart of Asia are now in presence of the harvest which their cruelty in aggression has sown. If their conquered subjects were well affected they could make a better stand than they now can against probable Russian inroads; "but the dislike of the populations to Chinese rule is so excessive, and the destruction of life and property has been so wholesale, that China hesitates to make use of the most obvious measures of reform in her administration, fearing that the inevitable recoil would result in a second extinction of her domination."

#### SPRING PASTIMES.

THERE is a natural tendency among many writers, in dealing with the history and character of a country and its people, to attempt broad generalisations, and to strive as it were, by razing the heights and filling up the depressions which impart to human nature its charm of variety, to reduce everything by sweeping assertions to a dead level of sameness and consistency. Nations are often dealt with in the same summary manner that is followed by the authors of school histories in passing verdict upon our kings, whom every school boy is led to suppose have been consistently good or bad. This peculiarity somewhat resembles that of the old novelists, preceding the more modern naturalistic romancers. They made their artificial heroes and heroines either paragons of spotless virtue or mere demons in disguise. Japan, like other countries, has received its full share of notice in this respect, and its people have been the butt of no small number of ungrounded statements and erring descriptions. The Empire of the Mikado has been the topic of a large

effusion of worthless literature, both of the kind which is purely sentimental and ignorant, and also of the sort which betrays a superficial acquaintance, biassed by prejudice and led astray by misunderstanding.

Various commentators, from the travelling diarist, to whom everything is fraught with the attractiveness of novelty, and whom good and bad alike pleases, to the most arrogant resident whose observation though extended is blinded by his own egotism and want of tact;—these and other writers have in their own manner described and dismissed a people whom they have but little understood. The stolid, indomitable endurance of the running coolie or the betto, or, may be, the close, careful labour of the artizan, content to spend long hours of care upon some delicate piece of minute workmanship that no modern European workman could approach, may in one case be sufficient to obtain for the native a reputation of thrifty industry and rigorous consecration to toil. To another visitor, whose daily observation shews him the outdoor resorts thronged at all times with gay holiday-makers of all ages; the native appears an idle, listless, pleasure-seeker. The fact, however, remains that human nature is nearly the same all the world over, and all people find alike that labour and amusement are both equally necessary to existence.

The toys and pleasures of children in Japan are strikingly similar to those of Europe; the chief point of distinction seeming to be, that here seasonable pastimes are consecrated and converted into festivals, and old and young unite in their observance. The spring-time which opens with the new year and is ushered in by the plum blossoms, has first its out-door games of battlelore and kite-flying; these pursuits giving way at length to other sports and pleasures.

Even dolls have their appointed season, the universal children's habit of enacting in fancy by the help of small dolls the events of daily life, having become converted into one of the chief festivals of spring-time. At the commencement of March, all the shops are gay with these pretty dressed images called *Hina*, which are sold for the yearly display it has been the fashion for all wealthy families to make on the third day of the month. Ancient writings, in explaining this custom, state how it was the habit of young girls among the nobles to act with little carved and clothed images the ceremonial receptions at the palace, at which fathers, brothers and lovers were present.

At the present time a lady's treasures are not complete without a valuable set of these doll-like images, representing the Emperor, Empress and courtiers in full dress. On the third of March each year these are spread out, with a fancy feast on miniature trays before them, whilst friends and relatives join in real festivities. The same day is the opening of another amusement, which lasts throughout the month and originated in the habit of putting shell fish upon the *Hina* in the fancy feast. This sport is the counterpart of the seaside paddling that western children so delight in at our own coast watering places. The beaches of Yedo bay, bared by the ebb of the tide, may be seen thronged with merry crowds of barefooted holiday makers with dress and sleeves tucked up, and cloth round the head to keep the precious hair from ruffling, scooping up the shell fish that lie hidden in the sand and mud. Further on, up the mouth of Sumida river, one can reach the famous cherry trees of Mukojima walk, with its avenue of trees with blossom clad-boughs meeting over the heads of happy promenaders. There is an almost religious duty attached to a yearly visit to these fashionable haunts, and the most pressing work must be laid aside once in a time to accomplish it. At the resorts may be seen alike the graceful gentlefolk with their pretty dresses and mincing ways; and the merry rowdy roisterers with their rough noisy fun. The outdoor pleasures of the spring-time followed by those of summer and autumn are now observed as they were of old, though perhaps with not quite the same heartiness and with a certain loss of color in the costume. But though the gentler recreations and seasonable amusements remain, the rougher and more manly games and sports of youth and manhood have passed away. The constant exercise with horse and sword and bow, which formed part of the daily training of the samurai youth, is a thing of the past. The ladies have, too, no longer those exercises, which by training them in self defence, relieved the monotony and obviated some of the evils of a comparatively recluse life.

The youth of to-day is a drudge to the passion for foreign learning, and his close literary studies, unrelieved by manly sports or recreation, are not seldom responsible for sickness

and premature death. Sports and exercises, which were once compulsory to the training of every samurai, have as yet no equivalent to replace them. The games and physical exercises of a nation have as much to do with the greatness of its men as have the industry of its students. What indeed would our universities be and what would the men, whose after success is their honour and glory be, without their cricket elevens and their boat crews? May it not be that, as Japan has forgotten them in her modern colleges, she has as yet instituted but one portion of the training that goes to rear up strong and intelligent men and patriots?

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

#### A QUOTATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—Can you inform me whether there is any good authority for the word "fields" in the quotation so often taken from the last line of "Lycidas"? In Dr. Mapon's edition of Milton's Poems and in the edition of the Clarendon Press edited by Mr. Browne, the poem ends with

"At last he rose, and twitch'd his mantle blue :  
"To-morrow to fresh woods, and pastures new."

Your's obediently,

STUDIOSUS.

Yokohama, 11th April, 1880.

[There is no good authority for the transposition of "fields" for "woods" in the quotation referred to by "Studiosus." The fact, however, seems to be, that a popular vitiation of the original, in this as in other instances, has displaced the correct version.—Ed. J. W. M.]

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

London, 14th April, 1880.

Lord Hartington, the Liberal candidate, has been elected by a large majority for north-east Lancashire. Liberal gain 108.

(From the *N. C. Daily Press*.)

London, April 5th.—It is reported that Chinese troops have crossed the Amoor River.

London, April 6th.—The Parliamentary Returns to the latest date give 261 Liberals to 157 Conservatives.

### The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 17TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2510, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 4TH MONTH, 17TH DAY, DO-YO-BI.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On Tuesday last the P. & O. steamer *Sunla* arrived from Hongkong with the European Mails. The O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* came into port the same day and left for San Francisco, this morning at daylight. The M. M. steamer *Tanis* was despatched for Hongkong on Wednesday morning last.

The M. M. steamer *Tibre*, with the European Mails of the 7th of March, left Hongkong for this port on the 15th instant, at 11 a.m.

The O. & O. steamer *Belyic*, left San Francisco for this port on Saturday, the 10th instant, and may be expected here about the 1st of May.

The Ocean Steamship Company's steamer *Sintur*, left Singapore for Hongkong on the 2nd instant, and the *Glencoe* on the 31st of March.

The British barque *Parmenio*, Captain Abbott, has been on shore for a considerable time near San O Bay, East coast of Formosa, and has now become a total wreck.

The *W. H. Marcy* and *Sea King* have arrived in Kobe from Philadelphia with kerosene.

The U. S. frigate *Ticonderoga*, 11, Captain Cromwell, was to leave Hongkong for this port on the 5th instant. The *Ticonderoga* will also visit Looschoo and Corea.

The Marquis de Sayre has been appointed Minister from France at the Court of the Emperor of Japan.

The *Pioneer* states that the Burmese Envoy, who has been waiting at Thayetnyo for permission to pay his respects on behalf of his master to the Government of India, has proposed a draft of a treaty to which the Burmese Government is willing to become a party. It is added, however, that the terms of the draft do not recommend themselves to the Government, and that the envoy has got a hint to return whence he came. We do not know how much truth there may be in this report; but we hear from other sources that King Theebaw is really desirous of renewing relations with this Government, and that it is not unlikely that he might be persuaded to agree to any reasonable concessions demanded of him. But it is a question whether, after the barbarities of which Theebaw has been guilty, the Government of India can enter into close friendly relations with him, and whether the character of his government is such as to render such relations possible. At the same time, the inconvenience of the present state of affairs—the interruption to trade, for example—is such as to render it almost imperative that steps of some kind should be taken soon. The *laissez-faire* policy cannot last in regard to Upper Burma without great injury to our own province. The position is a difficult one; but a difficult position should serve only to call forth the resources of our statesmanship. Does Afghanistan drain these resources dry?

From a New York paper we learn that representatives of the oleomargarine industry appeared before the Committee on Agriculture and Manufactures on the 10th of March last, in opposition to any legislation injuriously affecting their product. They claimed that oleomargarine is identical with butter, that both substances are simple animal fat, and that the difference in the process of manufacture makes no difference in the substance. They said that the factory in New York is now making 40,000 pounds of oleomargarine butter per day, and there are eleven such factories in Baltimore, Louisville, Chicago and other cities; that the exports of oleomargarine oil from the port of New York alone amount to 5,000 tierces per month. They asserted that their product is a genuine food product and a fit substitute for butter. The two committees were invited to name a congress of chemists and microscopists to test the qualities of the article by every device and appliance known to science, the manufacturers offering to defray the expense. The result of the investigation will be interesting to most of us, as there is a very general, if not well founded, belief that a great deal of the "butter" consumed in the East is nothing more or less than the oleomargarine so extensively manufactured in America and elsewhere.

A number of experiments have been made this week in Tokio with dynamite, in the presence of General Oyama, the War Minister, Admiral Enomoto, the Naval Minister, His Excellency Yamao, the Minister for Public Works, Admirals Kawamura and Ito, General Saigo, and a number of other gentlemen. The vast power of the explosive and its safety under almost all conditions, was abundantly proved by the representative of Nobel's Explosives Company, who are the proprietors and manufacturers of this dynamite. It is roughly calculated that the explosive will exercise the same amount of power as gunpowder at about half the price, but one great feature in the employment of dynamite is worthy of particular mention, it requires no tamping and a much smaller hole than powder, which would further increase the comparison in favor of dynamite. To anyone acquainted with mining, these advantages are apparent, as, besides the extra expense involved, it is well known that most, in fact we may say all, of the powder accidents in mining, occur from carelessness in tamping, or drilling out missed shots. All this is entirely avoided with

dynamite, which has certainly an assured future in this country. We understand that every particular respecting this valuable adjunct in all cases where an explosive is required, can be obtained from Messrs. Mollison, Fraser & Co., the Agents in Japan.

In "Pottery and Porcelain: a guide to collectors" by Mr. Frederick Litchfield, the author remarks under the heading of Haint, and Cautions, that:—"One of the most fashionable classes of decoration in our modern porcelain is the representation of Japanese subjects; and though at first sight one may be struck with its cleverness as an adaptation and its quaintness as a device, it surely can be but a short-lived taste; and a return must come before long to the more classic forms and suitable decorations in which there is alone a positive repose and perpetual charm."

As appears in our advertising columns, Messrs. Sargent, Farsari & Co. have introduced to this community the "fifteen" puzzle which is exciting so much attention in America. Ostensibly, the solution of the puzzle is the simplest thing imaginable; but when a person has essayed to accomplish it for about half an hour it dawns upon him that the proprietors are not perhaps altogether unwarranted in feeling pretty confident of there being no applicant for the \$100.00 reward promised for a successful solution. The success of this latest toy for the amusement of an idle hour has been wonderful in America: in fact people seem to have gone crazy about it, to judge from the newspapers. One of the San Francisco journals in an account of an interview with Count de Lesseps, says the reporter, "in response to the 'entree,' entered and found the engineer intently gazing at some object on the table. Thinking the Count might be working out some intricate engineering problem, the reporter hesitated at the threshold, fearing lest he might upset some elaborate calculation, upon the result of which the successful culmination of the Panama Canal depended. A few moments of silence and Mr. de Lesseps exclaimed, 'Mon Dieu, but there is absolutely terrible, c'est impossible.' A glance at the table, from between which and the reporter the gentleman had risen, displayed in a studied confusion the beautifully symmetrical little blocks indicative of the puzzle of Fifteen." *Harper's Bazaar*, too, is full of this fascinating game and has several capital illustrations on the subject. In one, two men pass along a street, their heads bent down, intently studying the little blocks; and they are shown in the act of collision; in another, a man is sitting up in bed attempting to elucidate the mystery; and his wife is vainly urging him to lie down and sleep; and in the third, a steam-boat is blowing up and it is remarked "they have solved the great mystery."

An occasional correspondent writes to us from Osaka:—"For a longtime we have had miserable weather in this locality but just now a change has arrived, and the spring is coming on us with suddenness. The cherry-trees at Sakura Miya and all around this neighborhood are in full bloom,—and the change which has set in has its full effect on the people, who flock in crowds to the open country to enjoy themselves. The schools have had their Spring holidays and all the the drowsiness of the winter months has passed away."

"The British *Chargé d'Affaires*, with Mrs. Kennedy, and the Consul from Kobe, with Mrs. Aston, have been staying for a few days at the Imperial Mint, where the apartments devoted to distinguished visitors have been placed at their disposal."

"The foreign community has had an addition to its numbers in the arrival of Dr. Dyce Fraser, from Scotland. He comes to take up his appointment as Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in the Government Special School here. Dr. Fraser is the son of the Professor of Logic and Metaphysics in Edinburgh, and one may anticipate some good results from the organization of a medical school, and hospital in connection with it, in this city under his direction."

"The depression in the paper currency and the consequent high price of rice and other things has a chilling effect upon trade; but the return of fine weather and greater general activity may produce a reaction."

"The port of Osaka is now more frequented than it used to be. Steamers belonging to native companies ply between this town and places on the Inland Sea. It is a goodly sight on a fine



afternoon to see many vessels fresh painted and displaying their ensigns on the river close to the Foreign Concession. If Osaka were made an open port, the stimulus of foreign shipping would certainly be beneficial to Japan."

The following is a list of the Bluff and Swamp lots, sold at public auction, on Monday last.

BLUFF LOTS.			
No. of Lot.	Tsmbos.	Price.	Purchaser.
260	256	\$3.10	Mr. Bower.
106B	622	1.00	" Davis.
106A	477	0.92	" White.
120C	397	2.01	" Heght.
120B	660	3.25	" Hemert.
120A	787	4.60	" "
118	2,630	2.70	" Lindaley.
131	122	0.80	" Blackwell.
26B	950	0.26	" Gabaretta
SWAMP LOTS.			
No. of Lot.	Tsmbos.	Price.	Purchaser.
193	257	\$11.75	Mr. Motta.
194	210	6.75	" "
195	280	7.75	" Isaac.
197	800	5.25	" "
199	387	5.00	" C. Hildebrandt.
201	286	6.25	" Walter.
204	372	6.75	" Heinemann.
205	293	4.30	" Walter.
206	374	2.20	" Heinemann.
207	283	2.05	" Walter.
208	378	2.25	" Heinemann.
209	290	2.10	" Hildebrandt.
210	296	2.01	" Lindaley.
211	224	2.15	" Bland.
212	300	2.01	" Lindaley.
213	227	2.01	" Bland.
214	295	2.11	" Rets.
215	227	2.01	" Bland.
216	279	2.01	" James.
217	205	2.01	" Lindaley.
218	221	3.20	" James.
220	262	2.15	" Motta.
222	292	3.10	" "
223	324	3.20	" "
225	481	2.01	" F. C. Spooner.
227	316	2.00	" Lillibridge.
228	226	2.01	" Bland.
229	255	2.55	" Spooner.
230	226	2.01	" Bland.
231	378	2.50	" Spooner.
232	227	2.01	" Bland.
239	248	2.05	" Spooner.
241	217	2.01	" Mollison, Fraser & Co.
243	327	2.01	" "
248	230	2.01	" Mr. Motta.
250	320	2.01	" "
252	323	2.20	" Smith, Baker & Co.
254	319	3.50	" "
255	472	2.59	" Mr. White.
256	313	3.10	" Isaac.
257	315	2.05	" Lillibridge.
258	243	3.55	" Lindaley
259	263	2.05	" "
260	366	3.05	" "
261	242	2.25	" "
262	240	3.45	" "
263	217	2.01	" Mollison, Fraser & Co.
264	222	2.30	" "
265	331	2.82	" "
266	219	2.21	" Mr. White.
267	218	2.01	" Mollison, Fraser & Co.
268	178	2.01	" Mr. White.
270	260	2.01	" Lindaley.
272	97	2.01	" "
276	246	2.01	" Jaffray.
277	359	2.10	" "

On the 10th of last March eight of the advance guard of "The Salvation Army" arrived at Castle Garden, New York, by the steamer *Australia*, from London. The *World* states that the band consisted of George Railton, "High Commissioner," and seven young women, one of whom styles herself "captain" and the others "lieutenants." All wore what is described as the regulation uniform of the Salvation Army. High Commissioner Railton had on a suit of dark blue, a cutaway coat and a high peaked hat. The women, who were apparently about thirty, and all stout and hale, did not wish to tell their names. They wore short blue dresses, blue Ulsters trimmed with yellow braid, and Derby hats marked "Salvation Army" in gilt letters in front. The new-comers had evidently made every preparation for their arrival in America by adapting the words of their hymns to more or less national airs. A few moments after they were settled in Castle Garden, High Commissioner Railton pro-

posed to hold religious services, and a solemn hymn was sung to the tune of "Way Down the Suwanee River." A curious throng at once gathered around the little army, and more hymns were sung. Then the drill was cut short by the arrival of a brother from Philadelphia who had endeavored to found a colony of missionary workers in the Quaker City, but had failed. High Commissioner Railton, we are informed, "greeted the Philadelphian rather coldly." Commissioner Railton travelled all over the city during the afternoon trying to get some one to print his posters free. In the meanwhile the captain and lieutenants sang hymns.

Whitehall says in one of its late issues that in consequence of the recent attempts made upon his life the Czar finds himself forced to take every possible precaution. His carriage and sledge are lined with sheets of steel; he himself endeavored for some time to wear a small chain armour cuirass under his shirt, but, notwithstanding that it was a marvel of workmanship and as flexible as a piece of linen, the weight was so great that it only increased the nervous disorder from which His Majesty is suffering, and had therefore to be abandoned. The following substitute, however, has been invented. A certain kind of wadding is firmly pressed between heavy cylinders, and then dipped in a preparation of iron-glue, which gives it a reassuring and satisfactory consistency. The uniform of the Czar is lined with this wadding, which would effectually prevent an ordinary bullet from doing much damage. The agents of the Secret Police who accompany the Czar when he leaves the Palace have no idea whether His Majesty is going until half an hour before they start, and they are especially forbidden to make known when the Czar goes out or where he is to go. The cook in the Imperial Palace is the object of constant attention and supervision, two secret police agents being constantly by his side while the meal is being cooked. When a dish is at length ready (everything is now cooked in the most simple way, and no sauces are allowed) it is tasted by two police officials before being served to the Czar. His Majesty will no longer receive in his private apartments, nor will he open or read a letter, despatch, or newspaper himself. His linen and, in fact, all his garments, are most carefully watched and attended to by trusty servants lest they should be poisoned, and His Majesty, who was a great smoker formerly, has now been forced to give up the use of nicotine, for fear cigars or cigarettes should be chosen by the Nihilists as offering the greatest facility for the accomplishment of their deadly purpose.

We learn with much pleasure that Mr. Sheppard's work on Extra-territoriality, which first appeared as a series of articles in the *Weekly Mail*, is being translated into Chinese by Dr. Martin, President of the Imperial College at Peking. Dr. Martin's qualifications for the task will be evident when we mention that he has already translated Wheaton's work on International Law into Chinese.

There was a sharp shock of earthquake on the morning of the 4th instant at nine minutes past four o'clock which lasted about five seconds. Glasses rattled, swing-lamps were in motion, and it almost seemed as if we were about to experience a repetition of the visitation of the 22nd of February.

From the following paragraph in the *Hongkong Daily Press*, it appears that the rebel Li Yung-Choi is still alive.

"A memorial appears in the *Peking Gazette* of the 1st inst. from the Governor of Kwang-si announcing the execution of the rebel leader Li Yung-choi. The capture and execution are detailed as follows:—In due course, the officers, civil and military, who were sent by the Commander-in-Chief to convey the rebel Li Yung-choi to the provincial capital, arrived with their prisoner. They also brought with them the so-called seal that had been found at the capture of Ché Ya. The memorialist at once had the prisoner before him in the presence of the Commissioners and the Taotai, and subjected him to a searching examination, upon which occasion the statement made by the prisoner agreed with the copies of the depositions earlier forwarded by the Commander-in-Chief. The memorialist accordingly, in obedience to his instructions, directed Sung Chun, the Provincial Judge, in concert with Wang Shih-ch'ing Colonel of the memorialist's brigade, on the 8th of January, to take the criminal Li Yung-choi to a public place and decapitate him. On the same day the memorialist made choice of certain civil and military officers, whom he directed



to take the head of the criminal to Tai-ping Fu for identification, after which it was to be passed on beyond the frontier and handed over to the Governor of Liang-ping, in Annam, who, in his turn, was to send it to the scene of the rebel's operations for exhibition there. Now, almost simultaneously with the reception of this news, taken from the latest issue of our Shanghai morning contemporary, we have received intelligence from Tonquin that the whole story of the capture of the rebel chieftain has been concocted in order to satisfy the Central Government, who were impatient at the protracted resistance offered by this redoubtable rebel to their authority. We are assured most positively that Li Yung-Choi is still in secure retreat in the Kwangsi mountains, and has never been in danger of falling into the hands of the Imperialists. The prisoner who has been executed as Li Yung-Choi was either a mere coolie or else at most a petty officer in the insurgent army. The truth could not long be suppressed, though the Imperialist General and the mandarins in Kwang-si are reported to have tried hard to keep up the deception. But it is probably known by this time to the officials in Canton, and must shortly reach Peking, if it has not done so already. Some few heads will probably follow that of Li's counterfeit, should this report prove correct, as we have excellent reasons for believing it to be, and many vacancies will be made in the service. It is said that Li's following is still numerous, and that he is biding his time to make a descent from his present lair. The movement he commenced would consequently appear to be still existing, though for a time held in check."

The new buildings of the German Legation at Nagata-cho, Tokio, having been completed, His Excellency The German Minister invited the Princes of the Blood, the Prime Ministers, and the Privy Councillors, to an entertainment on the 13th instant. The Foreign Representatives and the Japanese Ministers to Foreign Courts, were similarly fêted on the following day, and the Ministers and Assistant Ministers of the different Departments, on the day following. During these successive evenings the buildings were illuminated with gas, and the gardens decorated with lanterns.

A compilation styled "A Forbidden Land. Voyages to the Corea," has just been published by Mr. Ernest Oppert in London. The author adds nothing new, which is reliable, to what has been known of the country written about, and in illustration of the comprehensiveness of his ignorance, when he travels out of the beaten path left for his guidance by previous writers on the same subject, it is sufficient to mention that he assures his readers that "the Chinese and Japanese are as much in the dark as to what happens in the country as we are ourselves." This is the face of Japanese treaties with Corea, resident Consuls, and Settlements!

Advices from New York, says the *World*, announce the complete success of Messrs. Sullivan and Gilbert's new comic opera, *The Pirates of Penzance*. The funniest bit of the libretto seems to be the following, sung by policemen. The sergeant leads, and the chorus echoes the last syllables of the lines:—

"When the enterprising burglar isn't burgling,  
     *Chorus*: isn't burgling,  
 When the cut-throat isn't occupied with crimes,  
     *Chorus*: 'Pied with crimes,  
 He loves to hear the little brooks a-gurgling,  
     *Chorus*: Brooks a-gurgling,  
 And listen to the merry village chimcs,  
     *Chorus*: Village chimcs.  
 When the ooster's finished jumping on his mother,  
     *Chorus*: On his mother,  
 He loves to lie a-basking in the sun,  
     *Chorus*: In the sun,  
 O, take one consideration with another,  
     *Chorus*: With another,  
 The policeman's lot is not a happy one,  
     *Chorus*: Happy one!

#### PARIS LETTER.

FEBRUARY 28TH, 1880.

The Nihilist "Monsieur" Hartmann, according to some journals, and "Hartmann" quite short in others, is giving us a sea of troubles. One paper suggests that he be supplied with a packet of strychnine and so in mercy be allowed to perform the "happy despatch" before being handed over to the Russians, who, previous to hanging prisoners, cut off the tips of their fingers and the ends of their toes to try and wring a denunciation out of them before they enter their second purgatory. Opinion is very heated about the subject; there is no extradition treaty be-

tween France and Russia, because the latter not being within the pale of civilization could not guarantee that an accused, if once surrendered, would have a fair trial, if any at all. It is optional with France to give up the prisoner, who admits he is a revolutionist, desires the overthrow of the imperial despotism to make way for liberty, and holds that, in that kind of warfare, every mode of fight is fair. He is a very able man; admits that France can refuse him a refuge by ordering him to leave the country within twenty-four hours, but he hopes she will not be an assistant executioner with the Czar, especially as he has never conspired here. He takes his position very tranquilly; sings Russian songs in his stone jug, in favor of the three republican Graces, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity, and, when he is tired of warbling, plunges into the mysteries of the French grammar, notably of the past participles and their gender. To keep him under bolts and bars till he comprehended them, might be sufficient punishment for him. He is not destitute of Russian friends or funds in Paris; and both have come to the front to assist in his defence; and opinion, timid and cautious, while abhorring murder in every form, desires that he be fairly dealt with. It is possible to read the French character through this event. The radical journals demand, in no dulcet tones, that he be liberated and the Minister of Police who arrested him dismissed, in order to save France from a stain on her independence, and her renown for sheltering the politically oppressed—a protection by the by not so comfortable as Switzerland, England, or the United States provides. The reactionist journals insist on Hartmann being given up; not on account of his misdeeds, or to please the Czar, but because the step would affect the Republic and bring it into dis-grace. Moderate liberal opinion bats about the bush, but says nothing, while the diplomatically inclined people ignore the matter altogether. The foreigner mis-es—save in the radical papers—that glorious out-burst of opinion one way or other, which the press of free countries would fearlessly echo.

In the multitude of "cases in point" adduced, that conspiring to kill your sovereign is no murder, is that of Ledru Rollin, who was condemned in 1857 for joining in a plot to slay Napoleon III. After the latter's downfall Rollin entered France, became a deputy, and a statue is to be erected to his memory, while the semblances of the ex-emperor are being demolished. Well, the leaders of the French Bar were convoked to give their opinion, "was conspiring to kill Napoleon III. a common or political murder?" They decided that it belonged to the latter category. Who were the lawyers that maintained this doctrine? Jules Favre, the late Cremieux, Arago, Audral, and last not least, Jules Grévy, now president of the republic, and Jules Ferry, the ablest member of the present cabinet.

A much more agreeable subject is the Presidential ball on Thursday evening last. It eclipsed the first in brilliancy; the only fault was its being too crowded; but what's to be done when 32,000 persons demand invitations on pain of shaking off the dust of their shoes against France, and only 8,000 can obtain the open sesame? In the way of decorations, the flowers were more numerous and perhaps more choice. The dapper and intelligent gentlemen of the Japanese embassy, must have felt quite at home in the bowers of camellias. The state wardrobe must have been ransacked for its best specimens of tap-stry: no two rooms were hung alike, even to those cosy ante-chambers and boudoirs, where half-a-dozen friends could retire to laugh, chat, and repose. And the colors were so harmoniously blended, the decorative furniture was so artistically disposed that one might believe Professor Charles Blade had arranged the whole, as a comprehensive illustration of the true and the beautiful. The band was excellent, and sufficient to make a gouty limb inclined to join in a waltz, or flirt round to the soft and moving Havana polka. The young ladies were very pretty and very merry, and their mammae, sedate without being haughty or severe. As usual, the artillery officers danced best, and their partners felt themselves sure in a whirl with these sons of guns. The tribe of attachés to embassies as a rule do not dance well, they never throw themselves into the thing, believing perhaps that they might compromise their country. Young ladies were simply dressed, in white satin, silk or craps; not many ornaments save a few flowers in the hair, a good-luck bracelet and their own pretty features.

On the other hand the mammas wore all the family diamonds and the lace; on their stamped velvets, or ornamental foulards. There was no stint of refreshments for the heated dancers, and the bead-drops were plentiful on brave as well as fair brows. About one in the morning the doors to the magnificent supper room were thrown open, and each of the five doors had two cuirassiers leaning on their swords, to bar the famished upper ten from rushing at the feast of good things before an admitted batch had cleared away. Nothing so odd after you have entered the promised land, and with your supper finished, say of salmon, galantine, a little macedoine in honor of holy Russia, a strengthening glass of claret, followed by a ditto of invigorating champagne,—and the wines were genuine,—than to turn round, and look at the entrance doors, behind which was a dense crowd of be-diamonded and be-laced ladies; civilians covered with decorations, or *militaires* arrayed like Solomon in all his glory, waiting their turn of admission. And the wit that is exchanged and the jokes cracked, while the guards endeavor to suppress their smiles, to look as grave and motionless as Hermione in the Winter's Tale. The Chinese Embassy mustered strong; they never raise their hats on passing the President and his lady: the chief member of the Embassy wears a kind of pacha's tail from the centre of his episcopal *coiffure*: in the middle of the back of his gala dressing gown, a centre piece of silk with a kind of landscape language, perhaps a kind of *noli me tangere*, for the benefit of outer barbarians. I observed Mr. Egger, the celebrated linguist, casting sheep's eyes at this philological patch-work, perhaps he may give us a reading of it, when he is tired of deciphering carbonised rolls from Pompeii or inscribed chips from Grecian temples. The Persian Minister looks the most un-oriental of orientals. Were his black quart hat removed, and his blue merino waist-band, worn to keep his loins warm in a room where the degrees were in the nineties, he would pass for a well-to-do tradesman. His wife has the real Persian eyes, but as she is rapidly becoming as fat as a favorite Moorish sultana, unless she takes a course of Vichy, she will very likely bring about her husband's recall. The Shah must always be represented here by a houri, as in the other world by a peri. The most melancholy of individuals was the Turkish ambassador, or first secretary, for the ambassadorship has been going a begging for a year, in default of funds. This individual, as small as the ex-king of Spain, and like that monarch of other days when in full dress, in gold lace, moved with the precision and the *abandon* of a marionnette. He had the real expression of Mahomedan sadness; that countenance could never be lit up with a smile, even were he informed, that the sultan had contracted a loan without infidel aid! I pity poor President Grévy, compelled for two mortal hours to remain standing and bowing, shaking hands, and fluting a compliment for those expecting it. He did look fatigued, and must have longed for his quiet game of billiards or his dog and his gun. Then Mme. and Mlle. Grévy, some distance behind him, had to stand out the same ceremony. Mlle. Grévy had a bevy of her comrades, who came to her like cherubim and seraphim from time to time, to tell her how the dancing went on, and the havoc made in love and flirtation. Mme. Grévy had, on her side, ladies who I verily believe had no other mission than to colloquially collar those who felt inclined to pass the evening in a *tête-à-tête* with the kind hostess who belonged to every guest. In point of taste Mme. Grévy cannot be surpassed in her toilette. She wore a black robe, with orange tablier, trimmed with black lace: *coiffure*, camellias and ivy leaves. Mlle. Grévy is sure to follow her mother's example in simple elegance: her toilette was composed of white satin and crape, with lilac in her hair; a few roses fell negligently on her shoulder, and a diamond locket hung from her neck.

The Academy has elected two new immortals, Labiche, the dramatist, and Maxime du Camp, a publicist. Of the first, merit *oblige*: the second is a political election, and he is in anything but the odor of sanctity with the republicans. He had a finger in all the Macmahon regime, and many accuse him of having denounced communists to the attention of the Courts the courts martial. His principal work is a very elaborate description, and as entertaining as practical, of the life of Paris, its organism, as to how it is provisioned, cleansed, lighted and guarded. In any case he is superior to that nonentity recently

installed, the Duc Pasquier, who is positively a fraud in literature. The Duc d'Aumale came to vote; he looks a dandy, with his hand on one ear, a smart cane, and a paletot buttoned as if he was going on parade: I was sorry to observe that John Lemoine of the *Débats*, just elected a life-senator, had to be carried in a chair to vote; gout has seized him when honours came thickly upon him. It is another proof of the observation, that all the editors of the *Débats* go to glory through gout. A celebrity of another kind, suffering from gout also, is Prince Pierre Bonaparte, whose career is only remarkable by his shooting Victor Noir, an event that had much to do in giving a last push to the tottering throne of his cousin Napoleon III. He also distinguished himself by marrying a sempstress, and when the emperor frowned on the union, he married twice over again to clinch the ceremony. Old Jérôme Napoleon of Wurtemberg had not the courage to so act towards Mme. Patterson. *Eh bien*, Prince Pierre is so reduced in circumstances, that he lives alone in a humble eating house at Versailles, the proprietor of which is a marquis; and the head waiter has claims to be a count. The prince has to pay cash down for what he orders—the cash is supplied out of the lean purse of Prince Jérôme—which is only wine and water and a sea biscuit: he makes up for the rest in piety. His wife occupies a small back room in Paris, lives partly by her needle, drawing lessons given by her daughter, and a pittance allowed by the Princess Mathilde. Their son is a lieutenant. There is news from Bazaine: he lives a "dribbler and a show" in a secluded street in Madrid. He is preparing his memoirs, said to be an exposure of Marshal Macmahon, and expects France one day to call him back—to tar and feather him it must be.

The Municipal Council will not continue the experiment of lighting the streets with electricity: it pronounces no opinion on the scheme: it simply returns to gas, and awaits any good time coming. The French Atlantic Cable Company has given so far signs of life as to publish, in reply to some shareholders, a statement of what it has expended, and to announce a dividend of 5 per cent. Whence does the profit come, as no statement of receipts is given, and since the opening of the line in January, it cannot have been burthened with messages, as the Anglo-American Company transmits such at a tariff six times cheaper per word.

A Parisian journal states, in an article on Prince Demidoff's wealth, that most of it is derived from "brass mines," in Russia.

A favorite plan for Monarchists to express their political spite, is to teach parrots to utter nasty phrases against the Republic. A plumber wrung the neck of one of these birds of freedom lately, and is to be sued for damages. Can poor Poll provoke a breach of the peace?

When a person now arrives late at dinner, he excuses himself by saying, he was afraid of the first course, dynamite.

#### LONDON LETTER.

LONDON, 19th February, 1880.

I have often hoped, rather than believed, that the "intelligent foreigner" was too well occupied to trouble himself much about our so-called politics. More especially, since my own party have stooped to political prostitution, has the ostrich-like feeling strongly possessed my mind, that at any rate foreigners were not taking any notice of us or our doings. For how could the boiling invective of Gladstone, the ponderous hatred of Bright, or the harlequinade of Vernon Harcourt interest those who had neither part nor lot in our family squabbles? Yet I was wrong. The eyes not only of Europe but of the world are upon us. Travelling by the underground railway on Monday last, and reading as my custom is the roseate evening organ of the Tories, my eye caught an eager-looking figure sitting opposite me and apparently straining his sight trying to read the back of the paper I held in hand. I had the curiosity to turn the paper over as soon as I could do so in an easy and natural manner, in order that I might see the object which seemed to engross my neighbour's attention. It was Dr. J. Collis Brown's Chlorodyne, the wonderful remedy for coughs, colds, bronchitis and old age. I dropped my paper listlessly by my side and contemplated my *vis-à-vis* more leisurely. There was something

peculiar about his appearance which provoked study. His hair, a most important race characteristic, was black and straight: his features were curt, his cheeks prominent, and his eyes small and keen. His complexion baffles description, and his age might be anything from 20 to 40. He seemed to have been brought to the verge of the grave by hard work or dissipation. In fact he was a highly complex character. When I had time to note his costume I perceived that it was from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot of a somewhat outlandish cut and looked as if bought in a ready-made shop in Whitechapel. It was easy to see that he was not an Englishman, nor even a European; consequently it was quite permissible to address him without an introduction, and I resolved to gratify my curiosity. My friend—for we soon became familiar—answered me in good but stiff and stilted English. He told me he was a native of Japan, by name —, of the ken of Kakimoda in the province of Suruga, twenty-years of age, and had been in Germany, France and England for five years. When I questioned him as to his object in coming to Europe, how he lived and what was his occupation, he became fluent but vague; and without making him go all over his story again, which politeness forbade I could not make out any very clear or consecutive account. He was much more anxious to get than to impart information, I found, and he evinced the greatest interest in the political struggles now going on in different parts of the country. At the very first lull in our conversation he asked me for a look at my newspaper, and I soon saw that it was not Dr. Collis Browne at all that interested him, but the Southwark election to which he turned with an eagerness which quite took me by surprise. And greatly elated was my friend at the decided victory gained by the conservatives of that radical constituency. "What's Hecuba to him or he to Hecuba?" I thought; and I was really curious to discover the *rationale* of my friend's political sentiments. When he once got warmed up he became as communicative as if he had drunk half a bottle of Champagne, and he discoursed as volubly as his teeth and tongue would let him. Contrary to many, perhaps most of his educated countrymen, he told me he was an intense lover of peace. Some of the hand-to-mouth politicians of Japan, he said, secretly longed for a quarrel to break out among some of the Great Powers, because they thought that in the turmoil Japan could safely assert herself and play her own game as an independent power, none making her afraid. What that game was I could not very well make out, and I suspect that either my friend had not a very clear conception of it himself, or else he did not particularly desire to impart it to me. In either case he had no sympathy with the presumed Machiavellianism of his countrymen, and, as I have said, his voice was still for peace. And peace, he considered, was intimately bound up with the continuance in power of "Lord Beaconsford" as he called the Premier. He observed that the Great Powers of Europe—and one power in particular, Russia—were watching anxiously the development of English policy. The disturber *par excellence* of the peace of the world counted on a change of Government in England for the safe prosecution of her schemes of aggression both in Europe and Asia. The attitude of France and Germany towards each other was such that any movement in Europe might disturb the equilibrium which held them in their places. Great Britain held the key of the position, and being beyond all doubt peaceably disposed, it was felt that so long as Great Britain maintained a firm hand and the European powers could depend on her policy, so long would their warlike forces remain quiescent. There was no doubt in the minds of anybody what the present English Government would do if they had their way; but their term has almost expired, and the Liberal party have so deeply committed themselves to a reversal of all that that their opponents have done, that for consistency's sake they might be tempted to trifle with the foundations of the European equilibrium by withdrawing the support which England has lent to it. The one thing necessary to secure peace is a renewal of the existing administration, which would resume office with the certain prospect of five or six years tenure during which time they could carry out their own programme boldly and firmly.

I was rather struck with these comments by a stranger, and

was sorry when we reached his station, Gower Street, as I wished to hear more of his discourse. He very kindly invited me to call upon him at Tavistock Square; and it is more than likely that I shall avail myself of this invitation to improve my acquaintance with so intelligent a man.

After we had parted I began to wonder why it did not occur to me to ask — to call on me; and I have been wondering ever since without coming to any conclusion upon the matter.

Life has not been worth living in London this winter by reason of the intense cold and the fogs. Fogs have been more or less prevalent in many parts of the country; but as you are aware the "London" fog is *sui generis*, a compound of wet vapour and carbon with various poisonous acids. It was so dense at times that people lost their way crossing streets that were perfectly familiar to them. I myself lost myself in Fleet-Street. Some times you could not see across the pavement. If you walked on the middle you could neither see the railings on the one side nor the kerb stone on the other. At night, after groping hopelessly in the black darkness, you would suddenly descry a light very distant and very high. After taking two steps towards it you would collide with the iron lamp-post. Many people died suddenly in the streets, and hundreds more by a slower process from the effects of exposure and fright. Indeed our wise physicians comfort us by saying that the effect of these continuous fogs will be apparent in the death rate for a considerable time to come. Mercifully the fogs seem to be over now, and it is possible to feel warm again. Really during the reign of cold and darkness clothing seemed to have lost its virtue; one felt a metallic chill through all the internal passages and cavities, and seemed to want warm flamed in one's stomach. The weather now is stormy with incessant rain, but that seems Paradise itself by contrast with the weather we have lately experienced.

#### SYLVAN SOUNDS.

(From the Japanese.)

##### VII.

##### EVENING SONG.

The scene is fair as fair can be,  
For the moonlit night is rare to see.  
Far and near—Far and near,  
And the river's sound is sweet to hear,  
Crystal-clear, crystal-clear!  
Whether I go, or whether I stay,  
'Tis like a joyful holiday.

F. B. H.

Tokio, 17th April, 1880.

#### JAPANESE PERSONAGES.

##### VI.

##### HIS EXCELLENCY TANAKA FUJIMARU.

TANAKA Fujimaru, the Minister of Justice, is a native of Owari, and therefore a member of one of the three great Shōgunate clans:—Mito, Owari and Kishiu from whom the shōgun was invariably selected. Tanaka has the reputation of having received an excellent education and possessing great wisdom and penetration in matters of business, together with a gentle and equable temperament.

Although his early proclivities were naturally with the Shōgunate party, Tanaka's sense of justice and right soon recoiled from the usurpation of that clique, and he joined the movement having for its object the reestablishment of the imperial authority. When the war of the restoration broke out, it was owing to his influence and untiring exertions that the Owari clan was dissuaded from rising in support of the Shōgunate, thus following a course suggested no less by natural inclination than the memory of old associations.

When quiet was at last restored to the empire, Tanaka was appointed chief secretary of the Department of Education. He was sent to Europe and America, in 1871, for purposes of study and observation. On his return, the result of his travels was soon made apparent in a great improvement in the system of education throughout the country, attendance at school being made compulsory upon the youth of both sexes. Indeed, it is not too much to say, that to Tanaka is generally ascribed



the credit of having raised the present school system of Japan to its present excellence.

In recognition of his services which, if not so brilliant and attractive to the popular mind as those of the warriors whose histories we have already recorded, are probably more solid and enduring in their results, Tanaka was made a knight of the Japanese Order of merit, and appointed Assistant Minister of Education.

From the experience of Tanaka in a department which he had made a special study, and his consequent great success in its administration, it was confidently expected that any ministerial changes would find him promoted to Minister of Education; however, to the surprise of many, he has recently been appointed Minister for Justice in the room of His Excellency Oki Takato.

#### JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

##### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

To the Tokio Stock Exchange Office.

It is hereby notified that an inquiry being about to be held, all contracts for the purchase and sale of gold or silver coin are forbidden until further notice.

N.B.—Contracts already made may be carried into effect according to the rules of the Office.

SANO TSUNETAMI,  
Minister for Finance.

April 12th, 1880.

TO THE TOKIO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICE.

It is hereby notified that all contracts for the purchase and sale of gold or silver having now been prohibited, now contracts for the purchase and sale of gold or silver are forbidden to be made in connection with the office, either within or outside the premises.

MATSUDA MICHIOYUKI,  
Governor of Tokio Fu.

April 12th, 1880.

TO THE RICE GUILDS AT KAHUTO-CHO, AND KAKIGARA-CHO, TOKIO.

It is hereby notified that all contracts for the purchase and sale of rice are forbidden until further notice.

N.B.—Contracts already entered into may be carried into effect according to the regulations of the Guilds. But all further contracts are strictly prohibited to be entered into in connection with the Guilds, either within or outside the offices.

MATSUDA MICHIOYUKI,  
Governor of Tokio Fu.

April 12th, 1880.

The foregoing notifications have been transmitted to every part of the Empire by telegraph, and the Stock Exchange Offices in Tokio and Yokohama, and the two Rice Guilds in the former city, were at once closed on receipt of the Notifications.

##### COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

His Excellency Oki, one of the Privy Council, has discontinued having an escort of cavalry.

A native paper states that Prince Shotai, the ex-King of Looschoo, has forwarded a sketch of his life to the authorities, in which he recounts the principal events which have happened to him, from the time of his birth until the present day. A stone monument is to be erected at the entrance to the Okinawa Kencho, on which will be inscribed the most notable occurrences in the history of the prefecture from the very earliest times, and also the distances from the spot to the different Fu and Ken in the main islands of Japan.

Mr. Watanabe, the Governor of Osaka, has been ordered to arrive in Tokio before the 15th instant. It is rumoured that he will be appointed to another office of more importance.

A meeting of police officers from Tokio and the neighbouring prefectures is to be held in Chiba.

Mr. Sato, Superintendent of the Mining Bureau, has left the capital for the northern provinces on a tour of inspection of the different mines.

One thousand and seven of the police officers and men who

were sent to the southern provinces to protect the inhabitants after the Satsuma rebellion was over, were rewarded on the 30th ultimo and 7th instant, with sums of money varying from five to one hundred yen.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* issued an extra on Tuesday morning which states that "we received a telegram from our correspondent in Osaka, last night (Sunday, the 10th instant) informing us that the Regulations for Public Meetings having come into force, the meeting of the Aikokuha (Patriotic Society), has been closed by order of the Osaka Fuchō Authorities."

Messrs. Arakawa and Urushima, two members of the Hoku-shin-sha, proceeded to the private residence of His Excellency Sanjo, the Prime Minister, on the 10th instant, and presented a petition respecting the new regulations for public meetings.

Mr. Hachisuka has been appointed Superintendent of the Custom House Bureau of the Finance Department.

It is reported that His Majesty the Emperor will return from Ise by sea. The *Fuso Kan* is being prepared with all speed for the purpose.

The horse presented by General Grant to the Emperor, is shortly to be ridden by Mr. Hakodate, in the presence of His Majesty.

It is said that two hundred police constables are to be sent to Corea. They will be enlisted for five years and placed under the command of Assist. Inspector Kawaji.

Their Excellencies Sanjo, Prime Minister; and Ito, Yamada, and Terashima, members of the Privy Council; Hijikata, the Vice Assistant Minister of the Imperial Household; Mr. Ishi-i Assistant Police Inspector, and the six Secretaries of the Daijo Kuwan and the Imperial Household Department, were on the 10th instant appointed to accompany His Majesty the Emperor on his tour through the country.

His Excellency Shinagawa, Vice-Assistant Minister for Home Affairs, was appointed, on the 10th instant, Chief of the Commission for carrying out the second National Industrial Exhibition.

Judges Nomura and Sugimura, have been transferred to the Dai-shin-in from the Judicial Department, and Judge Wada, from the Dai-shin-in to the Joto Saibansho. Judge Sakamoto has been appointed President of the Miyagi Joto Saibansho.

Mr. Wakizaka has been made an attaché of the Judicial Department.

Thirty officers are to be sent from the Foreign Department to Corea.

A telegram has been received in Tokio, stating that His Excellency Matsukata, the Minister of the Interior, arrived at the prefecture of Miye on the afternoon of the 12th instant.

The Public Works Department is going to purchase timber and stone at Izu-shima, in the prefecture of Okayama, to the value of about fifty thousand yen. The material will be used in the construction of the new Imperial Palace.

Local Courts are to be established in different places in Yesso. The localities of these courts are now under consideration.

We (*Mainichi Shimbun*) hear that animated discussions took place in the cabinet on Monday and Tuesday among the Prime Ministers and Privy Councillors respecting the rise in the price of specie and rice, and also about the recently issued Regulations for Political Societies and Meetings.

Judge Kishira, the President of the Dai-shin-in, has been again compelled to retire from the active duties of his office, in consequence of another attack of illness.

The alterations made in the Regulations for Rice Guilds and Stock Exchange Offices, were notified by the Prime Minister on the 15th instant. According to the new Regulations, the guarantee money of a broker in the Rice Guilds is fixed at one thousand yen, which may be deposited either in money or Government bonds. The brokers of the Stock Exchange Offices are divided into two classes, namely, stock brokers and specie brokers; the former are to deposit two hundred yen as a guarantee, and the latter one thousand.

The telegram from Osaka announcing that the meeting of the Aikokuha had been abruptly closed by order, was incorrect. The meeting terminated, as previously arranged, on the day after official intimation was received that the proceedings of the society would no longer be permitted under the existing organization, so that the authorities did not interfere with the



programme determined upon. Messrs. Kataoka and Kono, were elected to forward a memorial to the Government, urging the establishment of a National Assembly, and left Osaka for the capital on the 14th instant.

On the 13th instant, Mr. Shibusawa, President, and Mr. Masuda, Vice-President, of the Tokio Chamber of Commerce, proceeded to the Finance Department, and had an interview with the Minister of Finance. They were questioned by the Minister about the advantages and disadvantages of fixing the price of rice and specie for a certain period. In order to discuss the subject thoroughly, a meeting was held in the Department with closed doors at 5 o'clock in the evening, when some of those present said that speculation is just the same as gambling, and therefore it would be better abolished altogether, while others explained their ideas of the difference between speculation and gambling, and affirmed that there was no necessity to control speculation. A very warm discussion ensued for a time; but at last it was agreed that speculation is different from gambling, and that if it be advisable to prevent false reports about the state of the market, it would be better to allow matters to revert to their former position. The officers of the Rice Guilds and Stock Exchange Office were not present at the meeting.

Messrs. Hashimoto, and Yamataka, under Secretaries of the Home Department, and Messrs. Suzuki, under Secretary, and Ishiwara, an attaché of the Finance Department, were appointed Commissioners for the second National Exhibition, the day before yesterday.

It is said that the Imperial Progress will probably commence on the 20th of next month.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

Thirty military cadets entered the Primary Military School, on Monday last.

A rifle competition lasting three days, commenced at Mukogawa, on Sunday last. This shooting match was between persons attached to the Police Department.

Major Tashima has been appointed an attaché to the Japanese Legation in France, and will proceed to Europe on the 17th instant.

Lieutenant Isobayashi has been appointed Aide-de-Camp and attached to the Imperial Guard.

The first company of the Imperial Guard left for Nikko on the 10th instant, under the command of Lieutenant Yamaoka, and the fourth company for Takasaki, under the command of Lieutenant Wada.

A native paper states that, if war breaks out between Russia and China, a number of officers in the Japanese army will be sent to both armies to witness the operations.

Thirteen thousand rifles, valued at \$123,500, ordered in America, by the Japanese War Department were brought here by the *City of Tokio* on the 9th instant. The remainder will arrive by the next mail steamer.

Lieutenant-General Takashima, who had lately returned from visiting France and Germany, was received everywhere while abroad with the greatest cordiality and hospitality. In France he was decorated with the order of the Legion of Honour; and, while he was in Germany, a review was held for the purpose of enabling him to witness the famous soldiery of that Empire manoeuvred in the field. After the review, the visitor was entertained at a banquet by Field Marshal, Count Von Moltke. The reason assigned for the unusual attention paid to Lieut.-General Takashima in both France and Germany, is the fact of his being the first Japanese General who has visited either country. He now proposes to give a lecture before the officers and cadets, at the Kaikoshu, at Kudan, on the 21st or 25th instant. The subject of the lecture will be his experience of military matters abroad.

Major Kajiyama proceeded to Peking on the 7th instant; and Captain Fukukawa left for Persia on the 5th instant in the *Hiei Kan*.

The *Taka-o Maru*, which was sold by the Navy Department to Mr. Sano, a resident of Fukuoka Ken, realized fifty thousand yen.

Lieutenant-Colonel Kuroda, Vice-Director of the Military College, has retired and been replaced by Lieutenant-Colonel Hirooka.

As the War Department is anxious to use, as far as possible, ammunition manufactured in the country, instructions have been issued to plant the *kaori-yasagi* (willow tree) in several places under the control of the Department, in order to procure a supply of the best charcoal for the manufacture of gunpowder.

Captain Ito, representing Rear Admiral Hayashi, Commander of the Eastern Admiralty Office, visited H. M. S. *Swinger* on Wednesday last.

The War Department is going to purchase the premises of Kwazoku Miura's *yashiki*, at Komagomi mura, and establish a new rifle range there.

Colonel Watanabe, who was the Acting Commander of the Kiododan during the absence of Lieutenant-General Takashima in Europe, has been relieved from that office.

#### INDUSTRIES, TRADE, AND FINANCE.

The *Hiroshima Maru*, on her last trip, took \$15,000 and 7,000 yen in paper money from Yokohama, and 231,293 silver *ichibu* from the Expenditure Bureau of the Finance Department for Kobe. The *Tokio Maru* brought here on the 8th instant, 200,000 gold yen, 1,900 yen in *ichibu* silver, and 11,000 silver yen from Kobe, and 3,000 Japanese trade dollars and 3,000 Mexican dollars from Nagasaki.

A horse fair was held at the Nursery gardens, Mita, Tokio, for five days from the 11th instant.

The Competitive Exhibition of Cotton and Sugar in Osaka, was closed on the 5th instant. His Excellency Matsukata, Minister for the Interior, delivered a speech, which was replied to by Mr. Godai, President of the Chamber of Commerce in that city. The closing ceremony was attended by the Governor, his subalterns, the local officers, the exhibitors and their representatives, and the committee, and was concluded about 3 o'clock.

A native contemporary states that, on the 10th instant, there was great speculation at the two Rice Guilds in Tokio, and prices were rapidly run up to ten yen and forty-two sen per *koku*. A telegram then arrived that the value in *Isé* was low; which was followed by a report that the Government was about to place a quantity of silver in the market. Upon this the price of rice receded to ten yen and twenty-three sen per *koku*, and "the two gambling houses exhibited a state of confusion and excitement similar to what occurs at a fire."

A native journal mentions that the Navy Department finds its estimate of expenditure deficient by about two hundred and fifty thousand yen. This discrepancy is accounted for by the great fall in the value of the paper currency, and the necessity of paying the foreign employés of the Department in specie, and also of finding coin for the purchase of machinery, &c., ordered abroad.

The *Hochi Shimbun* writing on the all-important topic says:—"Our readers may remember the market price of goods mentioned in our daily supplement on the 4th of January last, when business commenced for this year. *Kinsatsu* were then at a discount of thirty-eight sen against gold, and thirty-one and a half sen against silver. The discount varied from time to time, but at present it has reached the extraordinary rate of sixty sen against gold, and fifty sen against silver. It is said that the Authorities deeply regret the circumstance, and have taken the matter into consideration so as to provide a remedy for such a disastrous state of things. We earnestly hope that both specie and rice will decline in price."

Again referring to the existing state of the money-market, the *Hochi Shimbun* says that "the widespread speculation in both rice and money has re-acted disastrously on business. In fact this species of gambling (for it is nothing else) which is everywhere prevalent, has been the cause of great losses to legitimate traders. Although tacitly permitted both by the laws and the community, this obnoxious practice has now exceeded all reasonable limits. The result has been that, in consequence of the authorities taking no steps to check them in their evil courses, the speculators have grown bolder and more influential, until at last they jeopardize the welfare of the whole community, a state of affairs which has attracted much attention and provoked comment. On Monday evening last, we were informed that instructions had been sent that day from the Daij-Kuwan to the Finance Department, and that on the same evening orders were despatched by telegraph to

all parts of the empire, forbidding any further speculation of the description which has become so common latterly, in either rice or money. As it was late when we received the information we were unable to verify it until the following day, when we found on inquiry that such was the case. This will result in the closing of the fourteen Rice Guilds, and the Stock Exchange Offices in Tokio and Yokohama, for a time. The action of the Government will probably cause some of the speculators to experience great losses, and loudly deplore their misfortune; but that cannot be helped, and, if the authorities have succeeded in punishing these reckless gamblers, it will be a good thing for the community at large. As for ourselves, we will contemplate their losses, their weeping and their wailing, with the utmost equanimity; believing as we do that the misfortune of the minority is far preferable to the ruin of the whole nation. If the decision of the Government is not consistently carried into effect, of course more evil than good will result, but we are firmly of opinion that the course adopted will prove eminently successful, and we shall deal with the question at length in a future issue."

The usual meeting of the Tokio Chamber of Commerce was held on the evening of the 13th instant.

A new Chamber of Commerce has been formed at Sendai, in the prefecture of Miyagi, and held its first meeting on the 11th instant. Mr. Endo was elected Chairman, and Mr. Tachibana, Vice-Chairman.

A telegram from Osaka, dated the 13th instant at 3.20 p.m., states that "last night, speculation in both money and rice was stopped, and a great disturbance ensued."

His Excellency Sano, Minister for Finance, and Mr. Matsuda, Governor of Tokio, inspected the books of the two Rice Guilds the day before yesterday. As speculation has been suddenly suppressed, great consternation has been created among the habitués, although they try to appear unconcerned.

It is rumoured that the Guilds will be closed for at least three weeks.

The Exhibition to be held of native produce in the Swanp Gardens will be opened on the 18th instant. An entertainment will be given by the exhibitors to Their Excellencies Sano, the Finance Minister, and Shinagawa, Vice-Assistant Home Minister. In the evening there will be a display of fireworks.

The *Chugai Bukka Shimpo* says: "The price of black tea has risen in the London market, and consequently Japanese black tea has also risen, and the best quality now costs \$50 per picul. We cannot tell whether such a high price will be maintained, but if it only lasts until the new tea is brought to market and sold, our black tea manufacturers will be enormously benefited."

Sixty men employed by the firm of Okura & Company left here yesterday for the port of Gensan, Corea, to establish a branch office of the firm.

Three thousand two hundred and twenty-six yen have been subscribed for the relief of the sufferers by the fire which occurred at Tachi-bana-cho on the 4th of February last, and will be distributed to-day.

Mr. Kameyama, editor of the *Hochi Shimban*, having published a copy of the memorial forwarded to the *Genro-in* by the people of Fukushima Ken, has been fined 100 yen in conformity with the 16th Article of the Press Laws.

A fire took place on Sunday last, in Yanagishima, Tokio, and destroyed about eighty houses before it was extinguished.

Mr. Yamamoto Shigejiro, a resident of Nishi-Ogawa-machi, informed the Tokio *Fu* authorities, on the 10th instant, that he wished to sell his mines in the prefecture of Chiba to the Government.

The Garrisons and local Governments in all cities and prefectures are to be placed in telegraphic communication.

The province of Hidaka, Yesso, was visited by a severe storm on the 19th of last month. Great damage was done to houses, &c., and the rivers overflowed their banks and interrupted traffic.

In consequence of the great increase in the passenger traffic between Ohashi, Tokio, and Giotoku, Chiba, another steamer is to be placed on the line.

Mr. Okashima, the editor of the *Miyagi Nippo*, was tried before the local Court, on the 7th instant, for publishing certain

objectionable correspondence and sentenced to thirty days imprisonment. Mr. Okashima appealed against the decision and was released on bail.

The new brigade for the protection of the capital from fire has been organized under the Police Department. According to the system recently introduced, an inspector will have charge of four hundred men, a sub-inspector of eighty, and an assistant sub-inspector of forty-five. The first drill of the brigade took place on the 14th instant, in the premises of the Police Department, and the firemen were instructed in the use of the pumps and different apparatus.

A new periodical, to be called the *Kotsu Shimban*, will shortly be published at Tsukiji, Tokio.

Prince Shotai, ex-King of Loochoo, is said to have given ten thousand yen to the fund for keeping in repair the temple of Tenkai-ji, one of the burial places of his family. The Prince has also applied for permission to purchase the old Loochoo Yashiki, near the Mannen-bashi, Fukugawa, with the object of establishing a depôt for the sale of produce from his former possessions.

There are 72,482 Buddhist temples in Japan at present.

The Chigaku-Kiokwai, or Geographical Society of Tokio, proposed to hold its first annual meeting on the 22nd instant, in the premises of the Tokio Normal School. The Society will avail itself of the gathering of members which will then take place, to give a farewell banquet to Mr. Nabeshima, Minister to the Court of Rome, and the other members of the Society who are going abroad.

A fire took place at Ishizaki-cho, in the town of Kanazawa, Kaga, at 7 p.m. on the 14th instant, and destroyed about two hundred houses before it was extinguished.

The port of Shimoda is to be deepened in order to facilitate the anchorage of ships.

The sugar making machinery ordered in England by the Agricultural Bureau, arrived here on the 14th instant in the *Gaelic*.

A telegram has been received at the branch office of the Colonial Department in Tokio, stating that a great catch of herrings has been made on the coast of Fukuyama, Matsumai.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, April 11th, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$10,430.54
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 933.65
Total.....	\$11,364.19

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$8,355.08
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 837.96
Total.....	\$9,193.04

Miles open 18.

##### KORE AND OOTZU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, April 11th, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$17,622.70
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,696.78
Total.....	\$19,319.48

Miles open, 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	\$13,804.40
Merchandise, &c. ....	\$ 1,326.18
Total.....	\$15,130.58

Miles open, 47.

#### NAGASAKI.

(From the *Rising Sun* and *Nagasaki Express*.)

Almost entirely depending, as Nagasaki undoubtedly is, upon the prosperity and safe working of the various coal mines in the district, more especially the valuable and extensive one at Takasima, the vague report, which reached here on Sunday afternoon last, to the effect that a serious explosion had occurred at the latter place, caused considerable anxiety, and further

particulars were anxiously awaited. Owing to it being Sunday, the *S. S. Meishin Maru* did not expect to make her usual trips, but steam was got up and she proceeded to the island shortly after six o'clock, returning in the course of a few hours, bringing full particulars, which were to the effect that the explosion, which had occurred in what is known as the Middle Panels, was not so serious as at first anticipated: the damage sustained by the mine was comparatively trifling, and the deaths were few. Unfortunately, however, a great number of workmen from other parts of the mine, upon hearing the report, rushed indiscriminately to the spot, in search of friends and relatives, and were suffocated by the after-damp. The total number of deaths is reported to be about sixty. The cause of the explosion is, without doubt, attributable, in the first instance, to the carelessness of several doorkeepers, in leaving open the ventilating doors left in their charge, and thus misdirecting the current of air necessary for safe working; and, secondly, to the fact of a miner having trespassed with a lighted lamp on forbidden ground, made dangerous by the neglect of the said door-keepers. No blame whatever is attached to the European staff, who are all thoroughly experienced, and are consequently aware of the dangers attending neglect. Every possible precaution had been adopted by them for the insurance of safety, and it was very fortunate that none were in the vicinity at the time of the explosion. It is most sincerely to be hoped that this disaster will be a lesson to the survivors, which will not easily be forgotten; and also that it will teach them that the penalty for neglect and disobedience in the execution of their dangerous occupation will probably be not only death to themselves, but to hundreds of their fellow-workmen.

"All is fish that comes to the net" with Japanese fishermen. Every variety, from the smallest sprat to the largest whale, is eagerly caught, and as eagerly bought and eaten. A rather agreeable surprise awaited a party of fishermen belonging to the island of Koyagi, who had set their net opposite to Iwoshima on Monday morning last, and upon returning to haul it in the same evening, found they had netted a young whale. It was with some difficulty towed ashore, speared, and cut up. The head was preserved intact, and brought to Nagasaki. Its extreme length was thirty-five feet, seventeen feet circumference, and six feet broad across the head.

Pheasants still continue to be a prominent feature in the native market, notwithstanding these birds have been pairing for the last month. The season, according to Japanese law, does not close until the 15th of the present month, but game is not so plentiful here as to justify indiscriminate shooting, and it is an acknowledged custom amongst residents to discontinue as soon as pairing commences. We trust that non-resident sports will kindly take the hint, and observe the same.

From the *Saikui Shimbun* we learn that a number of *Geishas*, from the celebrated eating-house known as "Aburaya," will be in attendance at the exhibition daily, commencing from to-morrow.

A farewell dinner, to which the Consuls were invited, was given at the Fukuya Hotel on Wednesday last, by A. E. Olarovsky, Esq., who for a number of years has held the position of Russian Consul at this port, and who is about to take his departure for Russia, on leave-of-absence. He will take his passage for Vladivostock in the gun-boat *Tongous* on Tuesday next.

The Mitsui Bishi Co.'s steamship *Wakanoura Maru* is at present in Dock for general repairs. She will be followed in a few days by the Co.'s steamer *Akitsuishima Maru*, which vessel arrived here on Monday last.

The American ship *H. H. McGilvery* arrived from Philadelphia yesterday, one hundred and forty-five days out, with a full cargo of Kerosene Oil, consisting of 45,000 cases, consigned to the C. & J. Trading Co. The whole of the cargo is believed to be in splendid condition; fine weather having been experienced throughout the voyage.

The repairs to the British schooner *Mary* having been completed, efforts are now being made to float her off the beach, which, it is anticipated, will be accomplished either to-day or to-morrow.

Five vessels took their departure on Tuesday last, and for some time the harbour presented a most discouraging and

desolate appearance. For two days there was not a single merchant vessel present, excepting the *Mary*, under repairs.

## SHANGHAI.

(From the *North China Daily News*.)

We hear that "a double set of hands" is now employed at the Leong-wha Powder Factory, and that the manufactory has been in operation night and day during the last week.

Tseng Kwo-tsun, recently Futai of Shanse and brother of the celebrated Tsên Kwo-fan, Viceroy of Liang Kiang (Nanking) is, we hear, now appointed Viceroy of the Liang Kiang, in the stead of Lo, Viceroy of Canton, who was previously appointed to Nanking.

A correspondent informs us that a rising has taken place on the southern confines of Shantung, about twenty li from Chinkiang, owing to the authorities insisting on the destruction of the poppy plants. A body of cavalry was sent down the river from Chinkiang on the night of the 29th ult., with instructions to proceed as quickly as possible to the seat of the disturbance. The digging out of the canal at Chinkiang proceeds rapidly, the troops engaged in the undertaking and those stated to be on the way to join them, numbering in all about 5,000 men. This large number concentrated on this one spot seems to point to other engagements besides the plausible one put forward of the deepening of the canal being a work of actual necessity.

The effects of the state of affairs at the capital are felt at Newchwang as well as at Tientsin. We are informed that, although it was the opening of the season, native merchants there display an unwillingness to transact business, and that it was difficult to find accommodation for the cargo arriving from Shanghai.

We hear that during the next few days large quantities of shot and shell are to be shipped to Tientsin and Newchwang by the Chinese authorities.

The Chinese man-of-war commonly known as the "Terror of Western Nations" steamed down the Harbour yesterday, bearing a high mandarin's flag. Salutes were fired by the war-junks anchored off the city, and we understand that the mandarin on board had been to inspect the Kianguan Arsenal.

## CANTON.

(From the *Hongkong Daily Press*.)

30th March.

The revenue cruiser *Li-shé*, Captain Reid, arrived here to-day, towing a junk which she had captured after a desperate fight. The *Li-shé* is a vessel of 80 tons, carrying 4 guns, and in the engagement had her funnel and foremast shot away, and sustained other minor damage, but none of her crew received any injury. The captured junk had a consort which managed to escape, but the severity of the action between the gunboat and the junk can be best imagined by the crippled condition of the former and by the fact that the latter had no less than 16 of her crew killed or mortally wounded.

The Russian gunboat which recently favoured us with a visit, was rather busy between the time she left Hongkong and returned to it. She took soundings of the river from Ma-chow to Shameen, and on arriving here went through the manoeuvre of taking up a position to shell the city. She then purchased two Hakka boats and used them for sounding, taking a very careful survey of the whole of the Shameen bend. Bearings from aloft were also taken of different points in the city and the distances measured by instruments. There is a rumour amongst the Chinese to the effect that as soon as the *Vigilant* hove in sight the Russian whipped up her mud-hook and cleared.

## ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Silvatore, 13th March.—The total number of oysters brought in on the second day was one million and odd, the Government share being 770,000. They were sold for about five thousand four hundred rupees to the same Moor-man as previously. Nearly twelve thousand rupees have thus far been netted. The weather seems against fishing operations but for that there would be double the amount now. Nothing that the Superintendent and his staff could



do would induce the boats and divers to start yesterday; the weather was so unsettled, and is still unchanged. A few hours more will decide whether the boats go out or not to-day. There is plenty of money in the market. Oysters sold for seven rupees the thousand. Place quite healthy.

London, 15th March.—Parliament will be dissolved on the 24th inst., and writs will be issued on the same day.

London, 16th March.—It is stated that Prince Frederick William, eldest son of the Imperial Prince and the Princess of Germany, is betrothed to the eldest daughter of the late brother of Prince Christian.

The *Bacchante*, with the Royal princes on board, arrived at Jamaica on the 16th.

A Socialist meeting has been held at Warsaw.

Rome, 16th March.—In the speech made by Signor Cairoli in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, he characterized the Italian Irredenta movement as ridiculous, and said the Italian Government would inexorably quell any attempts to disturb the satisfactory relations existing between Italy and Austria.

London, 18th March.—It is stated that the Egyptian Government has decided to erect lighthouses on Capes Guardafui and Ras Haffoon.

The Queen leaves for the Continent on the 25th instant.

Constantinople, 17th March.—The Russian Government threatens to cease diplomatic relations with the Porte unless the assassin of M. Commeroff is executed.

Aden, 18th March.—The *Teheran*, with the outward English Mails of the 5th March, left here for Bombay at eight last night.

Rome, 18th March.—The conflict between the Vatican and the Prussian Government is ended, the Pope having consented to the Prussian Government confirming clerical appointments.

London, 17th March.—Consols, 97½. Five per Cent Rentes, 117. Bar Silver, 52 to 52½. Paris Exchange on London, 25.29.

Allahabad, 9th March.—Our spies from Kohidaman report that Mahomed Rasul arrived there a few days ago from Ghuzni with a proclamation from Mahomed Jan, ordering the Kohistanis to be on the alert for the new demonstration against the British to take place on the 31st March. The spies report that Mir Sikander Shah sent a proclamation on northwards. Division orders have been issued at Kabul on the 5th, which contain a letter from the Viceroy, congratulating General Roberts and the troops on the actions of December, and endorsing the Commander-in-Chief's praise. General Roberts says he feels sure that all under his command will share the pride that he himself feels in the high encomium passed by the Viceroy on the late operations.

Allahabad, 8th March.—The roads south and west of Arganda Kotal are again closed by bands of tribesmen, whose object is to prevent supplies of sheep reaching Sherpur. As our daily consumption is only a little over a hundred, and we have 5000 head of sheep now here, the closing of the roads will matter little.

It is reported from Ghuzni that the Mustafi altogether failed to induce Mahomed Jan to surrender Musa. Mahomed said he had taken arms against the British solely to secure Musa's right to the throne of Kabul, and that he intends to continue the war till that purpose is accomplished. His reply is regarded as final.

It is rumoured at Kabul that Ayoub Khan has written to the Russian Government requesting aid in negotiations with the British to surrender Kabul to Abdool Rahman on terms mutually satisfactory to both Governments. It is also stated that the Russians have given Abdool Rahman a large sum and sent him to Kabul to open negotiations. Abdool is attended by many influential chiefs in the Russian interest, including Aziz Khan, and he has reached within a short distance of Balkh, where he was visited by the principal chiefs. The Khan of Bokhara has sent him money.

Kurrachee, 6th March.—The F Battery 2nd Brigade R.A. march this day *en route* to Hyderabad. A wing of the 11th Regiment is also ordered to proceed to Hyderabad. The 15th Regiment on arrival will occupy the Nagier Lines with one company at Ghizres.

Kabul, 8th March.—General Mir Syed Khan of Istalif has called on old and young to come there armed. He has 300 men in Kila i-Khan on the hills above and 200 men in Kilai-Sohrab Khan below. 200 men of Argandi and Maidan now

occupy Kotal-i-Sufed Khan and Kotal-i-Tahit under Abdul Wahab, formerly adjutant of one of Sher Ali's regiments. These men stop all supplies from that direction. Abdul Wahab is a brother of Malik Arzandi. The Logar people having represented to him and Hussan Khan that they cannot pay revenue unless allowed to send produce to Kabul, it is so allowed them. Hussan Khan is now at Padkhow, south-east of Rushi. The weather is mild, with slight showers.

Our military movements are still unknown, but it is not improbable that a brigade will be detached before the end of the month to Kohistan. Any movement upon Ghuzni cannot be made before the third week in April, when the force from the Kurram Valley side would probably co-operate, as well as the column from Kandahar; that is, of course, if a satisfactory arrangement is not made with the chiefs in the meantime through the agency of the Mustafi. Rain is now falling and the weather is milder.

Allahabad, 8th March.—The insurgent Kohistanis have occupied Charikar and all villages to Istalif. Sameh Khan and Shahbaz Khan have left the district. Mir Butcha is advancing to Kohistan with three guns, 20,000 sowars, and 400 infantry. Tahir Khan, from Ghuzni, with four guns and a large force, has arrived at Sher Muhammad's Fort Maidan. There are reports that Gholam Hyder has met Abdool Rahman at Taktipul. The failure of the Mustafi's mission is confirmed.

Kabul, 10th March.—There is a very well-founded rumour that a relative of Mir Butcha has heard from that chief that he, with Mahomed Jan, has met the Mustafi Habibulla, and that both chiefs have agreed to order their future course of action as the Mustafi may direct. Mir Butcha was staying with Mahomed Jan in a village in the Wardak country. The news from Kohistan is that the people of Charikar having sent a deputation to Sameh Khan at Baijan, complaining of the oppression they were suffering from Butcha-i-Ishan, Martuza Sameh Khan collected his followers, and being joined by Jalandor Khan of Titum durra with his following, proceeded to and attacked Charikar on the afternoon of the 7th instant. Butcha-i-Ishan and his men fled, losing 27 killed, besides many wounded and prisoners. Sameh Khan lost only twenty killed, and now holds Charikar. A large convoy of sheep and oil was seized by the Argandi and Mardan men two days ago, but Wahi Mahomed having sent out men to Argandi, an arrangement has been made by which supplies are now allowed to come in. The piequet placed beyond Charasia in the Logar by Mir Hussein Khan has not mounted for the last two or three days. We are enjoying magnificent spring weather.

Allahabad, 11th March.—Mahomed Jan's reported presence in Wardak with the Mustafi is expected to have important results. Either he will once for all declare his continued hostility to the British and try a new *jekad*, or he will come into Sherpur and take part in arranging a scheme for the speedy settlement of Kabul affairs. He still keeps men on the roads between Ghuzni and Kabul; and until he has decided upon his course of action he is not likely to discard such measures.

Kotal-i-Takht and Kotal-i-Safex are again occupied by bands of armed men, who have plundered and assaulted Hazaras coming into Kabul. There are no supplies from that direction. Large quantities of ammunition are at Safed Sang awaiting transport to Kabul. Up to Monday seventy Europeans and 157 natives had been sent down to India. One convoy was to have left on Tuesday night last and another convoy to-day.

Allahabad, 11th March.—Messengers from Ghuzni to Kabul state that the insurgents there consist of six regiments of infantry, two of cavalry, and twelve guns. Tahir Khan, with two hundred cavalry and three guns, has arrived at Logar. Mir Butcha is at Shushago, one march from the Kabul side of Ghuzni, with four hundred cavalry. He has received orders to advance to Kabul collecting Ghazis on the way. Letters of instruction signed by Musa and Mahomed Jan have been sent to the principal khans and maliks of Kohistan, desiring the collection of supplies and revenue, and the levy of Ghazis to join Mir Butcha on his march to Kabul. The Mustafi is reported ill at Ghuzni, although endeavouring to effect a settlement with Mahomed Jan, who professes his intention not to return to Kabul. Correspondence is passing between Yakool's mother and



Ghuzni, the nature of which is unknown. Tahir Khan has obtained from the maliks and khans of Logar, vows on the Koran of unremitting hostility to the British and the collection and surrender to him of war material, supplies, and the revenue of the country. The khans have already commenced the collection. Tahir Khan has placed a strong detachment at Tungi close to the entrance of the valley. The English politicals in Kabul have, it is said, been misled as to the character of the intentions of the Barakzai airdars in camp. All the latter have near relations with Mahomed Jan, and his communications with them and correspondence are not brought to the notice of the politicals.

Kurrachee, 10th March.—A wing of the 2nd Battalion 11th Foot, left yesterday for Hyderabad.

Kandahar, 10th March.—General Playro with siege train and headquarters Bombay Grenadiers arrived yesterday, all well. General Playro takes command of the Kandahar garrison, Captain Burnett as Brigado Major. The Bengal troops are still awaiting orders. Splendid weather here.

Bombay, 10th March.—Sir Richard Temple has wired for permission to go home on Saturday. The Byculla Club will give a dinner to him on Friday. Honourable Lionel Ashburner will be *ad interim* Governor.

### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

#### THE RISE IN THE PRICE OF RICE AND SPECIE.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

ONE koku of rice now costs in paper currency ten yen, and one silver yen is worth one yen and fifty sen in paper, and yet there is great anxiety on the part of traders to purchase both rice and silver. When purchases are effected even at these exorbitant prices a profit is made, while sales result in loss, and this is not the case in Tokio alone but all over the country. In consequence great complaints are everywhere heard and it is much to be feared that the sufferings caused to the poorer classes by the high price of their principal article of food—rice—will cause them to commit excesses, and be guilty of acts of violence the outcome of their distress, which will only occasion them greater misery.

In the 2nd year of Meiji (1869) the price of rice rose to ten yen per koku, at which it also stood in the beginning of the present year. But it must be remembered in connection with this, that in 1869 we experienced a bad harvest and had to depend for our supplies upon importations from abroad. The high price in that year is therefore easily accounted for, but even then the extreme rate of ten yen per koku only lasted for three days in Tokio and then fell below that figure. This year, however, circumstances are entirely different. It is true that in 1878 the crops failed in some of the eastern provinces, but in 1879 the country was blessed with a more bountiful harvest than for many years past.

Now on looking back at the markets we find that, during last spring and summer, the price of rice rose from seven to eight yen per koku, and in September to nine yen and forty sen. Just at that time the public were gladdened with the favourable results of the harvest, and were in joyful expectation of a fall in price to below seven yen per koku when the new crop should be placed on the market. These sanguine hopes were, unfortunately, doomed to be utterly disappointed. Although the grain arrived in Tokio much earlier and in far great quantity than usual, the price remained steady at nine yen and forty sen until the close of the year, when it fell to a little over eight yen. After the new year, however, large purchases were made, and the price soon rose to over ten yen per koku, and it is now manifestly impossible to predict, with any degree of certainty, when there is a probability of the value of rice falling to seven yen, as was at one time confidently expected.

Until the present moment experienced merchants believed that the price of the grain would decline in consequence of the recent plentiful harvest, and they endeavoured to compel buyers to reduce the price. We are sorry to say that they have proved altogether mistaken: buyers still keep up the prices, and, notwithstanding the wealth and influence of the sellers, they have had to retire from the contest, leaving the field of speculation in the undisturbed possession of the buyer.

In Osaka, the influential merchants formed an alliance and succeeded in forcing down the price of rice for a time. Then

the buyers got the upper hand, but ultimately the league executed a grand *comp* in March, and broke down the high price. This may be called the Dojima Affair, and although the Osaka merchants are credibly reported to have gained no less than 140,000 yen by the transaction, yet no fall has taken place in the price of rice;—which they declared was their principal object—and, as far as Tokio is concerned, the operation in Osaka might just as well not have taken place at all.

A well-known political economist says, that the rise in the price of grain is usually due to one of the following causes:—1st, the wealth of the people in the interior; 2nd, the failure of the crops during some years past; 3rd, a bad wheat harvest during the year; and 4th, the export of grain to foreign countries. The same authority denies that the increased issue of paper money caused the rise in price in former years, but that this year and the year before, the fall in the value of the paper currency, was the cause of the increased rates. In our opinion, however, the true cause of the rise is to be sought and found in the increased issue of paper money which was announced. In other words; a rise occurred in the price of silver owing to the impending issue of more paper, and the grain is accompanied by the specie in its upward movement. This we consider had much more to do with the abnormal state of the market than any or all of the four causes mentioned by the "distinguished" political economist. It may be said:—How can this be? What connection can there possibly be between the price of silver and the price of rice? Well now, let us examine the market prices, and it will be found that silver has always controlled not only the price of rice, but every other commodity also. And this is very easily understood. Ten yen per koku certainly appears an extraordinarily high figure to pay for rice, but when we consider that one silver yen is now worth one yen and a half in paper, then the koku of rice is reduced to six yen and thirty-three sen, which cannot be considered at all unreasonable. It appears very evident to us that, before any decline can be expected in rice, a fall must first be witnessed in silver, and if any of our readers can enlighten us how this much to be desired consummation is to be arrived at, we shall feel extremely thankful to them for favouring us with the information.

### LAW REPORT.

#### IN H. B. M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. T. RENNIE, Esq., Judge.

Saturday, the 17th day of April, 1880.

A. CLARK vs. A. JAFFRAY.

The Court to-day delivered the following Judgment.

This is a suit by a landlord against his tenant for the recovery of land and rent due in respect thereof. The plaintiff bases his right to eject the defendant upon the ground of defendant's infraction of his lease by reason of nonpayment of rent. The defendant has paid into Court, with his amended answer, the amount of the rent up till the date of the answer, and contests the forfeiture on divers grounds of law and equity. I think it needless for me to discuss or give an opinion upon the various points which have been raised and argued with respect to the alleged forfeiture, or with regard to the effect of the endorsement on the lease, for it is clear that the defendant has acknowledged the plaintiff as his landlord both by the answer and payment of rent into Court, and it is also clear that even if a forfeiture has been incurred, this is a case in which equity must give relief. Even at Common Law it is specially provided that, if a tenant pay into Court all the rent and arrears, together with costs, all further proceedings in the case shall cease and be discontinued. Now this Court, it must be borne in mind, has to administer so far as possible, law and equity together, and although Mr. Kirkwood's contention that, because the costs have not been paid into Court under the abovementioned Common Law provisions, there should therefore be a decree of forfeiture against the defendant, might have been of some avail in a Common Law Court of former days, it cannot, I think, be allowed to prevail in a Court which has to administer equity. The learned counsel admits that if I were to act on his suggestion and decree possession to the plaintiff, I still ought to give leave to the defendant to move for relief, but it appears to me that if I

took this course, I should be only needlessly increasing the costs of the litigation which seems to be the main bone of contention in the case. I think, having regard to the provisions of the 54th rule of procedure of the Court, it would have been quite open to the plaintiff to accept the money paid into Court, to have discontinued his useless suit for ejectment, and to have proceeded for costs only; while on the other hand, I fail to see why the defendant should not have paid his rent down, or why, when he was at length paying the money into Court, he should not have paid the costs as well, or at an rate offered to pay them.

I shall therefore give judgment for the plaintiff for the amount paid into Court, viz., \$120, together with costs of suit up to the date of the payment into Court, and decree that on payment of said costs all further proceedings in the suit will be stayed. As regards the costs subsequent to the answer, each party must pay his own.

### CAUGHT IN HIS OWN TRAP.

#### AN ADVENTURE ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

In 1840, Walter Dixon, a young lieutenant in Her Majesty's Navy, found himself unexpectedly elevated to the command of a fleet little craft, brig rigged, and a perfect model of marine grace and architecture.

As a sailor the *Shadon* had sailed under a lucky star, defying capture, and regularly making trips to the coast of Africa in the pursuit of her nefarious trade.

By mere accident the flag-ship of the African squadron had crept upon the fleet craft during a fog, which, when the haze was dispelled 'neath the influence of the fierce rays of the sun, revealed the symmetrical craft in close proximity to the frigate.

The commodore was Walter Dixon's uncle, and glad to give his nephew an opportunity to create a record for himself, the appointment was made out subject to the approval of the Admiralty, and the young officer duly installed as commander of the *Shadon*, which had undergone numerous alterations, accommodating one hundred and fifty men on the berth deck, and rejoicing in a battery of twelve long thirty-twos, and a Long Tom as pivot, amidships.

His orders from the commodore were brief, and to the point: "Proceed to Havana, glean all the information you can regarding the movements of prominent slavers, capture all you can, and if necessary report to me at Gerer, should assistance be required."

It was a bright sunny morning in September that a sun-burnt, square-shouldered gentleman, with the unmistakable swing of a seaman, entered the office of Escudero & Co., a well-known rendezvous for slave speculators and men of a reckless stamp.

Dressed in a plain suit of white duck, the stranger bowed gravely to the only two inmates occupying the private office, and lighting a cigar, picked up a file of late English papers, which he proceeded to peruse.

Escudero, who had been conversing with a dark, swarthy gentleman, hastily approached the new comer and politely addressed him in Spanish; but with a slight gesture he shook his head, when the proprietor at once interrogated him in English.

"You are an Englishman, sir?"

"Yes: I am an Englishman. I was mate on board the schooner *Trigo*, but did not jibe well with the captain. We had a difficulty while loading at Sagua La Grande, and the captain took to his bunk, from which he never got up. I found it convenient to leave the first opportunity, and here I am looking for a job."

"You can navigate?"

"I am master of my profession, sir."

"But you do not speak Spanish?"

"I do not. I am no linguist, I regret to say."

"Humph! Well, I will see you again. I may secure a chance for you," and returning to the dark-complexioned gentleman, the animated conversation was resumed.

"Now, Captain Gaspario, to resume. What do you think of my proposition? Lightning seldom strikes twice in the same place you know: and although you lost your gallant craft last trip, the chances are all in your favor this."

"Por Dios! Escudero, you are indiscreet," and the Spaniard cast a hasty glance toward the stranger, who, surrounded in a cloud of blue, fleecy smoke, was serenely reading his papers.

"Carambo! captain, do you think I am a boy put out of school? I have had my bump of caution largely developed since keeping company with gentlemen like yourself," and he laughed softly, displaying his white teeth through his coal-black mustache. "That fellow is an English mate, with a head as thick as the top of a molasses punchbowl. He does not understand a word of Spanish."

"You can't be too careful, though, in these times. What is he—an Englishman?"

"So he says. I may be able to use him when the time comes."

"Morte de Dios! but I hate the whole money-grabbing race. They robbed me of the *Shadon*, the finest craft that ever run a cargo of blackbirds off the coast. You will never be able to match her. What a run of luck I had in her. Carrajo! to think that the English got her!"

"Well, well, Gaspario, you cannot complain. The *Estrilla* is a fine top-sail schooner, fast, and well fitted out. She can show her heels to any cruiser that ever carried a pennant. You shall have five thousand dollars for the round trip, and six dollars per head for every Congo you land in good order. The crew is now on board, everything in readiness, the vessel cleared, and —"

"I'll take her, Escudero, and all I pray for is an opportunity to pay off the English what I owe them. Por Dios! but I could cut

every one of their throats with a relish!" and a dark scowl of hatred contracted his low forehead as he glanced askance at the inoffensive stranger sitting quietly in his corner.

"We'll take a look at her, and before sunset you must be clear of the Morro."

"Short notice, Escudero, but I have nothing to keep me here," and arm-in-arm the two left the office, without taking further notice of the third occupant, who, as they disappeared, laid aside his paper with a slight smile of satisfaction playing around his finely-formed mouth.

"A good idea of mine, if I do say it—that pleading ignorance of the language. I thought I would pick up an item or two, and I may have a good report to make to my uncle yet, before the cruise is over. So that is Captain Gaspario, eh? A desperate villain, and as unscrupulous as he is reckless. He slipped out of our grasp in the bay when we boarded the *Shadon*, took to his boat, and pulled fully one hundred and fifty miles to the main land. We'll see if he is as lucky this time. So, so, Senor Escudero, you'll use me, will you. Well, turn about is fair play, so I'll use you first," and lighting a fresh cigar, Walter Dixon, for it was that enterprising officer, left the office walking rapidly to the British Consul's, from where he soon after took leave.

It was early in the evening when he walked down to the mole for the purpose of going on board the *Shadon*. He had kept a close watch upon the movements of his game, but for some reason the *Estrilla* had been delayed in sailing.

It was a dark unfrequented spot, with surroundings of low drinking dens, bordering on the edge of the harbor, the dark waters lapping up to the edge of the narrow planking.

Suddenly Walter halted and drew back in the shadow of a huge pile; he had recognized Gaspario, down the wharf.

"I tell you, Nina, it is impossible. You cannot accompany me. I am bound to the Gambia river, and the fever is dangerous. It might cost you your life."

"My life is no more precious than yours. If you are to be exposed, surely I can share the danger with you. Oh, Leon, be merciful; do not cast me off. Remember what I have sacrificed for you. I left my home, broke my parent's heart, sacrificed my good name, everything for your sake. I have trusted you, worshipped you, and I beg for the sake of our unborn child do not leave me here to meet the scorn and contempt of my former friends. At least keep your solemn vow, and marry me."

"Ha, ha, ha. Come now, Nina, that is too good. Marry, eh. Leon Gaspario marry! Are you crazy, girl? But enough of this. Let me go. You will soon find somebody to take my place. Your affections can be easily transferred. Let go of my coat, I say. Carrajo, must you have the police on top of us. Silence. No, then take this," and dealing the woman a savage blow with his clenched fist, the Spaniard leaped into his boat, which was waiting, and the next instant Walter heard the splash of oars as the light shallop darted rapidly onward, and was lost to view in the obscurity of the harbor.

In an instant Walter was by the side of the unfortunate woman; dashing some water into her face she revived, and thanking him for his kindness, she was about to move on, but was gently detained by the officer, who pressed a few gold pieces into her hand.

"Thanks, kind sir; may God bless you for your generosity. I am penniless and deserted by the man I loved and who has ruined me. But I live now for revenge. My love is changed to hate and he may yet rue the day he spurned the love of Nina. I have a plan which may answer my ends. Gaspario wants a cabin boy, and will wait till eleven o'clock for the owner to obtain one. I'll anticipate him, and with the gold you have given me, I shall obtain my disguise, which even the sharp eyes of the slave captain will fail to penetrate," and before the astonished officer could interpose an objection she had sped up the wharf.

Favored by fair winds the *Shadon* under easy sail proceeded for the mouth of the Gambia river on the coast of Africa. Running close in under the land, the light craft crossed the bar in safety, coming to an anchorage inside the line of breakers.

Scarcely had the *Shadon* swung to her anchor, when a canoe manned by natives pulled alongside to trade fruit for tobacco or liquor. In reply to the commander's inquiry, the steersman reported the arrival of the *Estrilla*, which vessel was lying up the river abreast of the barracoons, in readiness to load.

Detaining the darkies so that they could not carry the news of his arrival to the Spaniard, Walter had his gig manned by an armed crew, and buckling on his own side arms, hastily took his position in the stern sheets, after a hurried consultation with his first lieutenant.

The tall palms and cocoanut trees were casting long dismal shadows across the deep sluggish stream, as the boat slowly and cautiously crept up the river. Thousands of bright, flashing fire-flies whirled and buzzed through the air, while the occasional hoot of an owl, the splash of an alligator and the hiss of some water snake, disturbed by the advance of the boat, were sounds that greeted the officer's ears as he pushed deeper and deeper into the dark, dismal African jungle.

Turning a sharp bend in the river the dim twinkling of lamps could be seen in the distance. The dense foliage and undergrowth lining the banks of the river afforded ample protection for the boat, which soon arrived opposite to the negro quarters that form the settlement of Gambia.

Looming up through the darkness, and conspicuous above all other objects, were the tall tapering spars of the *Estrilla*. Pulling gently in under the counter, Walter peeped cautiously through the stern ports of the vessel, which were open, the curtains drawn aside to admit air the night being intensely hot and close.

A dim light was burning, which faintly illuminated the apartment, and the officer could scarcely repress an exclamation of astonishment, as with his hands tightly grasping the moulding and

ornamental work of the stern, he threw a hasty glance over the luxuriously furnished cabin.

Kneeling beside a velvet-covered lounge was a young lady, her fair hair streaming wildly around her matchless form. With hands clasped, and lips moving faintly, the girl's pale features were upturned toward heaven in prayer.

Terror and grief were alike imprinted on her beautiful countenance, while her eyes, suffused with tears, were heavy and dimmed for want of sleep.

Who the stranger could be sadly puzzled the young officer. That it was not Nina he was well assured. She was dark, where the stranger was light, and the form of Nina was more robust and developed.

Whispering softly to his coxswain, Walter swung himself lightly over the taffrail. Crouching low beneath the shadow of the bulwark, he crept forward, where an uninterrupted view of the main deck could be had. The slaver was moored securely to the bamboo wharf, and every available gun had been shifted over and brought to bear upon the channel. The guns were evidently loaded, ready for instant use, while numerous dark forms scattered about, revealed the fact that the slaver's crew were ready for action at a moment's notice.

A sudden commotion from the river, the splash of paddles, and the shout of negroes brought a dozen of the crew instantly to their feet. The clash of arms, the gleam of lanterns, and the shouts of angry men rang in the naval officer's ears, while he glided into the obscurity undecided how to act. His retreat had been cut off by Gaspardo and two companions, who had issued forth from the after-companion way, and were already hailing the occupants of the canoe.

They were negro scouts, or runners, employed by the owner of the barracoons. They brought the news of the arrival of an English man-of-war, and announced the alarming fact that an armed boat's crew had pulled up the river.

In an instant all was confusion. The crew rushed from point to point to perfect arrangements for the reception of the man-of-war's men, and the gleam of a lantern fell upon the buttons and bullion of Walter's uniform. He had used every effort to escape, to gain the rail, but in vain; hemmed in on all sides, he could not move, and the next instant he was surrounded by a jostling, cursing crowd of men, who, brandishing their arms, rushed upon their hated foe, all anxious to have their steel dyed in the officer's blood.

A dozen lives would not have sufficed to satisfy their clamorings, but Walter with his cutlass kept a wide circle around him, and with his back to the rail determined to sell his life dearly.

The deep-toned voice of Gaspardo was heard for a moment echoing above the din, at the same time the gig's crew, headed by the coxswain, made a gallant charge upon the solid front presented by the *Estrella's* crew.

A lasso, thrown by a skillful hand, caught the officer in its entangling folds. He gasped for breath, made an ineffectual attempt to cut the tough line with his sabre, and the next instant the commander of the *Shadow* was hurled head-long to the deck, with the din of the conflict and the sneering triumphant laugh of Gaspardo ringing in his ears.

Bound hand and foot, the unfortunate officer was thrown unceremoniously below.

With the return of consciousness he awoke to find himself in the forward cabin of the slaver, with the loud and exultant cries of the ruffians on deck ringing out on the close, sultry atmosphere. Before him stood Gaspardo, his tall form dilating with gratified triumph, while his right hand toyed nervously with the hilt of the cutlass.

"So, so, my bold British hero, you've reckoned without your host, eh? Thought to catch me asleep, I presume. But you have fallen into your own trap, and, carrajo! but you shall pay the penalty for your audacity. Do you hear those cries, you English dog? Look up and answer." And he dealt the helpless prisoner a savage blow. "Do you hear my men, I say? Your cowardly followers have been beaten off, and, like whipped curs, they return from whence they came, minus their leader. I could have had your life before this had I wanted it, but I reserve you for a fate I have long planned out, and held in reserve for the first one of your kind who might fall into my power. You shall be lashed to a stake at low water in the muddy flow of the river, and your dainty body left for the alligators to dine off. Ha, ha, ha! my bright-buttoned hero! how will that suit you? I may lose my vessel when your men return, but I shall make sure of you. You can have till daylight to think it all over. Adieu!"

And with a savage grin of triumph Walter was left alone to his reflections.

His hands and feet were firmly lashed, cutting deep into the flesh, and, as he thought of the terrible fate staring him in the face, a cold perspiration broke out all over his body. He knew Gaspardo would be as good as his word and he had no mercy to expect from his hands. To die such a horrible death, to be overtaken by an ignominious fate in the first flush of his career was terrible, and he tugged furiously at his bonds, which only cut deeper into his flesh.

A state-room door opened behind him, a light step was gliding by, and turning his body slightly he beheld the form of what he supposed at once to be the cabin-boy.

In a low voice he summoned the youngster to his side. One glance at the dark eyes, the closely-cut hair, the complexion artistically colored, and he was satisfied.

In a cautious tone he made himself known, recounted the adventure in Havana, where he befriended her, and besought her to cut his bonds, that he might have a chance for his life.

Quick as a flash, the disguised cabin-boy drew a knife from her bosom, and the keen blade soon severed the lashings.

"Gaspardo has another captive," she muttered, while her eyes flashed fire. "He took her off a wreck which he met a short dis-

tance from the entrance to the river. She, he rescued, leaving the survivors of the wreck to perish. I have not yet had an opportunity to deal with him, and he little suspects whom he has on board. If you would rescue her from a fate like mine, take her with you. There is a boat towing astern. You can crawl through the cabin windows, and you have yet a little darkness left. Now fly; you have no time to lose. Gaspardo may enter here any moment. Have no fears for me. I can protect myself. This way," and entering the cabin Walter stood in the presence of the fair captive.

In a few words he made himself known, and assisting her to pass through the window, the naval officer carefully lowered himself and her down into the water. The boat was gained without trouble, and severing the painter they were the next instant dropping down the river with the tide.

Into the black indistinctness of the jungle they silently glided, the spars and rigging of the *Estrella* fading into obscurity before Walter ventured to make use of the oars. Scarcely had he fitted them to the rowlocks when a hoarse cry of alarm was heard, followed by the report of a musket. The flight of the fugitives had been discovered, and the rattle of blocks, the splash of water, mingled with the oaths of angry men, were sufficient incentives to the naval officer to put forth his utmost strength. But his wrists were well nigh useless from the merciless manner in which the bonds had cut into the flesh, and his progress was necessarily slow.

The first straggling beams of daylight were struggling to penetrate the thick, luxuriant foliage of the jungle, and objects were rapidly becoming more and more distinct.

Urging his full boat's crew to put forth all their strength, swaying his body to and fro, and brandishing a pistol with all the extravagant gestures of a madman, Gaspardo uttered a yell of triumph as he rapidly lessened the distance between him and his prey.

The contest would have been promptly decided, for Walter weak and exhausted as he was, would have succumbed in a few moments more. Sweeping round a sharp bend of the river, he came suddenly upon the first and second cutter and gig, full of armed men, and pulling at a racing speed.

Gaspardo saw them, realized that the game was up, and with a shout of defiance plunged into the river, diving beneath the surface and swimming for the cover of the jungle. The balance of the crew quietly surrendered.

The first lieutenant silently pointed to what resembled a log of wood floating down the stream, but as Gaspardo came to the surface for a moment, it started with active life. A huge pair of jaws, filled with gleaming teeth, opened and shut with a snap like a steel trap; the dull, leaden eyes sparkled with a ferocious gleam, and, darting forward, it was soon on the trail of the doomed man.

The slaver saw his peril, but too late to avert it. He was yet a considerable distance from the bank, which he struggled in vain to reach. Like a flash of lightning, the alligator, raising half of his body out of the water, darted upon its prey. The water was lashed into foam, a slight tinge of blood mingled with the agitated waters, and when the commotion ceased not a vestige of Gaspardo could be detected.

The *Estrella* fell an easy prize to the man-o'-war's men. The men, disheartened at the loss of their commander, skulked below, and submitted to the irons in sullen silence.

In the cabin the dead body of the cabin-boy was found, a knife driven to the hilt in his bosom having accomplished the terrible deed. In all probability Gaspardo, when he discovered the flight of his victims, was taunted by his cast-off love; her discovery and identity followed, and the murder was no doubt the work of the desperate Spaniard.

The maiden whom Walter had rescued was of French descent, an orphan, going to Genoa as a nurse in the hospital there; but one of the lieutenants of the *Shadow* having fallen in love with her, offered his hand and was accepted.

The sale of the slaver netted both officers and crew a round sum, while Harry, somewhat elated at the success he had met with in his maiden cruise, hastened to report progress to his worthy relative.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XLV.

#### THE DEFENCE OF THE PLATEAU.

The most daring method is often the least dangerous, or such at least was Benkei's creed. To reach the cloisters without passing through the village he was obliged to make a short detour, but with this exception he took no precautions of any sort to avoid observation, not that he was purposely rash or even careless, but because he knew that by seeming to shun suspicion he would be the more likely to excite it.

Immediately behind the belfry, from which the booming of the great bell issued unceasingly, stood a watch-tower commanding a view of every part of the cloisters as well as of the surrounding country. This was Benkei's destination. To attain it the outer court of the fane had to be traversed, and a meeting with some of the friars was consequently well-nigh inevitable, but on the other hand a single glance from the tower would supply all the information desired, and celerity was not less essential than accuracy in the execution of such an undertaking as he had on hand.



When within a few paces of the cloister gates he was overtaken and passed by a party of men laden with arms and armour, but as Benkei had anticipated, the utter improbability of his enterprise protected him from scrutiny. He had now folded his kerchief about his head after the fashion of a hood, but his immense stature he might not conceal, and this he naturally believed to be his chief source of danger. So far, however, from inconveniently distinguishing him, his size and bearing constituted so close a resemblance to Friar Kakuhān that those he encountered in his path never for a moment supposed him to be any other than their leader, and it was no doubt in great part to this similarity that he owed his un molested passage.

Once within the tower he counted on being able to prosecute his investigations without interruption. The building was a stout wooden structure divided into three stages, each of which was approached by an almost perpendicular ladder and lighted by four narrow windows facing the four cardinal points. Except at these apertures the sunshine might not find access, so that the intervals between the stages were buried in almost complete obscurity.

Benkei ascended the first and then the second ladder without pausing, but he had no sooner reached the platform of the middle story than his progress was arrested by the sound of voices overhead. Drawing back into the shadow, he peered cautiously upwards and saw that the topmost stage was already occupied by two men clad in light armour and carrying glaives in their hands.

No trifling obstacle might suffice to turn Benkei from his purpose, but he knew that if he attempted the ascent of the last ladder he would be completely at the mercy of these two men. Had there been but one enemy to encounter, the issue would not have appeared quite hopeless, for Benkei's glaive, though wielded by one hand alone, was sufficient to keep any single opponent at bay, whatever position of vantage he occupied. But with two men standing above ready to strike him down the moment he ascended within range of their weapons, and able to repeat their strokes half a dozen times before he could gain firm footing, the odds were so terrible that even the giant glaivesman hesitated to face them. It was just possible that he might see everything he desired to see without mounting the last stage, and with this hope he gazed anxiously from the two apertures facing the cloisters, though memory told him the attempt was futile. And so indeed it proved. The view in this direction was intercepted by the branches of a pine tree so that no part of the inner court was visible.

Nothing therefore remained but to complete the ascent or abandon the enterprise altogether: an alternative which Benkei did not entertain for a moment. Readjusting his kerchief so as to hide his face completely and grasping his glaive firmly in his right hand, he began to mount the ladder, as silently as possible indeed, but yet neither faster nor slower than he would have done had he been assured of reaching the top unmolested. He had not taken two steps before he knew that his coming must be immediately perceived by those above, for plant his feet as firmly as he might, the ladder and with it the platform to which it led, shook perceptibly at each movement he made. To say that this discovery did not disturb him would be to give him credit for a degree of fortitude scarcely attainable by human being, but it certainly had not the effect of altering his gait. Round by round he mounted steadily and at a uniform pace until he knew by the increasing light that he must be within a few feet of the top, and then indeed a great longing came upon him to whirl his glaive about his head and traverse the remaining distance with all the speed he might. But he mastered this impulse by a mighty effort. So long as he remained unrecognized he was little likely to be attacked, and it was therefore plainly his wisest course to make no hostile demonstration till he was challenged, nor raise his face to his foes until he might no longer avoid doing so.

Meanwhile he could tell that the two men in the tower had moved to the top of the ladder and were examining him as he approached, though to his great surprise they had as yet addressed no comment to each other nor question to him. Either they mistook him for a comrade and saw nothing strange in his coming, or—which was much more probable—they had already discovered him to be an enemy and were only awaiting the most favorable opportunity to strike him down. Two, or at most three steps more would resolve this

doubt, and as he raised his foot Benkei's lips involuntarily shaped the formula of supplication that precedes death.

What happened however was entirely different from his expectations. The fact was that the two friars in the tower had been sent there by their leader Kakuhān, who mistrusted the abbot's intentions and desired to be assured that no attempt was made to warn Yoshitsune of his danger. To this end a guard had also been posted at the gates, and had Benkei's arrival been a few minutes later, he must not only have been perceived by the watchers but also prevented from entering by the wardens. As it was, however, he reached the gates just before these took post there, and passed through the court, while those were in the act of ascending the tower. The two friars, remembering the purpose for which they had been sent to the look-out, and seeing a man who closely resembled their leader in size and bearing follow them thither, were at no pains to identify him with Kakuhān, nor for an instant entertained the idea of opposing his advent.

Thus it was only when Benkei plucked the red kerchief from his head as he planted his foot on the last round of the ladder that they discovered their mistake. The glaivesman's appearance indeed was unknown to them but not his reputation and finding themselves suddenly confronted by a giant whose brandished weapon commanded every part of this narrow platform eighty feet above the ground, it is not strange that they thought rather of escape than resistance. Now Benkei, for his part, would have been well content to leave them both entirely unmolested, but on no account might he suffer them to descend before himself. Observing therefore that one of them had turned to fly, he stretched out his glaive to bar his passage, but the terrified friar mistook the import of this action. Any risk seemed preferable to the contact of that keen steel, and so, scarcely pausing to look before him, he sprang wildly towards the ladder, missed his footing and fell with a dull crash on the floor of the second stage.

For a moment Benkei and the remaining friar stood listening with baited breath and blanched faces, but no sound of moan or movement came from below. There could be no doubt about the unfortunate man's fate and his horrified comrade, casting aside his weapon, bowed his head to the ground in token of submission. Benkei, scarcely noting this action had addressed himself to achieve the purpose of his expedition, when as if struck by a sudden fancy, he turned rapidly and seizing the friar, suspended him over the aperture from which his companion had fallen. The man expecting a similar fate and not daring to move lest he should accelerate it, could only muster some broken words of terrified entreaty, or prayers to his patron deity, but Benkei sternly bade him hold his peace. "You are in no more danger now than you were before you ever saw my face," he said, "if you only answer my questions speedily and truly. Tell me for what purpose you are on watch here and what is the import of all this movement in the cloisters."

It may well be supposed that the friar did not hesitate in reply. Of Shidzuka's cruel treatment and her supposed confession indeed he said nothing, foreseeing that such a revelation would seriously diminish his already slender chance of escape, but for the rest Benkei was at once informed not only of the cenobites' design and their proposed method of carrying it out, but also of the fact, that Kakuhān, fearing the abbot's opposition might ultimately prevail, had despatched information of Yoshitsune's retreat to the hostile barons in the South of the province.

This last disclosure was even more important than the news of the cenobites' contemplated attack. With his diminished force Yoshitsune could not possibly hope to hold his own against trained warriors, however little he might be disposed to fly from a band of friars, and Benkei saw that not a moment was to be lost in transmitting the intelligence he had received. Binding the friar hand and foot so as to prevent him from giving the alarm, he descended rapidly from the tower, and took this way towards the gate by which he had entered.

He did not anticipate any particular peril on his return journey, more especially as he knew from what he had just heard, that the cenobites were now for the most part assembled in the inner court completing their dispositions for the attack; and so, though he had used his kerchief to bind the watchman's hands and had consequently no means of concealing his face, he advanced without taking much thought of what was before him.



On two sides of the court through which he had to pass stood a double row of stone pedestals with quaintly sculptured caps designed to receive the lamps placed there on occasions of festival or ceremony. Keeping between the wall and the inner of these rows he had come within a few paces of the entrance before he observed that the main gates were closed and that the postern, which alone stood open, was guarded by two friars. Almost at the instant he made this discovery, one of the two, turning round, shewed him the face of a man he at once recognized and by whom he saw that he was himself recognized.

He leaped forward with the intention of anticipating any attempt to close the postern but the other, knowing with whom he had to deal, at once abandoned all idea of opposing the glaivesman's passage, and leaving his comrade to fare for himself, ran rapidly towards the fane, evidently bent on giving the alarm.

Now if Benkei had considered his own safe exit alone, he might have been content to hold on his way, certain of baffling pursuit among the hills; but since the possibility of his companions' escape from the Valley of Chiun had now become entirely a question of time, he would have reckoned his expedition worse than a failure had it resulted in precipitating the cenobites' action. On the other hand, how could he possibly keep his visit concealed any longer? If he followed the flying friar he must of necessity leave the other free, while to restrain the latter and neglect the former would have been completely futile. There was scant time for reflection, and the glaivesman, scarcely conscious of what he did, seized the cap of the stone pillar beside which he happened to be standing, and hurled it after the retreating man. It was a block of granite of such size and weight that to raise it at all required no trifling exercise of strength, but in Benkei's hands it seemed nothing more than a pebble, and being cast with no less precision than force it struck the friar full between the shoulders and bore him to the ground a mangled and inanimate mass.

The other guardian of the gate was too much appalled by this marvellous feat either to fly or resist. He obeyed the glaivesman's order to follow him without a word of remonstrance, and the two started off rapidly towards the mountains.

Benkei was welcomed by his comrades with a delight that shewed how little they had hoped to see him return safely. He recounted what he learned at the cloisters with some further details elicited from his prisoner, and Yoshitsune immediately agreed that nothing remained but an immediate retreat. Even this was very far from an encouraging prospect. With whatever speed the glaivesman's return had been accomplished, it could only precede the cenobites' attack by a very short interval; far too short indeed to permit any reasonable hope of eluding pursuit: while if overtaken among the mountains, the little band of Genji knights could be easily held at bay, until the arrival of overwhelming reinforcements from the lately discomfited barons put an immediate end to the combat.

Nevertheless there was no choice in the matter. To retreat afforded some chance, albeit a slender one, of escape; to remain, was certain destruction. Once more then Benkei's services as guide were called into requisition, and the little band of devoted men reluctantly turned their backs upon Yoshino.

We have said that their numbers amounted to about a score and a half when they commenced the ascent of the mountain, but the detachment of Shidzuka's escort and subsequent changes had reduced this total to twenty-three. Amongst these was a certain knight, Tadanobu, the younger of two brothers who had been specially detailed by Hidehira to follow Yoshitsune's standard, and who had subsequently more than justified the great reputation on which the old earl's choice was founded. If their deeds have not hitherto been detailed in this history it has been rather from lack of space than occasion, for when the elder fell in the battle of Dan no Ura, the white pennon lost one of its staunchest warriors. With Tadanobu were six liegemen, all tried soldiers and not less eager than their leader to choose the post of greatest peril in the battle. For these Yoshitsune had intended to reserve the position of rear-guard in the proposed retreat, but when he was just about to direct this disposition, Tadanobu came forward and kneeling before him in the snow, said:—

"My lord, unless the last fight is to be fought among these hills, the friars must not pass the defile unopposed. Do you

therefore pursue your way at leisure. I will remain here and do what I may to hold the shavelings at bay."

Tadanobu said this very simply but in a tone that shewed his resolve might not be gainsaid. Yet that resolve, if carried out, meant nothing more or less than death for himself and his six liegemen. Probably not one of the Genji knights would have hesitated either to take his place or share his fate had the occasion demanded nevertheless since human devotion is capable of nothing nobler, Tadanobu's offer moved his comrades to no light admiration. They had learned from the friar, Benkei's prisoner, that the cenobites had no intention of dividing their force or making any flank attack. Not deeming such a precaution necessary against a more handful of opponents, they proposed to advance directly by the defile, and it was therefore certain that Tadanobu's scheme would achieve all that he desired. Experience had given ample proof of what things he was capable, and with death only to limit their efforts, it might not have been over much to predict that he and his liegemen would hold the whole of the enemy's force at bay until sunset. Yoshitsune understood all this not less clearly than the fact that without some such action his own chances of escape were exceedingly small, yet he earnestly cast about for some means of turning Tadanobu from his purpose.

"Since your brother, Tsuginobu, died for our cause before Yashima," he said, "I have schooled myself, not without pain, to find solace in the thought that you are still by my side. To part from you therefore is to reopen an old wound and to receive a fresh one at the same time. Neither are we now many days journey from Oshiu, where not Hidehira alone, but your young wife and child are waiting to welcome you home. Shall it be for me to tell your father that he is childless and your child that he is an orphan for my sake who live while you are still unavenged?"

Tadanobu did not trust himself to dwell upon the memories these words awakened. "I should find but a poor welcome in Oshiu," he said briefly, "did I suffer myself to be turned from my purpose by such motives. Seek not therefore, I pray you, to dissuade me lest that which I do in good faith should seem disloyal being without sanction."

The murmur of approval with which the Genji knights greeted this speech left Yoshitsune no choice but to consent. Drawing from his girdle the sword Hidehira had sent him as a token before he left the cloisters of Kurama, he placed it in Tadanobu's hands, saying that he well knew this its last achievement would not be the least of the deeds it had already helped to accomplish. After this, at Benkei's suggestion, he changed armour with the knight, to the end that the cenobites believing themselves confronted by the man they sought to destroy, might be content to prolong the fight in the defile until they were assured of victory.

Then Yoshitsune and his followers one by one took leave of Tadanobu, for they knew well that they should see his face no more, and wending their way slowly through the defile, with all the reluctance that brave soldiers feel to turn their backs on danger, left him standing with his six liegemen on the plateau destined to be his grave.

The booming of the great bell had now ceased, and for some time after the echo of their comrades' departing feet became inaudible, no sound disturbed the silence that reigned about the little band save the dripping of the icicles on the rocks as they melted slowly in the morning sunbeams, or the cry of the kestrel in the neighbouring pine grove. Presently however a murmur of subdued voices was borne upwards from the depths of the valley, and one of his liegemen, who had ascended a tree to watch for the enemy's approach, called out to Tadanobu that he could see a large body of men in the act of fording a stream at the foot of the mountain.

Then the knight, desiring his followers to stand their ground firmly until he rejoined them, took his bow in his hand and set out alone to meet the cenobites. His liegemen entreated him not to expose himself unnecessarily, but he told them with a laugh that there was nothing yet to fear, since his design was only to seek a little pastime before the sterner work they had before them commenced.

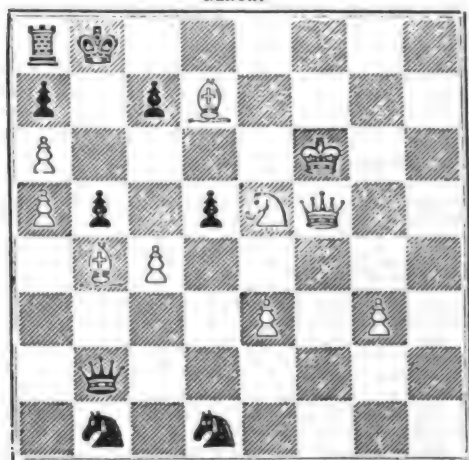
Through a distance of about half a furlong downward from the plateau, the path was straight and sufficiently broad to permit the passage of two and sometimes three men walking abreast, but beyond that point it became so devious, and was so often interrupted by spurs and jutting cliffs, that from below it was scarcely ever visible and from above only at rare intervals. Tadanobu was therefore able to be sure that his



## CHESS PROBLEM,

By J. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF APR. 10TH, BY H. TURTON.

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| White.                | Black.           |
| 1.—K. to K. 7.        | 1.—Kt. takes Kt. |
| 2.—Q. to Q. Kt.       | 2.—Any.          |
| 3.—Q. B. or R. mates. |                  |

Correct answer received from Q.

## NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	May 1st <sup>o</sup>
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	April 20th†
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	April 27th
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	April 26th
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	April 22nd

\* Left San Francisco, 10th April, *Belgie*.† Left Hongkong, 15th April, *Tibre*.

## NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	May 11th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	April 22nd
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	April 28th
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	April 19th
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	May 1st
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	April 21st

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

## LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship; flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

## TELEGRAPH REPORT.

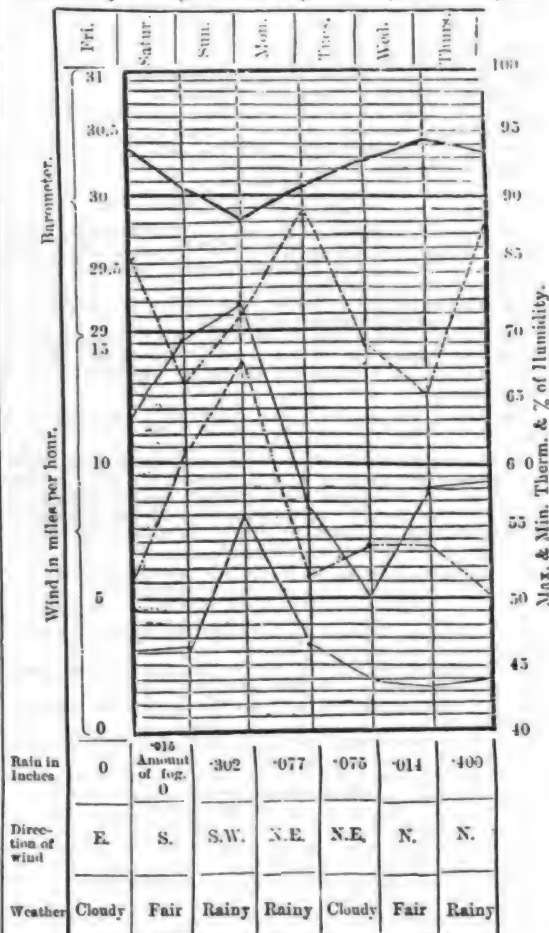
(Corrected to 9.30 a.m.)

All lines in working order.

## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH, 1880.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. &amp; min. thermometers.

Dashed line—represents velocity of wind

.....percentage of humidity

Max. velocity of wind 26.5 miles per hour on Sunday, at 10 a.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.446 inches on Thursday, at 7 a.m., and the lowest was 29.765 inches on Sunday at 2 p.m., the range for the week being .681 inches. During the latter part of the week the barometer has been unusually high but in spite of this fact there have been almost continuous rains, the total rain fall being .868 inches. The rising temperature of the early part of the week culminated on Sunday at the height of 71°.5, being the highest for this year thus far. But this maximum was followed by a rapid and considerable decline.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

- April 10, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 652, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- April 10, American ship *Paul Revere*, J. Mullins, 1,782, from New York, 59,900 cases Kerosene and 125 tons Coals, to Smith, Baker & Co.
- April 11, British steamer *Glenfalloch*, Parkes, 1,443, from London via China ports, General, to Jardine, Matheson and Co.
- April 11, American ship *Mmanuel Llaguno*, Pendleton, 1732, from New York, Oil, and, General, to Frazer & Co.
- April 11, Japanese steamer *Kinshin Maru*, Davison, 690, from Yokkaichi, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- April 11, American barque *William Hales*, Hoyt, 816, from Melbourne, General, to J. Middleton.
- April 12, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- April 12, Japanese steamer *Saminoye Maru*, Frahm, 554, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- April 13, Japanese steamer *Tyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 597, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- April 13, British steamer *Sunda*, Reeves, 1,029, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.



April 13, British barque *Charlwood*, Hiscocks, 837, from London via Middleborough, General, to Hudson & Co.  
 April 13, British steamer *Garlic*, Kidley, 2,652, from Hongkong. Mail- and General, to O. & O. Co.  
 April 15, American sloop-of-war *Alert*. Commander Huntington, 1,020, 4-guns, from Kobe.  
 April 15, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 524, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 15, Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru*, Peters, 1010, from the South coast, stores, to Lighthouse Department.  
 April 15, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, from Shanghai and way-ports, Mails and General, M. B. Co.  
 April 17, British steamer *Sestas*, Tilmouth, 784, from London via Shanghai, General, Walsh, Hall & Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru*, from Hongkong via Kobe:—Mrs. T. Walsh, Mrs. McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. Isome, Mr. A. Von Knoblock, Allman and 4 Japanese in cabin, and 1 European, 6 Chinese and 106 Japanese in steerage.  
 Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Adams and 2 children in cabin, 30 Japanese in steerage.  
 Per British steamer *Gaelic* from Hongkong:—Messrs. H. E. Falouner, J. Roberts and servant, J. G. F. Hassell and servant, Chas. Shanger, and F. Bryne for Yokohama, and 460 Chinese for San Francisco.  
 Per British steamer *Sunda* from Hongkong:—13 Chinese in steerage.  
 Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* from Shanghai & way-ports:—Mrs. Bowman, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Kendigs, Miss Mary Gordon, Gen. Stahel, Dr. H. Latham, Messrs. Ahrens, Porteus, Jantzen, C. H. Cobden, Seki, Ban, Watori, Kojima, Mori, Fujita, and Ikeda; 280 Japanese and 5 Chinese in steerage. For America: Mr. A. Davenport, H.B.M.'s Consul at Shanghai.

## OUTWARDS.

April 10, American Whaling barque *Rainbow*, Cogan, 351, for the Arctic Ocean, despatched by Captain.  
 April 11, American steamer *City of Tokio*, Maury, 5,050, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. Co.  
 April 11, Russian schooner *Onome*, Capt. Hardie, 55, Otter Hunting, by H. Snow.  
 Mar. 17, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 2,119, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 April 14, French steamer *Tanaia*, De la Marcelle, 1,735, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.  
 April 14, Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Drummoud, 1,204, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 April 15, Japanese steamer *Tokui Maru*, Hogg, 652, for Kobe, Mails, and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 April 16, Japanese steamer *Kinshin Maru*, Davison, 690, for the North, General, M. B. Co.  
 April 16, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 597, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 April 17, British steamer *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,652, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.  
 April 17, Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru*, W. Walker, 1,603, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.  
 April 17, British steamer *Glenfallock*, Parkes, 1,480, for Kobe, Nagasaki and Hongkong, General, despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. H. McGregor, Mr. and Mrs. Livingston, Miss K. Brown, Miss G. Bell, Mr. A. G. Baxter, Mr. L. R. Winter, Mr. E. S. Potter, Mr. J. R. Moore, Mr. A. Walsh, Mr. Konecki, J. M. Reieger, Mr. J. J. Heemskeck, Mr. M. F. Evans, Mr. Takatsu, Mr. Hata, Mr. Ariga, Mr. Mamiya, Mr. Nikaido, Mr. J. R. Cunningham, Mr. A. W. Gillingham, Mr. Willoughby, Mr. E. Stone, Mr. J. Astun, Mr. G. Wilson and Mr. J. J. Laing.  
 Per French steamer *Tanaia*, for Hongkong.—Dr. Mourier and daughter, Messrs. C. Eymara, N. Makino, and Ch. Brown.  
 Per British steamer *Gaelic* for San Francisco:—Messrs. A. Kaufmann, L. Gowan, A. J. Costell, M. Alman, H. Smith, W. P. Alexander, J. Reid, and A. Davenport in cabin; three Europeans in steerage.

## CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and way-ports:—  
 Treasure ... .. Yen 5,489.00  
 Per British steamer *Sunda* from Hongkong:—  
 General... .. 7,575 pkgs.  
 Per French steamer *Tanaia* for Hongkong:—  
 Silk for France... .. 169 Bales  
 " " London ... .. 16 "  
 Total ... .. 185 Bales  
 Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Shanghai & ports:—  
 Treasure ... .. Gold Yen 130,000.00  
 Silk for New York... .. 299 Bales.  
 " " San Francisco ... .. 8 "  
 Total ... .. 307 Bales.

## REPORTS.

The *Paul Herre* reports: Left New York on the 30th of November, 1879, and had moderate variable winds and a strong N.W. gale to the Equator, which was crossed in Long. 28 W., when 28 days out. Had the south-east trades moderate to lat. 40 South. Crossed the meridian of the Cape on the 24th of January, and ran the easting down between the 40th and 42nd parallels. Made Sandalwood Island when 89 days out. Came through the Ombaye Passage with unsettled squally weather. Had fresh N.E. trades in the Pacific, and a heavy head sea, and met with a succession of severe N.E. gales from Oosima to port. Passage, 130 days.

The American ship *Bullion* reports:—Sailed from New York Oct. 28th at 5 p.m. Had strong West winds for the first 3 days out. From thence to the Line very light variable winds. Nov. 26th, spoke ship *Nix Witch* of Boston from New York bound to Java all well; also, day, ship *Brown Frathers* of Boston from San Francisco bound for Antwerp. Dec. 2nd at 4 p.m. crossed the line in the Atlantic, longitude 30 degrees 10 West. Dec. 26th passed the Cape of Good Hope. Ran an Easting down between 40° and 45° South. January 28th, passed Tasmania being 92 days out. Feb. 6th at 7 p.m. latitude 40°30 South, longitude 158°32 East, Charles Brown, Cook, and Harriet Brown, Stewardess, separated as man and wife, with their own free will and accord dividing their clothes and signed clear of each other for ever as man and wife, each taking separate rooms. From Feb. 7th to the 12th, had very heavy gales, vessel labouring very severely doing a good deal of damage to sails, rigging and injured rudder, stores, hull, spars, etc. February 17th, passed Norfolk Island in the South Pacific. From thence to the line had very light baffling winds and calms. March 8th at 5 a.m. latitude 5 degrees 15 South, longitude 169 degrees 15 East, Robert Roberts, seaman, died of a consumption, which he had contracted long before he came on board and of which he was taken sick soon after leaving New York and he was buried on the same day at 9.15 a.m. it being very hot weather. March 11th, crossed the line in the Pacific in longitude 25 degrees East. Took the North East trades to Ualand Island and had them fresh to 20 degrees North. From 20 degrees to Rock Island strong gales from the Northward with thick rainy weather. Took pilot off Rock Island. 162 days out.

The Japanese steamer *Toyoshima* reports:—Left Kobe at 6.30 p.m. on the 10th instant, first part of passage experienced strong S.W. winds with heavy rain, and 11th at 9.45 a.m. went into Oosima harbour for shelter, strong S.E. Winds and much rain, at 3.30 p.m. clearing off with light easterly winds weighed anchor and proceeded, at 11 p.m. thence to port fresh N. winds with hazy weather arriving at 6.30 a.m. of 13th instant. At 3 p.m. of 12th passed the British barque *Charlwood* bound in from London, &c.

The British steamer *Gaelic* reports: Left Hongkong at 3 p.m. on the 7th April, had thick weather in the China sea, and until making the Japan Coast. Passed Oosima at 9 p.m. on the 12th instant and arrived here at 8.45 p.m. on the 13th. Signalled the U. S. S. *Teconderega* at noon on the 10th instant in Lat. 28°51' N Long. 125°55', all well; sighted the *City of Tokio* at 5 p.m. on the 12th instant.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* reports: having passed the British ship *Clydeale* from New York, off Vries Islands. The vessel is reported by request.

VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.  
SAILING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Jan. 14	Ullock	LONDON	Yokohama
Feb. 18	Sunbeam (s.s.)	"	"
" 19	Galley of Lorne (s.s.)	"	"
Nov. 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
Sept. 27	Clydesdale	NEW YORK	"
Oct. 3	Lucille	"	"
" 30	Leonora	"	"
Nov. 8	Harvard	"	"
" 17	Charles Dennis	"	"
Dec. 29	Susan Gilmore	"	"
Jan. 9	Alice Buck	"	Hiogo
Feb. 11	Ophelia	"	Yokohama
Nov. 5	Hesperia	HAMBURG	"
Dec. 18	Lydia (s.s.)	"	"
Jan. 18	River Lagan	"	"
Feb. 6	Cassandra (s.s.)	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Dec. 20	Laertes (s.s.)	GREENOCK	"
Dec. 13	Bonanza	SAN FRANCISCO	Hiogo
Feb. 11	North American	CARDIFF	Yokohama
" 25	Scottish Fairy	LIVERPOOL	"



## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 1679	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Flintshire	Morgan	British steamer	1,286	London via Singapore	Apr. 9	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Meiji Maru	Peters	Japanese steamer	1,010	Cruise	Apr. 15	Light House Department.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru	—	Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 1378	M. B. Co.
Sestos	Tilmouth	British steamer	784	London via Shanghai	Apr.	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Shario Maru	Kilgour	Japanese steamer	800	Kobe	Apr. 15	M. B. Co.
Sunda	Reeves	British steamer	1,704	Hongkong	Apr. 13	P. & O. Co.
Takasago Maru	Young	Japanese steamer	1,230	Shanghai & ports	Apr. 15	M. B. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Apr. 8	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Bullion	Reed	American ship	1,300	New York	Apr. 10	J. D. Carroll & Co.
Charlwood	Hiscocks	British barque	837	London	Apr. 13	Hudson & Co.
Columbia	Funnell	American ship	1,490	New York	Mar. 26	R. Isaacs and Brother
Crossfield	Ewart	British barque	774	London	Apr. 1	M. Raspe
Lady Aberdeen	Holm	British brig	289	Hongkong	Apr. 7	P. Bohm
Lady Bowen	Pain	British barque	691	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Mar. 26	Mollison, Fraser & Co.
L. J. Morse	Ames	American ship	1,300	New York	Mar. 26	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Manuel Laguno	Pendleton	American ship	1,723	New York	Apr. 11	Frazer & Co.
Paul Revere	Mullins	American ship	1,782	New York	Apr. 10	Smith, Baker & Co.
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
William Hals	Hoyt	American barque	868	Melbourne	Apr. 11	J. Middleton

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GENS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
AMERICAN—Alert	4	1,020	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
BRITISH—Swinger	4	430	461	Gun-Boat	Nagasaki	Lieut.-Com. O.P. Tudor
RUSSIAN—Abreck	8	1,069	300	Corvette	Vladivostok	Captain Schance

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hakodate	Suminoye Maru	M. B. Co.	About April 19th at 4 A.M.
Hongkong	Sunda	P. & O. Co.	April 22nd at noon.
Hongkong	Volga	M. M. Co.	April 28th at 7 A.M.
Hongkong via Kobe	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	May 1st at 6 P.M.
Nagasaki via Kobe	Flintshire	Adamson, Bell & Co.	April 19th at 4 P.M.
San Francisco	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	About May 11th.
Shanghai and way-ports	Takasago Maru	M. B. Co.	April 21st at 6 P.M.

## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**IMPORTS.**—The same state of things continues as last week. The market is paralysed by the state of the currency question, and the deadlock will probably continue till some settlement is arrived at.

**COTTON YARNS:—**

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$30.00 to 33.50
.. Good to Best ... ..	\$34.00 to 37.50
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... ..	\$31.00 to 33.00
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... ..	\$38.00 to 40.00
.. Good to Best ... ..	\$40.50 to 41.50
.. 38 to 42 ... ..	\$40.00 to 42.00

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—**

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.65 to 1.95
.. 8½ lb. .. 38½ .. 39 in.	\$1.90 to 2.27½
.. 9 lb. .. 38½ .. 45 in.	\$2.20 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. .. 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.80
Drills, English: 14-15 lb. 40 .. 30 in.	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— .. 12 .. 44 in.	\$1.70 to 1.75
Prints:—Assorted .. 24 .. 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italian & Sateen Black 32 in.	\$0.11 to 0.14
Turkey Reds: 2 to 3½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.62½
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 .. 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.82½
Do. 3 lb. .. 24 .. 30 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.**

Velvets:—Black ... .. 35 .. 22 in. per piece	\$8.00 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns:— .. 12 .. 42/3 in.	\$0.85 to 0.88½
Taffelclashes:— .. 12 .. 48 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

**WOOLLENS:—**

Plain Orleans ... .. 40-42 yds. 32 in.	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... .. 29-30 yds. 31 in.	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... .. 29-30 yds. 31 in.	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... .. 30 yds. 32 in.	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Cords ... .. 29-30 yds. 22 in.	4.00 to 5.25
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in.	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 yds. 30 in.	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy .. 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.60
Pilots ... .. 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents ... .. 54 in. to 56 in.	0.55 to 0.60
Union ... .. 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs. ... .. per lb.	0.38 to 0.41

**SUGAR.**—At closing the market is steady. Stocks are estimated to amount to 18,500 bags.

**KEROSENE.**—Business is at a standstill. Stocks are about 551,000 cases.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... .. per picul	\$4.57½ to \$4.60
Taiwanfu in bag ... ..	\$4.40 to \$4.55
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ... ..	\$8.00 to \$8.60
China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fuh ..	\$6.25 to \$8.00
Daitong ... .. per picul	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... ..	\$2.70 to \$2.90
Kerosene Oil ... ..	\$1.60
Newchwang Peas ... ..	\$2.20

## EXPORTS.

**SILK.**—The past week has again been a quiet one for Silk, and only about 180 shipping bales in all are reported sold.

The news from home has not been encouraging, and this, added to the fall in native paper currency, has made the Japanese anxious to meet buyers; they are now willing sellers at a reduction of about \$20 to \$30 per picul, but this does not seem sufficient to tempt buyers.

Total shipments to date 17,283 bales against 17,648 bales at the same period last season.

Stock 2,500 Japanese bales.

	In London at 3/11 per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 5.00 per kilo.		In London at 3/11 per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 5.00 per kilo.
Hanks, —Superior, nom. ...			Kakeda, —Extra ... ..	\$700 to 730 24/ to 25/	frs. 68 25 to 71 00
.. Best nominal ... \$640 to 650 22/1 to 22 5/8		frs. 62 50 to 63 50	.. Best ... ..	\$660 to 680 22 9/ to 23 1/4	frs. 64 50 to 66 25
.. Good ... \$620 to 640 21/5 to 22/1		frs. 60 75 to 62 50	.. Good ... ..	\$580 to 630 20 1/ to 21/9	frs. 57 00 to 61 75
.. Good Medium ... \$600 to 615 20 9/ to 21 2		frs. 59 00 to 60 25	.. Common ... ..	\$760 to 770 26/ to 26 4	frs. 73 75 to 74 50
.. Medium ... \$575 to 590 19 11/ to 20 1		frs. 56 50 to 57 00	.. Best ... ..	\$700 to 700 24/ to 25/	frs. 68 25 to 71 00
.. Common, In'r ... \$530 to 550 18 6/ to 19/		frs. 52 25 to 54 25	.. Good ... ..	\$630 to 650 21 9/ to 22 5/	frs. 61 75 to 63 50
Oshius, —Best ... .. \$600 to 620 20 9/ to 21 5		frs. 59 00 to 60 75	.. Med. & C'n ... ..		
.. Medium ... .. \$550 to 580 30/1 to 20 1		frs. 54 25 to 57 00			
Hamatsuki ... ..					

## EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight ... .. 3/10½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight ... .. 72½
.. Bank Bills on demand ... .. 3/10	.. Private 10 days sight ... .. 73½
.. Private 4 months' sight ... .. 3/10½	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand ... .. 93½
.. 6 .. .. 3/11½	.. 30 days sight Private ... .. 94½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight ... .. 4.84	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand ... .. 93½
.. Private 6 m. sight ... .. 5.00	.. 30 days sight Private ... .. 94½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight ... .. ½ dis.	Kinsatz ... .. 55 dis.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight ... .. 1½ % dis.	Gold Yen ... .. 386

## SHIPPING.

**SHIPPING.**—The *Paul Revere* and *Manuel Laguno* have arrived with kerosene from New York; also, the *William Hales* from Melbourne, and the *Charwood*, *Sestos*, and *Glenfulloch* from London, all with general cargoes. The latter vessel is advertised to leave for Kobe, this evening.

## MISCELLANEOUS.



## NIPPON RACE CLUB.

SPRING MEETING, 1880.

## PROGRAMME.

## FIRST DAY.

No. 1.—Japan Ponies. *Bonâ fide* Griffins that have never run in a Race in Tokio or Yokohama. Five Furlongs.

No. 2.—Half-bred Ponies. *Bonâ fide* Griffins that have never run in a Race in Tokio or Yokohama. Five Furlongs.

No. 3.—China Ponies. One Mile.

No. 4.—Japan Ponies. One Mile.

No. 5.—Half-bred Ponies. Three-quarters of a Mile.

No. 6.—Japan and China Ponies. Three-quarters of a Mile.

No. 7.—Japan Ponies. Half a Mile.

No. 8.—Japan Ponies. Winner of No. 4 excluded. Three-quarters of a Mile.

## SECOND DAY.

No. 1.—Japan Ponies that have never won a Race in Tokio or Yokohama. Five Furlongs.

No. 2.—Half-bred Ponies. Half a Mile.

No. 3.—China Ponies. Winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra. One Mile and a quarter.

No. 4.—Japan Ponies. Half a Mile.

No. 5.—Japan Ponies. Winner of No. 4, first day, 7 lbs. extra. One Mile and a quarter.

No. 6.—China and Japan Ponies. Winner of No. 6, first day, excluded. Half a Mile.

No. 7.—Half-bred Ponies. Winner of No. 5, first day, 10 lbs. extra. One Mile.

No. 8.—Japan Ponies. Winners and non-competitors excluded. Three-quarters of a Mile.

## THIRD DAY.

No. 1.—Hurdle Race. China and Japan Ponies. Scale weights. Once round and a distance.

No. 2.—Japan Consolation. Five Furlongs.

No. 3.—Half-bred Consolation. Five Furlongs.

No. 4.—China Consolation. Once round.

No. 5.—Champion Stakes for Japan Ponies. One Mile.

No. 6.—China and Japan Handicap. Once round.

No. 7.—Half-bred Handicap. One Mile.

THE RACES WILL TAKE PLACE on or about the 26th, 27th, and 28th MAY; but fuller particulars will be published at an earlier date, as to measuring of ponies, closing of entries, and positive date of meeting.

BY ORDER.

Yokohama, 2nd April, 1880.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. J. GARGAN,**  
ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,  
No. 88, Creek Side.

*Machinery of all kinds overhauled and Repaired.*

House Building and Repairs Contracted for.

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.

**BONG & JORDAN,**  
GENERAL FORWARDING AGENTS,  
43, Fish Street Hill, London, E.C.

REPRESENTED BY

**H. MacARTHUR,**  
LANDING & FORWARDING AGENT,  
179, Yokohama.

Yokohama, September 27th, 1879.

tf.

**SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,**

No. 80, Main Street.

## JUST RECEIVED.

**AMERICAN ENVELOPES;**—Card, Note, Letter, Official and Photograph sizes. Bond Paper, Envelopes, Note and Letter sizes.

**WRITING PAPERS;**—Note, Letter, Foolscap, Bill and Legal caps.

**CLIPPER INKSTANDS;**—Single and Double.

**CARTER'S FRENCH COPYING INK;**—A deep violet black—warranted to take 5 to 8 perfect copies.

**CARTER'S CARMINES and VIOLET INKS.**

**KNOWLTON'S COMBINED WRITING and COPYING INK.** Flows as free as any FLUID, and will give two to four perfect copies.

**KNOWLTON'S CHEMICAL WRITING FLUID;**—Equal to Arnold's.

Van Stans Stratena Cement.

## THE LITHOGRAM

This wonderful invention is now in use by many of the leading firms in Yokohama, and is pronounced indispensable by all who have tried it.

SARGENT, FARSARI & Co. manufacture them and guarantee satisfaction.

Yokohama, March 17th, 1880.

NOW READY.

**YOUNG JAPAN,**

BY

**J. R. BLACK.**

Vol. I.—Price \$5.

KELLY &amp; CO.

Yokohama, February 6th, 1880.

## INSURANCE.

Yokohama, January 29, 1879.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

## MATSUZAKA HOTEL, KIGA, (HAKONE HOT SPRINGS.)

PRIVATE APARTMENTS of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class, let at the rate of from 50 *sen* to 80 *sen* per day, and from 12 *yen* to 20 *yen* per month.

## BOARD AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:—

1st class.....	According to order.
2nd class.....	1.50 <i>yen</i> per day, or 40.00 „ „ month.
3rd class.....	1.00 <i>yen</i> per day, or 28.00 „ „ month.

All kinds of Wines and Spirits supplied in large or small quantities.

GUIDES, HORSES and KAGOS supplied at fixed rates, for FUJIYAMA and other places in the neighbourhood of HAKONE.

Experienced Cooks, Waiters, etc., engaged from this year.

MATSUZAKA HOTEL,  
KIGA,  
(Hakone Hot Springs.)

Yokohama, July 19, 1879.

## W. & A. GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS.

W. & A. GILBEY have special facilities for carrying on an extensive Foreign Trade, having held for many years in their Excise Bonded Stores, for the purpose of their Home Trade, a stock of not less than 12,000 Casks of Wines and Spirits, which are equally available for Export. These stores are by far the largest private Duty Free Warehouses in the World, and are under the supervision of a staff of Excise Officers specially attached to these Warehouses.

THE EXTENT of W. & A. Gilbey's purchases enables them to give the best VALUE to the public, as a twentieth part of the Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom is supplied from their stock. In the year 1876 W. & A. Gilbey paid duty on 1,881,049 gallons of Wines and Spirits, and the average quantity bottled and sent out by them daily was 3,050 dozens or 36,600 bottles.

QUALITY is guaranteed by W. & A. Gilbey, and is the same whether the Wines or Spirits are obtained direct from their Head Establishments or from any of their Agents. The purity and genuineness of every article in this list are guaranteed in accordance with Act of Parliament, 38 and 39 Vict., Cap. 63.

W. & A. Gilbey have always adhered to the *standard* of Bottle Measure recently recognised by the Government, namely—

6 bottles contain one gallon; 12 half-bottles contain one gallon.

SECURITY is ensured to the purchaser, each bottle bearing W. & A. Gilbey's seal and label guaranteeing *quality* and *measure*, and the *strength* also in the case of Spirits.

EDWARD FISCHER & Co.,  
Agents for Japan.

## KEROSENE OIL.

STORAGE and FIRE INSURANCE

For terms, apply to

EDWARD FISCHER & CO.  
Yokohama, 3rd March, 1880.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA  
EXHIBITION, 1876."



PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.



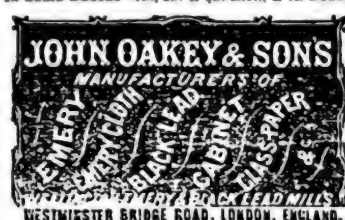
PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. Oakey's Wellington Knife Polish SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.



[NON-MERCURIAL],  
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 5D. EACH.



IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 1L. BOXES.



July, 1879.

52ins.

## THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Faky that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are 'most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value.'"

## SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN! HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock!" Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World May 17th, 1878.

## FOR SALE.

GILBEY'S CHAMPAGNE,  
" SPARKLING SAUMUR,  
" SHERRY, CLARET, PORT,  
" &c., &c., &c.

EDWARD FISCHER & Co.,  
No. 14.

Yokohama, 31st January, 1880.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S  
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,  
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,  
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED CHEESE,  
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,  
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,  
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,  
PLUM PUDDINGS,  
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE  
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.***To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars they should invariably be destroyed when empty.**Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.**All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles, Jars and Tins.*

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL,**  
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,  
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

52 ins.

**ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,**

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,

ENGLAND.

**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND  
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

**MACHINERY.**

May 4, 1878.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S  
PERFUMERY,***CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained the following***EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,**

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA, 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876. VIENNA, 1873.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY,"  
PARIS, 1878.

**Atkinson's Choice Perfumes for the  
Handkerchief,**

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang Ylang, Stephanotis, Opopanax,  
Jockey Club, Ess. Bouquet, Treval, Magnolia, Jasmin,  
Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,  
And all other colours, of the finest quality only.

**Atkinson's Florida Water,***A most fragrant Perfume, distilled from the choicest Exotics.***Atkinson's Quinine Hair Lotion,***A very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.***ATKINSON'S****Ethereal Essence of Lavender,***A powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.***ATKINSON'S**

Quinine Tooth Powder, Violet Powder, Macassar Oil, Glycerine  
Cream,

*And other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the Manufacturers.*

**J. & E. ATKINSON,**  
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## THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

AT the Restoration in 1868 the present Government found itself in a very embarrassed financial position. The Treasury bequeathed to it by its predecessors, the Bakufu, was depleted: in every *Han* a local paper currency existed: large annual pensions to *Shizoku* and *Kwazoku* had to be paid: the expenses of the civil war succeeding the Restoration had to be borne; and the people, especially the farmers, were groaning under the weight of the oppressive taxes established by the Shogun's government. What was to be done? The authorities could not increase the taxes, and were therefore compelled to issue a paper currency to pay for the expenses of the civil war of 1868-9.

It is not very clearly or precisely known what these expenses were; but they could not have been less than thirty-five to forty million yen. In 1871-2, the paper money of the *Han* was capitalized by the Central Government, and replaced by a national currency. Subsequently, the pensions to *Kwazoku* and *Shizoku* were capitalized by the issue of national interest-bearing bonds to *Daimio* and *Samurai*. The old *Han* debts were recognized by the issue of national bonds to the creditors. Then came the Satsuma rebellion with its terrible cost of over forty million yen. In 1878, to extend railway construction, build roads, &c., a Public Works loan of 12,500,000 yen was negotiated locally. On the 22nd of July, 1879, the Prime Minister issued a notification that, according to the ledgers of the Finance Department, the total National Debt amounted to 375,250,356.50 yen, of which 120,927,209 yen was in Government paper money: 12,624,072 yen represented the Foreign Debt, and 241,699,075.50 yen, the Home Bonded Debt.

Of this latter sum 23,359,460.50 yen, is the indebtedness of the *Han* prior to 1871: 190,416,290 yen represents the capitalization of the pensions to the *Kwazoku* and *Shizoku*: 12,500,000 yen the Public Works Department Loan; 428,325 yen, capitalization of Religious Pensions. The balance of the Debt,—148,551,281 yen,—has practically been created:—

1.—To pay the expenses of the war of the Restoration 1868-9 (say forty millions.)

2.—To pay the cost of the Satsuma Rebellion—forty millions.

3.—The issue of national currency to replace the local *Han* or provincial currency, 88,551,182.81 yen, as well as to construct the Kioto-Kobe and Yokohama-Tokio railways, telegraphs and roads, and to make other public improvements; and the reserve in specie and notes in the vaults of the treasury.

On the 31st of October, 1879, an Imperial notification was issued stating that the amount of paper money issued by the National Banks was 88,104,780 yen. This paper money is guaranteed by the Imperial Government, and is secured by Government bonds, deposited with the Currency Bureau of the Finance Department. Therefore, the whole amount of paper money in circulation was as follows:—

July 22nd, 1879, Government currency...	120,927,209 yen
Oct. 31st, 1879, National Bank notes	} 88,104,780 „
guaranteed by Government.....	

Total currency in circulation...154,031,939 yen.

No paper money, Government or National Bank, can be issued without formal notification by the Prime Minister. No Government paper money has been issued since July 22nd, 1879; and, from time to time, since October 1879, the Prime Minister has notified the creation of additional National Banks with an authorized circulation of 1,824,905 yen.

The vernacular press expresses entire confidence in the Prime Minister's notifications of the amount of paper money in circulation; but a limited portion of the foreign press occasionally emits a doubt on the subject. In the face of the Imperial notifications that on October 31st, 1879, 154,031,939 yen of Government and National Bank paper money had been issued, and that since then 1,824,905 yen of National Bank notes had been issued, how can any one say that exact figures are wanting?

The issue of the above 154,031,939 yen of paper money has been gradual. First it replaced the gold and silver in circulation (as well as the *Han* paper money) and, of course, in accordance with a fixed law of political economy absolutely indisputable, no depreciation took place. It is impossible, perhaps, to know exactly the amount of gold and silver money actually in circulation prior to 1871; but we believe the amount was in the neighbourhood of sixty million yen. This corresponds with the amount of old

coins brought to the mint immediately for coinage. Therefore, adding the *Han* paper money, 98,551,182.31 yen, we have a circulation, in the nation, of 98,551,182.31 yen. No doubt the business of the country has increased since 1871; and we think fifteen million yen will represent the circulation required by this extension of commerce. Consequently, our opinion is that the actual requirements of the nation, of a circulating medium, is to-day 113,551,182 yen, 81 sen, or say, in round numbers, 113 million yen. Accordingly, every yen of paper money issued over and above this amount causes depreciation; and forty million yen has thus been over-issued. In consequence, we are brought face to face with a natural depreciation of the currency; and the fixed laws of science apply equally in this country as in Europe and America. Here is what John Stuart Mill says on the subject:—

"When metallic money has been entirely superseded and expelled from circulation, by the substitution of an equal amount of bank notes, any attempt to keep a still further quantity of paper in circulation must, if the notes are convertible, be a complete failure. The new issue would again set in motion the same train of consequences by which the gold coin had already been expelled. The metals would, as before, be required for exportation, and would be for that purpose demanded from the banks, to the full extent of the superfluous notes, which thus could not possibly be retained in circulation. If, indeed, the notes were inconvertible, there would be no such obstacle to the increase of their quantity. An inconvertible paper acts in the same way as a convertible, while there remains any coin for it to supersede; the difference begins to manifest itself when all the coin is driven from circulation (except what may be retained for the convenience of small change) and the issues still go on increasing. When the paper begins to exceed in quantity the metallic currency which it superseded, prices of course rise; things which were worth £5 in metallic money, become worth £6 in inconvertible paper, or more, as the case may be."

It has generally been thought in Japan, by both foreigners and Japanese, that the import trade would suffer by this depreciation of the currency. This idea is entirely erroneous. Mr. Mill says, decidedly, that both exports and imports will not be affected by a depreciated currency. "A depreciation of the currency does not affect the foreign trade of the country; this is carried on precisely as if the currency maintained its value." In 1879 the currency depreciation was great, and yet the import and export trade of Japan both increased. This trade was generally profitable to both Japanese and Europeans. Therefore the fixed law laid down by Mill has proved true in this country also. Fluctuations undoubtedly affect trade, but only temporarily. Business rights itself, and trade goes on smoothly eventually.

Japanese have sometimes thought—the wish was father to the thought—that a depreciated currency would stimulate industry. Such a delusion should be dispelled once and forever. Mill, in an able article on the subject, clearly dispels this illusion. He begins:—"Another of the fallacies from which the advocates of an inconvertible currency derive support, is the notion that an increase of the currency quickens industry." And then he goes on to demonstrate his statement in the most conclusive manner.

There is another grave cause of financial embarrassment to the nation. It lies in the import trade exceeding the export. The figures for the year 1879 shew that this excess is about 10 million yen. To the total of the imports, as published officially, we have added fifteen per cent for freight, insurance, commercial and other charges. This will bring up the figures to shew a total excess of ten million silver yen in imports over exports. This

coincides precisely with the net export of gold and silver for the year 1879. The excess of imports over exports will continue until either all the gold and silver has been drained from the country,—for the balance of trade must be paid in specie,—or the Government contracts the currency until the circulation is reduced to the amount actually required by the wants of the nation. We will again quote John Stuart Mill on this subject:—

"Let the country which has the balance to pay be England, and the country which receives it France. But we are now supposing that there is an excess of imports over exports, arising from the fact that the equation of international demand is not yet established, that there is, at the ordinary prices, a permanent demand in England for more French goods than the English goods required in France, at the ordinary prices, will pay for. When this is the case, if a change were not made in the prices, there would be a perpetually renewed balance to be paid in money. The imports require to be permanently diminished, or the exports to be increased; which can only be accomplished through prices: and hence, even if the balances are, at first, paid from hoards, or by the exportation of bullion, they will reach the circulation at last, for until they do nothing can stop the drain. When, therefore, the state of prices is such that the equation of international demand cannot establish itself, the country requiring more imports than can be paid for by the exports, it is a sign that the country has more of the precious metals, or their substitutes, in circulation, than can permanently circulate, and must necessarily part with some of them before the balance can be restored. The currency is accordingly contracted; prices fall, and, among the rest, the prices of exportable articles; for which accordingly there arises, in foreign countries, a greater demand: while imported commodities have possibly risen in price from the influx of money into foreign countries, and, at all events, have not participated in the general fall."

"But until the increased cheapness of English goods induces foreign countries to take a greater pecuniary value, or until the increased dearness (partially or comparatively) of foreign goods makes England take a less pecuniary value, the exports of England will be no nearer to paying for the imports than before, and the drain of the precious metals which had begun to flow out of England will still flow out. This efflux will continue until the fall of prices in England brings within reach of the foreign markets some commodity which England did not previously send thither; or until the reduced price of the things which she did send has forced a demand abroad for a sufficient quantity to pay for the imports, aided, perhaps, by a reduction of the English demand for foreign goods, through their enhanced price, either positively or comparatively."

Mill lays down a general law. This law is a fixed law, and has never been controverted. The Government and people of this country should take this closely to heart. That the Government can gradually contract its currency we fully believe. It will possibly take time, but it can be done. We know that, on July 31st, 1879, the Government had issued altogether 120,927,209 yen of paper money. The archives of the Currency Bureau of the Finance Department are accessible; and we happen to be aware that, on March 31st, 1880, the total issue of Government paper money was 118,176,562 yen, thus shewing that, between July 31st, 1879, and March 31st, 1880,—a period of eight months,—7,750,647 yen of paper money was retired from circulation by the Government. It is true that the National Bank currency had increased from October 31st, 1879, when it stood at 83,104,730 yen, to 84,429,635 yen on March 31st, 1880. This is an increase of 1,324,905 yen. This shews a net withdrawal from circulation of 6,425,742 yen paper money since July 31st, 1879. The Government should gradually withdraw its notes from circulation until the total amount of Government and National Bank notes

in circulation shall not exceed 113 million. This can readily be done within the next eight years, if not sooner; but it should only be done gradually, so as not to disturb trade. The Government should also bear well in mind that the substitution of paper for metallic currency is a "national gain; and further increase of paper beyond this is but a form of robbery."

The Government and National Bank notes read one yen. This does not mean one paper yen of an inconvertible currency. It means one silver yen, containing 416 grains and 900 fineness. This is the opinion of the Government as well as the belief of the people. The date of redemption may be unavoidably deferred; but it must come, for the nation has always exhibited most exemplary and thorough honesty in all its national financial affairs.

We have endeavoured to shew that the present administration could not, by reason of the embarrassed state of the finances at the time of the Restoration in 1868, with its natural train of consequences; and the national calamity of 1877, now called in history "The Satsuma Rebellion," be held responsible for the present condition of financial affairs. These were, practically, inheritances for which the present administration is no more responsible than the physician is for the disease of his patient, for whom he must prescribe and seek to find a remedy.

Time is the great physician and the healer of all things; and, with patience and perseverance, an honest and economical administration of affairs, and a gradual contraction of the currency, the Government can again, in a comparatively short time, bring the nation back to specie payments. With contraction, imports will diminish and exports will increase. We should be sorry to see all proper imports diminish; but we should be glad to see articles of luxury and wastefulness disappear from the list. Silk, tea, rice and porcelain exports, as well as all products of the sea, are capable of large development. These industries the people understand thoroughly and will increase naturally, if left to themselves. Above all, the Government and people should beware of false guides in questions of political economy, the laws of which are fixed and eternal. As a "guide, philosopher and friend" we commend to them John Stuart Mill. If his precepts are closely and clearly followed, error is impossible.

## MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS IN JAPAN.

### I.

WITHIN the last decade Japan has adopted two institutions particularly calculated to diffuse general knowledge and information among all classes of the people. We refer to the newspaper press, and to the growth, in most of the large towns, of permanent museums and periodical exhibitions. Those who see daily, in the hands of all grades of the public, the productions of the press, cannot fail mentally to contrast the present with times when knowledge of events travelled slowly from mouth to mouth, and when the greatest ignorance prevailed as to internal changes of vital importance to all, still more as to the doings of the outside world.

And although the press labours under restrictions, they are not of a kind to retard any purely educational advantages to be derived from it. Every dispassionate observer would, we imagine, feel inclined to agree that in certain respects, considering the condition of this country, some curb is necessary for the present, in order to restrain the abuse of such a powerful engine. When we remember the crises through which the nation has passed since the restoration, the general diffusion of

the art of writing and expression among the old military class, the absence of any guiding or restraining public opinion of sufficient power to make itself felt by the press, and the danger of unrestricted publication in the hands of the numerous discontented left by the sudden sweeping away of the old order of things, we cannot but feel that, in Japan if anywhere, it was not prudent to accord to journalism the full measure of liberty which it enjoys in Anglo-Saxon countries.

Of equal, or perhaps greater, importance are the museums, which are the means of bringing before the eyes of all, specimens of the antiquities and treasures of the nation, thus imparting a general acquaintance with the history of the past. At the same time, the exhibits of modern native and foreign productions on view create interest and incite to enterprise in new industries. One sure sign of the educational good which is being accomplished by such institutions is the curiosity and pleasure evinced by the numbers of visitors that daily throng their galleries. Nor is the enlightenment of the spectator the only result attributable to them. They are a constant incentive to emulation. Manufacturers and artisans can, through them, compete for fame with their rivals in trade. The yearly exhibitions which take place in Kioto, and the triennial displays in Tokio, have the special object in view to gather together, from all parts of the country, local productions and fabrics for the purpose of encouraging and increasing trade and manufacture.

Apparently no very distinct line is drawn between a mere bazaar and a museum for objects of archaeological, botanical or zoological interest. One small institution forms at the same time a collection of antiquities, modern products, zoological and botanical gardens, all combined in a manner which strikes one as somewhat incongruous. The smallness of individual collections in any branch may account for this, for no one can fail to notice the paucity of specimens in many divisions. This is noticeably the case with regard to the antiquities, causing us almost to wish that the rapid efflux of the remnants of a past civilization into the hands of foreign merchants and museums could by some means be stopped. The student of ancient Japanese lore will get very little help from the exhibitions of the capital. There are no doubt still in the hands of many private individuals some valuable treasures of former art which have not yet, as is so often done, been reluctantly yielded up for more necessary gold; and if such inheritors of rich specimens could be induced to lend their treasures to the museums, the country would greatly benefit thereby. The example has been set by the Emperor himself, and many choice works of art from the palace have been shown in the exhibition at Kioto.

An exhibition of loan objects of considerable interest is now taking place at Uyeno, close to the Educational Museum. The articles here displayed consist of valuable old pictures, pottery, bronzes and lacquer work, forming the collections of certain noblemen and wealthy merchants who have lent their treasures for the purpose. It is, we think, the first loan exhibition of its kind in Tokio, and though the display is small, it is nevertheless very rich in unique and valuable specimens and will well repay a visit. The principal attractions are a valuable collection of old pictures and *kakimono*, and some beautiful specimens of gold lacquerware, in trays, writing boxes, cabinets and *shōdanus*. In addition to this there are some almost priceless treasures in the form of carved jade and crystal bowls. It is well known that many of the most valuable collections contained in the British and South Kensington Museums are the loan of private individuals.

Many of the old temple *kura* contain rare valuables



which are displayed within their own unfrequented precincts, or which remain buried away in the obscurity of the storehouses themselves. It is true that such examples as these have sometimes a special interest attached to their being seen upon the very spots with which their fame is associated. In the early part of last year an exhibition of curiosities was commenced in the great temple of Daibutsu, at Nara; the objects being contributed by all the religious foundations of the neighbourhood. It continued for a month or two, and was constantly crowded by visitors from far and near. At the conclusion it was decided to establish a kind of permanent museum of antiquities in the same place, and the collection thus opened forms one of the numerous interesting sights of this ancient capital.

Almost every ken or prefecture of the empire has some kind of domestic exhibition of its own, in which the productions and manufactures of the district, as well as many natural and artificial curiosities,—which occasionally degenerate into monstrosities,—are shown to visitors at a very trifling charge. As would be expected, however, the museums and exhibitions of Tokio are taken as an example by all these, and the object of the papers which will follow this, is to describe the chief public places of that nature in the metropolis. Few of the foreign residents of the capital, and still fewer of those residing at this port, know anything of these institutions, though in most cases they would well repay a visit of mere curiosity. To the students of many Japanese subjects an examination of them is indispensable. Moved by these considerations we propose to present to our readers a brief description of the principal of these establishments.

**A** NOTICE in our advertising columns informs those who are desirous of becoming members of the Nippon Race Club, newly formed, that they can obtain all the necessary information as to the rules of the society and conditions of membership, on application, in Yokohama, to Mr. J. J. Keswick, and in Tokio to His Excellency Wooyeno Kagenori. The former gentleman has undertaken to fill the office of Honorary Secretary and Clerk of the course: the latter to be Corresponding Secretary in the capital. The best feature of the new organization is, that it provides for and ensures the participation of Japanese gentlemen in the sport and proprietorship of the Club. On the list of original members are some of the highest officials of the Government, foreign representatives, and influential Japanese and foreign gentlemen. Whatever limited and necessary restrictions may be placed upon membership, there are none to the participation of the community in competition on the turf; as non-members, owning ponies, will find little difficulty in procuring nominations by the associates. The race-course at Negishi has been leased to the Club on conditions more favourable than those in virtue of which the former racing bodies held it; and thus the revenue will be in a condition to afford a larger margin than was possible under previous circumstances, for prizes to competitors. We have every reason to believe that metropolitan stables will be largely represented at the now rapidly approaching spring contest, and that the meeting generally, in spite of the demoralization which has been necessarily wrought in foreign-owned studs by the farcical racing of the past two or three meetings, will be of much interest and well-attended. To the future of the new Association we wish hearty success, and a complete absence of anything approaching to such discord as can render schism conceivable.

**M**EMBERS of the Seismological Society of Japan should be interested in a correspondence which has appeared in the *Times* of the 22nd of February on the sub-

ject. The writers are both specially well-known in scientific and literary circles in this vicinity. On the 27th of February Mr. Perry addressed the leading organ as follows:—

I have just received a telegram dated the 25th instant, 2 p.m., from my friend Professor John Milne, of Japan, to the effect that there has just occurred in Yedo a severe earthquake. I am quite sure that my friend would not have gone to the expense of sending this telegram unless the earthquake had been one of great severity, of immediate scientific interest of some kind for people in England. About two months ago occurred the most severe earthquake felt in Yedo for twenty years, so that we must regard the present as a period of great seismic intensity.

Mr. F. V. Dickens, having read the foregoing communication, wrote thus to the paper in which it appeared:—

With reference to Mr. Perry's letter in the *Times* of February 27th, calling attention to the occurrence of a great earthquake in Yedo, I may state that up to the end of 1878, when I left Japan, after some years' residence in that country, the natives constantly predicted severe and destructive earthquakes in this present year 1880. The Japanese are singularly accurate observers of natural phenomena and of their cyclical periods, and are also, according to the experience of residents among them, unrivalled weather prophets. Mr. Perry's news confirms in a remarkable manner the precision of their calculation, based no doubt upon a close observation of seismic periods.

With the assertion of Mr. Dickens as to the accuracy of Japanese prediction of approaching disturbances, Mr. Perry does not altogether agree. He replies:—

Mr. Milne has obtained translations of nearly all the Japanese writings on earthquakes, and he finds that the Japanese have no scientific notions on the subject further than the rule,—“When the tidal wave comes place yourself on a hill; when there is an earthquake run to the bamboo grove;” the inability of water to run up hill and the tenacious mattedness of the roots of the bamboo having obviously directed the wisdom of the discoverer. Anyone who undertakes the labour of going through Mr. Mallet's series of valuable British Association reports will find the absence of a periodic law in seismic manifestations, if he neglects such insignificant variations as may be better explainable by considering the habits of the observer rather than those of the heavenly bodies. I believe that no law will be discovered until we can deal with records of the minute earth tremours which Signor Palmieri's instrument takes no account of.

**A** SOCIETY has lately been established in Tokio under the name of Kō-jun-sha, which promises to become a very useful institution. Its object is to supply the members with information on any subject desired without any expense and with but little trouble. The Society has a salaried secretary and a staff of clerks; and any member, who is in want of information, of whatever nature it may be, has but to address the secretary, who in his turn communicates with those members who are likely to be well informed on the subject. There is generally no difficulty in obtaining replies to the questions asked, as the Society numbers eighteen hundred members. Among them are found leading men in all stations of life, scientific and literary persons, military officers, government officials, tradespeople, manufacturers and others. Such of the queries as are considered to be of general interest, together with the answers they elicit, are published in the pamphlets of the Association, which appear three times monthly. In the pamphlets already issued we find information about the origin of cattle in Japan, the ancient coinage, the history of the Shinsuisha Match Manufactory, etc. In fine, these publications promise to become a kind of Japanese “Notes and Queries,” which should be found of great interest to foreigners conversant with the language. Foreigners are admitted to the society, and we should think that those who take interest in the language or any other matters pertaining to Japan, would find it convenient to become affiliated. We



understand, further, that queries may be addressed to the secretary in English.

AUSTRALIAN papers of late date announce the sequel to an instance of missionary enterprise which occurred in the early part of 1878. Some natives of New Britain, an island of Western Polynesia, having killed and eaten several Fijian teachers stationed among them by the evangelists of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, threatened to act in an equally summary manner with their wives and children, and all the white people upon whom they could lay their hands. The chief of the proselytizers, however, the Reverend George Brown, believed that the church to which he belonged had occasionally militant duties to perform. It is asserted that, failing to bring his anthropophagist neighbours to reason by peaceful negotiations, he organized an expedition of white settlers and friendly natives against them, drove them into the interior, and burned their villages. Mr. Brown was subsequently arrested at the instance of Chief Justice Gorrie, acting, in the temporary absence of Sir Arthur Gordon, as High Commissioner of Western Polynesia, and charged with murder and manslaughter. The Governor, however, on his return from Europe, disapproved of the summary manner employed in proceeding against the missionary, and ordered Captain Purvis, R.N., commanding H.M.S. *Danaë*, to institute an inquiry into the circumstances which brought on the little war. The naval officer accordingly proceeded to New Britain, and afterwards reported the result of his investigations. In spite of some difficulty experienced in collecting evidence, owing to the length of time which had elapsed since the occurrence of the events, he yet obtained enough testimony to shew that the lives of the white residents had been in all probability saved by the energy of Mr. Brown. Two respectable white men,—one the master of a ketch: the other an American representing a German firm of merchants,—testified that the accused, previous to taking action, endeavoured to obtain some apology from the offending natives. Failing in this he returned to his post, and assembled all the available foreign residents. The council thus called together represented the various interests of the island, both English and German, and all urged Mr. Brown to take immediate steps to suppress the intended rising, of which they seemed assured. This evidence is borne out by a Fijian chief and missionary teacher who was in New Britain at the time of the murder, and who, in virtue of his rank as chief, was called to the council of war. Another gentleman, who is described as having been the means of saving the wives of the murdered and devoured men from sharing the fate of their husbands, but who had nothing to do with the expedition, corroborated the depositions of the other witnesses. He considered that, had no steps been taken to avenge the murder of the teachers, no white man's life would have been safe. He was also of opinion that it would have been impossible to have left the matter till the arrival of a man-of-war. Many aboriginal deponents also affirmed to the danger of the situation. Captain Purvis summed up his conclusions thus:—

"It does not appear to me that the Rev. Mr. Brown did, on his own responsibility, make war on the new Britain people—that the action taken was by the united voices of those persons who were best able to judge of the circumstances, several of whom had been a considerable time in the islands, and knew thoroughly the native character. The question now arises whether the Rev. Mr. Brown, in his capacity as clergyman and missionary, should have been present in the attack. This, I think, may be answered by the fact that the disturbance had commenced by the killing and eating of his teachers, and that the excitement of the natives in consequence placed the lives of the white men and the other native teachers in jeopardy, so that the Rev. Mr. Brown could not fail to

be present, in order to give the full weight of his authority to the proceedings. He, however, appears to have spent most of the time on the beach, trying to bring the natives of some of the other districts to reason, and was not personally in any of the places where most of the natives were killed. I therefore think Mr. Brown, having regard for the safety of those people entrusted to his care, could hardly have acted otherwise than he did."

We read further that Captain Werner, of the German war-ship *Ariadne*, also investigated the matter, and, in his report to his Government, requested that it would convey to the British Government its thanks for the steps taken by Mr. Brown to protect the lives of the German residents with others in New Britain. In accordance with his, Captain Werner's, request, a letter was addressed to the Marquis of Salisbury by Herr Von Munster, the German Ambassador in London. The document speaks in terms of the warmest commendation of, and gratitude for, the missionary's courageous conduct.

CHINESE in Singapore have spontaneously organized a subscription in aid of the distress in Ireland, thus following the example of those of their countrymen who have so liberally contributed to the relief fund originated in Hongkong under the auspices of Governor Hennessy. We have received a copy of a document containing the record of the proceedings of the committee in the latter colony to the 25th of March, when donations had already attained a total of more than \$28,000—a sum which recent local newspapers inform us has since been considerably exceeded. The principal feature of the list is the handsome sums given by Chinese firms and individuals. One hundred dollars is a contribution that frequently occurs. A single establishment gave \$2,000; another \$1,500. Among the Chinese benefactors is the Hoppo of Canton, whose name appears as the donor of \$300.

THE statement published in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, to the effect that Mr. Inouye, of the Daijo Kuwan, who recently sailed for Shanghai, was charged with a reply to an alleged proposition by the Court of Peking, that Japan should enter into an offensive alliance with China, is peremptorily contradicted.

## The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIR; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 24TH, 1880.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 13TH YEAR, 4TH MONTH, 24TH DAY, DO-YO-UI.

### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On Thursday last the M. M. steamer *Tibre* came into port from Hongkong, with London dates to the 7th ultimo. The homeward mails were despatched on the same day, per the P. & O. steamer *Sunda*.

H. I. R. M. S. *Cragoe*, long in these waters, left Singapore en route for Crossstadt on the 29th of March, after a stay of only two days in the former port.

At the date of the last *London and China Express* (March 5th) the O. & O. Company's steamer *Oceanic* was stated to be

loading at Liverpool. News has now been received that the vessel arrived in Hongkong on the 22nd instant. It is very evident, therefore, that the recent alterations have not affected the speed for which this favourite steamer is so celebrated.

The *London and China Express* of March 5th states "that the *Yoritomo Maru*, a beautifully modelled screw-steamer, was launched on the Clyde on the 28th ultimo, by Mr. Robert Thompson, jun. Her dimensions are:—Length over all, 217 feet; breadth extreme, 32 feet; depth of hold, 15.6 feet. The vessel, which possesses all the most modern appliances, has been built to the order of the Japanese Government, and has been superintended during her building by Captains Morgan and Cotter." The *Express* is in error in saying that the steamer was built for the Government; it belongs to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

According to the *Straits Times* the visit of the King of Siam to Europe and America has had to be postponed, owing to the illness of the ex-regent, who was to be left in charge of the government during the absence of His Majesty. The tour is now likely to be deferred until next spring.

Captain Palander, of the Swedish Navy, commanding the *Vega* under Professor Nordenskjöld, has contributed an admirable record of the voyage to the March number of *Blackwood's Magazine*.

It has for some years past been proposed to found a new episcopate of the Church of England in China, the head of the see being located at Chefoo. An endowment fund was opened at the suggestion of Admiral Ryder, R. N., by the Society for promoting Christian knowledge, and has recently received an important increment. The *Times* remarks:—"An anonymous donor has offered the sum of £10,000 as the nucleus of an endowment fund for a new bishopric in North China. The Archbishop of Canterbury has accepted the offer and approved the proposed new see, which is to be regarded as a missionary, and not a territorial one. In consequence of the expense of the necessities of life and travelling it has been decided that the minimum capital for endowment shall be £13,000, and to the offer of £10,000 the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge and the Colonial Bishops' Fund will each probably add £1,000. The Primate will have the selection of the first Bishop, and it is anticipated that an appointment will soon be made."

We trust that strict inquiry will be made into the circumstances of the appalling catastrophe that occurred during the passage of the American ship *Charles Dennis*, from New York hither. The master's report is that on the morning of the 19th of February a seaman, named John E. Bland, was washed overboard. The usual measures were taken to save him: that is to say, a life buoy was thrown, the ship was brought up into the wind, and a boat lowered in charge of Mr. Robert Nelson, the second officer, and manned by four men. At this time the breeze was stiff; and twenty minutes after the boat had left the ship a heavy squall, with snow and hail, came on, and in its passage obscured the view of the small craft which it must also have capsized, as on the weather clearing it was nowhere to be seen. Here, again, it is stated that all that was possible was done by those on board: they wore ship and stood in the direction where the boat was last seen. Arrived on what was thought to be about the spot they hove to under the maintop-sail. At noon the wind and sea were increasing, and all chance of recovering any of the boat's crew was diminishing. Still, a look out aloft was kept constantly until one o'clock in the afternoon, when, in the captain's words, the vessel "shipping large bodies of water, filling cabin and half deck, we were compelled with regret to keep the ship before the wind for the safety of all concerned." The tale is a very sad one; and there is no reason to suppose that all was not done that could be done by those left on board to recover their unfortunate comrades. Still the responsibility of leaving six lives in doubt in mid-ocean is a very serious one; and those concerned should be anxious for the fullest public investigation in order to establish the fact that, when the *Charles Dennis* resumed her course, no vestige of hope of rescue remained.

We do not care to discuss further the mad riot and speculation which took place a fortnight ago in the Yokohama and Osaka

Silver Exchange markets, when 100 silver yen touched, for a moment, 162 yen in paper money. We believe that the proper price for 100 silver yen is in the neighbourhood of 130 paper yen, looking at the present issues of paper money. All above this is the result of speculation, and the desire for rapid wealth on the part of illegitimate traders. It is well known that the Finance Department has in its vaults a reserve in specie of about twenty million yen. This should be stated clearly, over the signature of the Finance Minister. The statement of the National Debt, the amount of Government currency and National Bank currency issued, the Specie reserve held by the Finance Department, together with an exact statement of currency-balances held by the same bureau, should be published monthly, as is done in the United States. The Bank of England statement is published weekly. By this means the Government would give confidence to the people, and strength to its supporters, among whom they may reckon all honest native traders, and nearly the whole of the foreign community.

In a late issue of the *China Mail*, we note the following:—"Many of our readers will learn with genuine regret of the death of Mr. Morland Kerr, formerly Manager of the Oriental Bank at this place. Mr. Kerr had retired from the Bank for some time, and had undertaken the duties of London Agent of the Chinese Insurance Company. Never of a very robust constitution, it is presumed that the severe winter in England must have tried him sorely. The bursting of a blood-vessel was the beginning of his illness; and the end came soon after that symptom showed itself. He was attending to his duties in the City after his strength was not equal to the exertion; and soon after giving up he quietly passed away. A telegram announcing the fact arrived here this morning. It may therefore be said, he died in harness. Mr. Kerr was one of those quiet, unassuming men who made lasting friends wherever he went, and those who knew him in this Colony and elsewhere in China will instinctively feel that there is now one less whom they can count up amongst their friendly memories of the past. He will be as much regretted as he was highly respected in this Colony."

We hear that the Japanese Government purpose establishing a convict station at Sapporo, with the intention of bringing land at that place under cultivation by the aid of convict labour. It is said that, on the 18th instant, Mr. Tsukigata, an attaché of the Home Department, left Tokio for the North, in order to select a site for the proposed operations.

We learn that the Penang-Madras cable is interrupted, but that communication is maintained via Rangoon. This necessitates an increased charge on *Indian* telegrams of 3.3 cents per word.

The numerous friends of Mr. Francois Silvain in Yokohama will be pleased to hear of his promotion to be Chancellor of the French Consulate in Hongkong. The nominee, who till his advancement was First Clerk in the Consulate in this port, has often and for extended periods, filled the office of Chancellor here. People of all nationalities who have had business in the Chancellerie will testify to his ability and willingness to oblige.

The number of visitors to the Bazaar in the Swamp Gardens on the 18th and 19th instant amounted to 8,076 persons. The purchases made exceeded 330 yen in value.

One of the most pressing needs in a community such as exists here in Japan, is a high class school where European boys can obtain an education calculated to fit them for occupying a worthy position in after life. In order to accomplish this object parents have hitherto found it imperative to send their children either to Europe or America, thereby incurring very heavy expenses. We are therefore pleased to learn that educational advantages of no ordinary description are now brought within the reach of the children of foreign residents in Japan, and we hail the establishment of the Hongkong public school as a boon to the scattered foreign communities in the Far East. This school, we gather from the prospectus, is founded and supported by residents in the colony of Hongkong, for the purpose of affording a thoroughly sound public school education to European boys. The institution is under Government supervision, and the course of study is very comprehensive, including (in addi-

tion to the usual branches of English) Latin, Greek, French and the higher mathematics. We also notice that His Lordship the Bishop of Hongkong is the visitor of the institution, and that the committee list contains the names of the Revd. Dr. Chalmers, Sir John Smale, the Honble. Mr. Keswick and other leading gentlemen of the colony, so there can be no doubt that the school has secured support of the most influential and valuable description. Having regard to the advantages offered, the fees are remarkably moderate:—upper school, \$16.00 per term, of which there are three in the year, and lower school, for boys under nine years of age, \$12.00. Arrangements can also be made by which students from places beyond the colony may be accommodated in the house of the head master, Mr. W. M. Sutton, F. G. S., Oxon, who was formerly military and civil service tutor at Woolwich, head master of the Pembroke Corporation endowed grammar school and also of the endowed grammar school of Alcester. This gentleman's experience is a sufficient guarantee that, with adequate support from the public, the Hongkong public school will, in the course of a highly prosperous career, supply a want long felt and much deplored in the Far East.

The *Whitehall Review* mentions that Sir Arthur E. Kennedy, K.C.M.G., C.B., is expected to vacate the Governorship of Queensland shortly, in which case it is highly probable that Mr. Pope Hennessy will be transferred to that Colony from Hongkong. We notice that Sir Arthur and Miss Kennedy intended leaving Brisbane for England about the middle of last month and returning to the colony before the end of the year. It is possible that fresh arrangements may be made when Sir Arthur reaches home, and the statement in the *Whitehall* seems to render it probable that such will be the case. Sir Arthur's term of office in Queensland has still two years unexpired.

There seems to be a possibility of some unpublished letters of Burns being given to the public in New Zealand. The other day there died at Dunedin Mr. Robert Gilkison, the grandson of Richard Brown, who was a crony of the poet in Irvine, Ayrshire. For a number of years he had the custody of all the letters addressed to his grandfather by Burns.

The statue of Admiral Farragut, for which the United States Government gave a commission of £4000 sterling, is now being cast at the foundry of the Washington Navy Yard. It is said that the sculptor, Mrs. Vinnie Ream Hoxie, "in a big gingham apron," superintends every day the preparations for the casting of the statue. The model, which is ten feet high, represents the Admiral on the deck of a ship, standing with his foot upon a coil of rope, and in his hand a marine glass, which he is in the act of raising to his eyes.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* publishes the following extract from a letter of an English officer at Cabul:—"That night some of the bodies were brought in, but mutilated in such a manner that we could not identify them except by parts of their dress. I can't tell you all the indignities they had suffered; their faces smashed in with the butts of rifles, their bodies cut in slashes from feet to head—crimped like a fish, in fact; their throats cut from ear to ear; the hands and feet of many cut off; their toes cut down between each one: in fact, every cruelty exercised that could be devised." And yet, in the face of these fiendish atrocities, there are persons who blame General Roberts for executing their perpetrators!

There is, says the *Deutsches Montags Blatt*, a certain powerful ruler of a somewhat Asiatic country whose son is unfortunately unable to limit his expenses by his income, and consequently often finds himself caught in the pitfalls of impopecuniosity. To pawn jewels belonging to an august relative has been tried before, and the joke is now played out; money, however, must be had, and the ingenious prince hit upon the following idea: One day on parade he suggested to several officers of high rank that a dinner should be arranged at a fashionable restaurant in celebration of the anniversary of some battle. The officers of course consented, and the dinner took place. When the meal was over the cashier of the establishment, according to the custom of the country, came to each guest for his share of the bill, and began with the prince. This august personage, however, condescendingly indicated that the general to his right should have the honour of the first payment. The cashier went the

round and finally presented to the prince the salver, full of notes and gold, for his final contribution. The prince coolly put the money in his pocket, saying at the same time: "Will you tell the proprietor that I intend to pay for the whole entertainment myself, and to put it on my bill?" Whether the restaurateur was paid or not, history does not mention; this much, however, is certain, that a very august personage has recently been compelled to leave the capital, and has been sent down to the south of the Empire on a civilising mission.

A short time since we published the account of a series of murders committed by an Indian "Brave" named "Swift Runner," who killed his mother-in-law (which might perhaps be easily accounted for) and also his wife and several children; the apparent motive being his extraordinary love for human flesh, as he ate the bodies of his victims. We now notice in an exchange that Swift Runner has been hanged at Saskatchewan, Canada, the temperature at the time being 40 deg. below zero. A gallows had been built out of doors so that the Indians could see the execution, but when the officers and prisoner arrived at the spot it was found that part of the scaffold had been used for firewood by the half-frozen crowd. Swift Runner complacently warmed himself at the fire while the gallows was repaired. When everything else was ready the nervous hangman said he had forgotten to bring a strap to fasten the prisoner's arms and legs. The prisoner offered to save further trouble by killing himself with a tomahawk, but his proposition was rejected, and he ate a hearty meal of pemmican with the noose around his neck while a messenger was fetching a strap.

On Sunday evening the Bussan Chinretsu Ba, or bazaar for the display of wares manufactured, or dealt in, in this kon, was formally opened. The institution is intended to afford buyers and sellers an opportunity of displaying and seeing the best samples of merchandize, and is established principally with a view to export. It is situated in the Public Gardens in the Swamp, facing the Creek, and is thus in a central position and easy of access. The stalls are in two buildings, and are occupied by representatives of the largest firms in the district. We noticed at least two Paris medallists from the Exposition of 1878, one Mr. Ota Makadzu, who received a gold medal for his porcelains, and the other Mr. Ito Toki, the well-known silk manufacturer of Yokohama, to whom was awarded a silver medal. The show of bronzes, vases, porcelain and silks, though not large, is very well chosen; and taste and judgment have also been exercised in the selection of the cheaper articles of commerce. Among the more uncommon exhibits are samples of fruit preserved in this neighbourhood, and of white wine manufactured in the Yamanashi Ken, which a connoisseur informed us is of excellent taste and good quality. Then there are some wondrous vases from the Koransha store, and marvels of landscape photography by Mr. Susuki. A number of foreign and Japanese gentlemen engaged in commerce, and the representatives of the press, were invited to be present at the opening ceremony, which was fixed for five o'clock. The buildings and grounds were decorated in the usual Japanese style, but with more than ordinary profuseness; and during the day fireworks of quaint design were exploded at intervals. At half-past five, Their Excellencies Sano Tsunetami, Finance Minister; Shinagawa, Vice Assistant Minister for Home Affairs, and the Governors of Tokio Fu and Kanagawa Ken, entered the exhibition. After a walk through the buildings, accompanied by Mr. Hara Zenzaburo and other members of the Committee, and a careful inspection of the articles on view, they came to a canopy specially prepared for their reception. Mr. Sano in a brief speech explained the object of the bazaar, and urged the merchants of the district to support it, and work diligently to promote and augment the commerce of the nation. A r-past was then served to the guests, for whose amusement a splendid display of fireworks was also provided. At nightfall the place was illuminated with great brilliancy and effect. The exhibition is well worth a visit, not only in order to view the objects it contains, but to gain an idea of the fair prices that should be given for them. Everything in the rooms is for sale, and its cost is labelled upon it.

Among the latest pamphlets issued in Berlin is one entitled "The Russo-Franco-German War of 1880 and 1881, together



with a description of the Festivities in celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Battle of Warsaw." The pamphlet, which is supposed to be published in 1931, describes, in the style of the "Battle of Dorking," a conflict in which German armies contend successfully, by the aid of new military inventions, with the hosts of France and Russia. According to this account, Germany must at present be full of diabolical machinery—torpedoes, gun-cotton, siege artillery, explosive fluids, and man-reaping machines.

The report of the *Challenger* Expedition promises to be almost a unique work when completed. It is to extend to fifteen volumes, and will cost to produce upwards of £4,000. It is not quite easy to understand why only a limited number of copies are to be printed, and why these are to be distributed solely among learned societies. Once produced, the whole cost would be greatly lessened if the work were permitted to have a general sale. The Tokio Geographical Society should endeavour to obtain a copy of the report. We have no doubt it could be readily obtained by application in the proper quarter.

A new development has been imparted to the advertising art by an astute Berlin tradesman named Mielche, who has hit upon the happy expedient of combining announcements of family events, fraught with thrilling domestic interest, with ardent and tempting recommendations of saleable wares. His latest appeal to the public of the German capital runs as follows: "Twins are come to me for the third time. This time a boy and a girl. I entreat my friends and patrons to support me stoutly. Excellent butter, well worth its price. Similarly, sausage and cheese. Berlin, 2nd February; Mielche."

We observe in an English exchange that a Liverpool merchant last year took his son, who was recovering from scarlet fever, (i.e., was in the most infectious stage of the disorder), to stay at a large hotel in Wales. The young man's condition transpired, and there was a general exodus from the house. The landlord thus had his house empty at the busy time, and besides was obliged to go to considerable expense in disinfecting it. He brought an action to recover the loss he had sustained, and it has just been settled out of court by the payment of a large sum, nearly £2,000, inclusive of costs.

The *Examiner* of the 28th of February says:—"The accident to the *Chimborazo* has once more called attention to the serious dangers large steamers of that class incur in exceptionally bad weather. There have been several awkward accidents of late to large steamers, and an opinion is gaining ground that the extreme length of these vessels results in a corresponding degree of weakness. This view of the matter was taken in an interesting paper read a few nights ago at the United Service Institution by Major Moody, R.M.L.I., on the "Construction of Steamships." In support of his contention the writer referred to the daily records of the breaking of shafts in the case of long, narrow ships, although in other structural respects these ships were known to be of a superior class. Their great length allows them to bend and buckle about so much in bad weather and cross-seas that a tremendous strain is brought to bear upon the shaft—that being the only portion which cannot bend—and when once a steamer's shaft is broken she is entirely at the mercy of the waves. Major Moody considers that another great obstacle to the navigation of this class of steamships is the vibration caused by the racing of the engines, combined with the effect of the broken water which rushes upon the rudder from the propeller. This causes the compass to fly about five or six points in rough weather, and makes it difficult to tell what course is being made. The interference with navigation from these structural defects is, in Major Moody's opinion, the principal cause of the loss or injury of 90 per cent. of the steamers that are run ashore. Again, vessels of this kind are such bad sea-boats that frequently in dirty weather water gets down on the stoke-hole floors, and renders it impossible for the firemen to remain below. The fires soon go out, the steamer becomes unmanageable, and, if she does not founder, comes into port a perfect wreck. To obviate the danger of the breaking of shafts, and to improve the steering qualities of steamers, Major Moody advocates the use of Sadler's double-rudder and movable propeller. By this invention both rudders

can be used at the same time, thus giving double steering power to the ships; while the propellers can be raised or lowered by vertical screws either by hand or by steam. Major Moody also recommends that no steamship should be longer than seven times the length of her beam, and that no part of the lines of the ship should be flat, square, or hollow. Whatever may be the causes of the recent mishaps to large steamers, it seems evident that sea-going qualities have been too much sacrificed to the anxiety to attain a very high rate of speed."

In *Eight Months in an Ox Wagon*, Mr. E. F. Sandeman gives some interesting particulars respecting Natal, the Transvaal and the recent war. He does not seem particularly charmed with the Boers or their country. The one is arid and without a railway being run through it is never likely to be of much value. The others are "boorish" in the extreme, and altogether to an English mind an unamiable class of agriculturists. To what desperate straits the Government were run for volunteers the following humiliating poster indicates:—"V. R. Volunteers wanted for the Front and Grand Attack on Secoceni's Town. Loot and Booty Money. Better prospects than the Blaaubank Gold Diggings. Pay awarded £5 before leaving. Same rations as a General. Enrol before it is too late."

We notice in an American journal that "Mr. B. G. Northrup of Connecticut, was more than a year ago requested by General Kiyotaka Kuroda, minister of the Interior Department of his Imperial Japanese Majesty, 'to accept a small token of their appreciation of his service on behalf of Japanese students.' That 'small token' of sincere thanks arrived last month (February) in the form of a beautiful breakfast, dinner and tea-set of china, of about 200 pieces with his initials on each. The exquisite decorations of each piece show why so long a time was needed to complete the set."

So much attention has recently been directed to the enormous and constantly increasing quantity of artificial butter now manufactured, that it may be useful to know how to readily distinguish the difference between the fraudulent and the genuine article. M. Donny remarks, in a recent note to the Belgian Academy, that the two behave very differently when heated to between 150 and 160 degrees in a capsule or test-tube. At this temperature, artificial butter produces very little froth, but the mass undergoes a sort of irregular boiling, accompanied by violent jerks which tend to project some of the butter out of the vessel. The mass grows brown, but this is by reason of the caseous matter separating out in clots on the wall, the fatty portion of the sample sensibly retains its natural color. Natural butter, on the other hand, heated to from 150 to 160 degrees, produces abundant froth, the jerks are much less pronounced and the mass grows brown, but in a different way. A good part of the brown coloring matter remains in suspension in the butter, so that the whole mass has a characteristic brown aspect similar to that of the sauce called *au beurre noir*. All natural butters behave thus, and it is strange, M. Donny says, that this simple method of distinguishing natural from artificial butter has not been indicated before. We are aware that considerable suspicion attaches to some of the compounds sold in Yokohama for butter, the question can now be easily settled.

The local correspondent of one of the London journals writing from Constantinople says with reference to the labours of the Public Works Department in the Ottoman Empire:—

There is one "Route Impériale" which no doubt occupies a considerable portion of the energy of the Ministry of Public Works. I allude to that quarter of a mile between the gate of Yildiz Kiosk and the Palace of Dolmabahçe along which his Majesty makes his weekly procession to mosque. Mud is more in harmony with the Turkish departmental mind than its congenial dust. There is a repose about one to which the other seldom attains; besides, is it not easier to water dust than to cart away mud? Just now that favoured bit of road is in its normal condition, and the mind of the Minister may repose. But his halcyon days are not long; spring and fine weather will shortly come, and the public works must be resumed with their usual vigour. Some dozen water-carts must make their Friday morning parade, each dragged by a sorry animal who looks as if he had hibernated in his harness and is scarcely yet awake. One man drags him by the head, one on each side belabours him with a stick, whilst a fourth wields the leather hose and dashes the water about according to his fancy, totally regardless of all the world besides. What rank he may hold in



the department I can't say, but his proficiency in hydrodynamics would lead one to infer that he had taken a high degree in "L'école du génie dépendant du Ministère." There is no evidence to show that the Ministry of Public Works has gone deeper into hydraulic engineering, since harbours, docks, canals, and works of drainage and irrigation are conspicuous by their absence; and the question of water-supply to Constantinople is as dangerous a subject to approach as though it were another untranslated work of propagandism. Should my stranger friend follow my advice and judge for himself, I fancy he will return a wiser man and feel disposed to agree with me that in the *promise-and-non-performance business* the Turkish Government is without rival. It is pleasant, however, to record some little improvement in another department of the public service. The tall chimneys of the Arsenal, which for some time back had left the snow unsullied, have begun once more to send forth black clouds, which serve to show that the mountain is again in labour. The phases of rest and disturbance are, however, accounted for by some who are believed to be *au courant*. The coal supply from Heraclea fell short, owing to bad weather, says the Marine; or owing to the indisposition of the miners to give further credit, say the others. What was to be done? Turkish talent rose to the occasion. Tenders were invited for the supply of coal to the Arsenal, each tender to be accompanied by a *ten ton sample*. The bait took, the coal merchants hastened to send in their offers and their offerings, which are both being now consumed on the altar of astuteness.

#### ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

##### TOKIO MEETING.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society was held at the Shōbeikuwan, Seidō, Tōkiō, on Tuesday, April 13th; Dr. Divers, president, in the chair.

After the formal business, Mr. Bramsen, in accordance with the notice which he had given at the preceding meeting, moved:—"That three members of the Council and three ordinary members of the society be chosen by this meeting to form a committee whose duty it shall be to consider what measures can be taken to secure uniformity in the transliteration of Japanese words in the Society's Transactions; and that the results of their deliberation, in the form of some rule, be placed before a general meeting for adoption."

After some discussion the motion was adopted, and the following gentlemen were elected members of the committee, with power to add, if necessary, to their number:—

Dr. J. C. HEPBURN,	} as Members of Council.
Mr. SATOW,	
Mr. CHAMBERLAIN,	
Mr. BRAMSEN,	
Mr. KNIPPING,	} as Ordinary Members.
Mr. GUBBINS,	

Mr. Chamberlain then read part of a paper entitled "Suggestions for a Japanese rendering of the Psalms," in which, after reviewing at length the difficulties that beset the translator, he proposed the plan of printing two parallel versions, one a paraphrase and the other a literal rendering in the *Chiyoku-yaku* style. All the scriptures should be treated thus; but in the case of poetical books, the paraphrase should, if possible, be in verse, in order the better to please the native taste. The bulk of the paper consisted of double translations, made according to the principles here advocated; but the latter, having already been privately perused by several members, were not read out to the meeting.

In the discussion which followed, the Rev. J. L. Amerman observed that the Japanese could use their colloquial dialect with the element of vulgarity eliminated. It then became suitable for serious compositions. He knew of several serious publications in the colloquial dialect which had achieved a very wide circulation. He considered that the greatest objection to the plan proposed by Mr. Chamberlain was the fact that there was a double rendering. In translating the scriptures it was very essential that the sacred text should be expressed in one way and one way only. Any paraphrase would be apt to reflect the distinctive doctrinal views of the translator. The experience of those who had used the English prose version of the psalms seemed to show that a paraphrase, versified and amplified, was unnecessary. The present tendency in Japan was towards the extended use of Sinico-Japanese; between which and the colloquial style a gradual approximation seemed to be taking place.

Mr. Satow said he had had the pleasure of reading Mr. Chamberlain's translations into ancient Japanese verse, and he had no

hesitation in saying that they appeared to him to convey the spirit of the English original much more closely than the literal versions. In spite of the success obtained by the author of the paper, he was inclined to agree with the view of the last speaker, that the style would not be found adequate to translating the whole of the Old Testament. The Chinese classics to the follower of Confucius, and the Chinese versions of the Buddhist scriptures to the Buddhist priest, were what the Bible is to the European, and their style ranked as high in the judgment of Japanese as that of the English version in the opinion of Englishmen. If the Chinese versions of the Old Testament already in existence were made to conform more closely to the classical Chinese, it could be read with facility by educated Japanese, and if published with a Japanese translation in the same way as the Chinese classics are, would be easily understood by the common people, who by the medium of the popular newspapers, printed in Chinese characters with Japanese characters alongside, were daily becoming more familiar with the Sinico-Japanese style. Such had been the opinion expressed to him by several Japanese with whom he had conversed on the subject.

Dr. Faulds said that there were elements at work tending to raise the colloquial language out of its present degraded state and the Japanese were beginning to look on the high Chinese style as rather ridiculous, and to compare scholars of Chinese to those painters who were celebrated for their classical pieces, which no one understood, but who failed miserably when they laid themselves open to general criticism by painting something commonplace and intelligible.

Mr. Blanchet handed in copy of a Japanese version of the hundredth Psalm, translated by a committee of missionaries in Sinico-Japanese style.

Mr. Wright asked Mr. Chamberlain whether the plan he advocated was intended to apply to the translation of the Psalms for actual use by Japanese converts to Christianity?

Mr. Chamberlain said that, having already exposed his views at length in the paper now under discussion, he would not take up more than a few moments of the meeting's time. He simply desired to remind Mr. Amerman, who had objected *on principle* to the plan of printing two parallel versions of the Psalms and making one of these versions a poetical paraphrase, that in the chief book of one of the chief churches of Christendom,—the English Prayer-Book,—too such versions were given. That the metrical version was in this particular case a very unsatisfactory one, did not affect the argument. He also begged to correct a statement of Mr. Amerman's to the effect that he (Mr. Chamberlain) had denied the existence of any serious works in Sinico-Japanese, and observed that, after all, the distinction between Sinico-Japanese and the *Chiyoku-yaku* style which he had advocated, was not essential. If, as Mr. Satow seemed to think, the existing Chinese versions of the scriptures are those which are most likely to suit the taste of Japanese readers, then we may find pleasure in the thought that the labour of translation is already accomplished. If, on the contrary, the colloquial, when it shall have been rendered fit for literary purposes, is to be the medium, then in all probability no person now living will survive to see the result. No one would hail with greater delight than himself the substitution of one common easily understood language for the present cumbersome system according to which the Japanese write in a manner different from that in which they speak. But the versions in his paper had been made with a view,—not to a distant future,—but to the present moment, and were intended to be of a kind that would please the educated class, the most important of all classes, leading, as it does, the way in which the masses afterwards follow.

Mr. Satow then read his paper on "Ancient Sepulchral Mounds in Kaudzuke." Some two years ago three mounds were opened, and were found to contain a quantity of pieces of pottery buried in a thick layer of dust, many of them quite perfect, and ornamented in a peculiar manner. Hardly any traces of bodies were found. The material of the vases and *tasse* was coarse black or red earthenware, but the shapes of some were very tasteful. In addition to vessels there had been found fragments of the clay images formerly buried at the graves of persons of rank as a substitute for the more ancient human sacrifices. It was shown that, as late as the year 646

A. D., the necessity of prohibiting these sacrifices still existed. Drawings were exhibited of about forty objects, including vases, *tazze*, iron arrow-heads, a bronze cheek-piece for a horse, two large clay busts, a clay horse's head and earthenware posts of which fences were constructed round the burial mounds.

Dr. Faulds remarked that the presence of bronze and iron in the find was perhaps one of its most interesting features, as it seemed to point to an age of transition.

The usual votes of thanks were passed to the authors of the papers, and the meeting was then adjourned.

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 9th April, 1880.

Five more Russian war vessels have been ordered to China.

LONDON, 19th April, 1880.

A new Russian loan is announced of £15,000,000.

The Elections are concluded, and have resulted in the return of 849 Liberals, 285 Conservatives, and 68 Home Rulers.

#### PARIS LETTER.

PARIS, March 6th, 1880.

(General Topics and Political.)

It is a pretty quarrel as it stands, that between the Jesuits and the Republicans, for both now remain face to face. The Senate has rejected by the unexpectedly large majority of 19 the dynamic "clause 7" of the government education bill, intended to blow up the Jesuits. The Senate was asked to refuse to the Jesuits liberty to teach, and it said, in the name of the Republic, which professes to be the incarnation of liberty, "we exclude none from teaching." The bill is now Hamlet without Hamlet, but religious passions have only become the more excited. The Republicans say that the Jesuits, contrary to the law of association, nevertheless associate; they are permitted to violate the Code, while if we attempt a reunion we shall be prosecuted. We have no objection to the Jesuits existing if all be equally authorized to associate, and if they be deprived of the power and influence they command, by reason of the connection between Church and State. The Ministry avow that the order of Jesuits is inimical to the interests of the country, by training up youth to repudiate the principles of toleration and equality, combined with intellectual freedom—the legacies of the Revolution. If the Jesuits desire to reside in France, they must conform to the law like other religious orders, or depart.

The outcry against the Senate for exercising its very constitutional right, only shows the immense backwardness of the political education of the country, and its impatience to battle constitutionally. If the Senate is merely to be a simple registry office for the bills sent up from the other house, rather than a salutary break, the sooner Louis Blanc's measure for abolishing senators is taken into consideration the better. The Senate has ignored the strong feeling of the country in favor of the rejected clause, which was, after all, but a compromise. The Chamber of Deputies will now, their indignation having cooled, vote a resolution calling upon the Cabinet to enforce the unrevoked laws, prohibiting any and every unauthorized religious confraternity from residing in France. This means the expulsion of the Jesuits—legally. As to its opportuneness and execution, time will decide. On the closing of the Jesuit establishments, will follow an electoral agitation for the disendowment of all religions. Perhaps these thorny subjects would have been allowed to slumber on, had the clerical party not committed the lamentable blunder and folly of joining all its influence with MacMahon and his advisers to crush the Republic, that is, the modern principles it professes, and so successfully propagates. As we sow so shall we reap.

With the departure of Hartmann, has vanished all interest in the diplomatic demand to hand him over to the St. Petersburg hangman. If Russia becomes huffy at France defending her honor and upholding the rights of humanity, she must be allowed to come out of the sulks when she pleases. I have just read a letter from a "Prince," who after much difficulty was allowed to visit the S.S. Peter and Paul fortress—the Russian Bastille—on an island in the Neva. It is also the necropolis of the Romanoff family and visible from the Winter Palace. The Czars are less afraid of suggestions of *Memento quia pulvis es*, than Louis XIV; who built and planted Versailles to screen the sight of St. Denis and its royal sepulchre, but where he was interred—less heart and intestines. This caused his subjects to observe, he was buried as he lived "*sans cœur, sans entrailles*." The governor received the "Prince Special," as one charged with dynamite, and with a sigh ordered an aide-de-camp to act as cicerone.

A clock tower of the prison, on the stroke of midnight, chimes the national hymn, "God protect the Czar," and if a citizen smiles at the ringing out, Melikoff's agents will send him to the casemates. The latter extend under the Neva, and below the ramparts, and have but a tiny hole to admit air and light. On descending to the depths, the officer remarked, "few revolutionists ever ascend them." The cells are full of political prisoners, and before each door is a soldier with fixed bayonet and loaded musket; the straw of the beds is only changed on the birthdays of the Czar and his wife, the dietary is soup minus meat, and black bread; as for water, thanks to the walls of the cell there is abundance. Once a year, too, the writings on the cell walls are scrubbed out, and the prisoners punished for damaging a state residence. The cell occupied by Michel Bakounine, who escaped from Siberia to London, is shown, as also that wherein the Princess Tarakanova—a kind of Mary Queen of Scots—was confined by her successful rival Catherine II., till an unexpected rise of the Neva drowned and so released her. The cells for the Upper Ten political prisoners are lined with mattresses, but in compensation for this luxury, the walls are provided with rings and chains. A tunnel under the Neva communicates with the private study of the Czar in the Winter Palace, the door of which opens by touching a spring. When Paul I. attempted to use the passage in connection with another palace, the assassins struck him as he was half way through the door. It is by this passage that the imperial family passes to obtain a private view of notorious culprits. It appears that Russian ladies when they now go to a ball, wear all their jewels, so that, in case of a surprise by the Nihilists, they may be able to save something from the wreck of matter. Turkish ladies are said to go to bed with all their jewellery in a handbasket by their side, in order to be able to bolt with it, in case the infidels make a raid.

Some women in Paris have formed a society to secure their "rights," and have just held a public meeting: no press invitations were issued, but any authorized journalist, on presenting his card, was welcomed on the platform. The programme was devoted to "demolishing the Bastille of masculine abuses and usurpations," and this was to be accomplished in nine years hence—on the anniversary of 1789—by lectures, meetings, and special journals. All the official ladies had the air of "withering on the virgin thorn;" few were prepossessing—a grave error when men are to be converted, for they give when sued by maidens—young and pretty Shakespeare meant—like gods. Poor old Blanqui hobbled into the presidential chair, to the air of the *Marseillaise*; he avowed his opinion, that a lady ought to preside—a proof that the old conspirator has a ray of sense. Mlle. Ancelero, aged 25, was the *oratrice*. Her features appear as if they had got jammed between a door, but she had quite an agitator's flux of words. She eulogized the "ladies of the commune," and claimed that if they had rights to be shot, they had the same to civic existence. She was very strong in her praise of ex-schoolmistress Louise Michel, now passing her time in New Caledonia, until France shall apologize for having extinguished the Commune. This lady it seems will, on her return, be run by her sisters for the presidency of the Republic; so be warned in time Dauphin Gambetta!

Very strong rumours are afloat respecting the Queen of Italy; quidnuncs hint mysteriously that she has the symptoms of ex-Empress Charlotte; one of her desires is to be allowed to visit the Holy Father. It is said she is subject to fits of excitement since the attempt of Passanante to kill the King. The simple fact is, she is outrageously jealous of her husband who follows in the footsteps of his papa, by having a weakness for ladies like a financier. The ex-Empress Eugenie once flew to Scotland because she thought her lord and master was sometimes a little gay.

The weather is deliciously mild, we almost fear to speak of it lest it it might vanish, just as two aged celebrities never alluded to death, fearing he might overhear and remember them. The Bois de Boulogne is covered with more fashionable vehicles than during the palmiest days of the second empire; only the luxury of the present is solid. Many forgotten celebrities are returning to the front. Prominent is Behague, against whom, on account of her being a tradesman's daughter, all aristocratic salons were once shut; yet by perseverance and tact, by snubbing snubbers, and regarding, as the Princess de Lieven said, "Paris as a city of *invités*," she belongs now to the *crème*, as the Viennese boast, or the *gratin* according to the Faubourg St. Germain. Her husband was a distinguished agriculturist, and on his visiting cards were the words, "cattle breeder." The Duc de Nemours takes his drives sadly. He is considered to resemble Henri IV.: not a bit of it; he is as like Don Quixote as one pea is like another. Old Mme. de Baulincourt is a curiosity, she is the first "flower girl" in the city; all she makes is for charity bazaars. Commerce would give her talent any terms she demanded. There is a story told of her. One day the then English ambassador, Lord Normanby, called at the Elysée to see Prince-President Louis Napoleon; he was ushered into a salon; kept waiting a few minutes too. He commenced to pace the room, and hearing merry laughter in an adjoining apartment, separated only by some tapestry, drew the latter aside, and placing his forefinger on his lip, walked on tip-

toe towards the Prince, who kneeling on one knee had his face covered with his hands concealed in the lap of Mme. de Baulincourt, while around were Miss Howard, Mme. de Contades and others—all playing forfeits. Lord Normanby touched the Prince's hand. "That's Pauline, I know," and on looking up, saw his lordship, who was forced to join in the game for the evening. On the news reaching the Exchange that the English ambassador was closeted for hours with the President, funds fell eleven sous—because the ladies who at once "farmed" the game of forfeits, ordered their brothers to buy up all stock offered for sale, and so realized millions, by propagating a *canard*.

The son of Musurus-Bey, the Turkish ambassador at London, has taken a few wrinkles from the infidels; he made the acquaintance of Mlle. d'Imécourt, heiress. Ottoman stock is next to worthless, and she belongs to a distinguished family of the Faubourg St. Germain. He induced her to elope with him last winter to London, where they were married. After fifteen days—half a honeymoon—her family discovered her, brought her to Paris, where she is now in a convent, pending the decision on the application to annul the marriage. The Prince de Bauffremont has his troubles. His wife, on being separated from him by the French courts, went to Saxony, and, after six months residence, took out letters of naturalization as a German subject; next she married the Prince Bibesco, an old admirer, by whom she has a family. On the occasion of the appearance of each little stranger, de Bauffremont files an affidavit that he is not its father. The court believes him. Valmignot is a matrimonial agent, and sues Grimbarre for fr. 517—not fees, as he charges nothing for making couples happy; he is a fruiterer and clothier, and the bill is for leeks, salad, and onions supplied to the bride to soften her heart, plus the cost of Sunday pantaloons furnished to the lover, who when he got tired of one pair, had them brushed up and sold to his father-in-law on the sly, at half-price.

A *mirant* writes to prove that our mental superiority is due to chairs; man he observes originally had a tail—Lord Montbodo maintained we have them still, only pride urges us to conceal them—but as he began to rule he required to be seated. Hence, the necessity of chairs: this led to the contraction of the spinal cord, and the concentration of its nervous matter upwards till it concentrated and predominated in the brain.

There is an eminent doctor in Paris, so stout and so afflicted with gout, that he cannot ascend the staircases to examine his patients; he remains in the hall; an invalid comes down or appears on the landing, replies to all questions; then the recipe is written. The doctor can boast of killing fewer persons than are disposed of by his more active confrères.

Business is flourishing: the demand for space at the cosmopolitan ham and gingerbread fairs is double that made at any former animal gathering. Dealers in horse and ass flesh, whether fresh, corned, smoked or in sausages, must state the fact distinctly on their sign-boards or run the risk of being heavily fined. Meat-biscuits are finding a brisk sale and make capital soup. In countries where beef and mutton are next to nominal in price and flour nearly ditto, they might be profitably compounded, baked and exported.

The queen of beauties at this season's official balls, is Mme. Gautherot, a blonde and an American. This is a fact as important to ladies as the blowing up of a Winter Palace or the sacking of a Summer one.—Worth, the man-milliner, is to be married.—On an average it costs one million of francs to consecrate a French King, three-quarters of that sum, to marry him, and a quarter to bury him. It entailed an outlay of ten millions to get rid of Napoleon III.—Two surgeons performing an operation: "It is done!" "So soon! let me give him a touch of my lance, too, to secure my fee."

#### LONDON LETTER.

LONDON, March 4th, 1880.

We have been somewhat excited by the report of an earthquake in Tokio, which was telegraphed to England by Professor Milne; the gravity of the phenomenon being estimated by a friend of the Professor's, Mr. Dickins, according to the amount expended in transmitting the telegram. I think it was Mr. Dickins also who stated that the Japanese had predicted many earthquakes about this period and Mr. Dickins thinks they will prove correct (this is cheering for you!) because they are admirable weather-prophets. This is no doubt the case, but then all people who live in the vicinity of high mountains, particularly in sight of an isolated peak such as Fusi-yama as depicted on screens, fans, plates, and every conceivable article of furniture in every shop in London, must be good weather-judges. They can see the effect of every slight change in atmospheric pressure long before it would be felt in the plain, and the top of a mountain is the best weather-cock you can have. But I am not meteorologist enough to comprehend the connection between atmospheric pressure and earthquakes, or how an earthquake can be foretold. I asked my Japanese friend about this the other day, and he maintained that the atmosphere had much

to do with these subterranean movements, though he could not explain it in a way that was at all intelligible to me. Indeed he told me some things which required several grains of salt to assimilate, though I was careful not to hurt his feelings by betraying the least incredulity. For instance he mentioned some hot springs on the sea coast about two days' journey from Tokio, which are subject to a daily tide; at a certain hour every day, if not twice a day, the boiling water being thrown up with great force and subsiding again during the interval. He also described to me a certain cave or subterranean passage of such vast extent that Lord Lytton's "Coming Race" might find room for developing their peculiar institutions therein, but such stories seem to belong to the fabulous era in every country. I am, however, somewhat anticipating. I must tell you that according to arrangement I presented myself one evening last week at Mr. O——'s rooms in Tavistock Square and was agreeably entertained by him, and extremely interested in all I saw and heard. At the risk of offending against the laws of hospitality to a small extent I must tell you a little of the household economy. The door was opened by a boy in buttons and a queerish motley uniform. I found my friend engaged in a game of whist—it was at 6 o'clock in the afternoon—the party being another Japanese gentleman Mr. K——; Mr. P——, an American; and Miss B——, a handsome woman of about 30; of whom to prevent any misapprehension I shall first give some account. She is the elder of two daughters of a Lincolnshire rector, who died three years ago, leaving a very modest competence to the daughters, on which, however, they might have lived fairly well had they united their forces as was the father's intention they should. This was found to be impossible, however, the two sisters each possessing strongly marked characteristics of an opposite kind. They had both been carefully educated so far as book-learning went, having acquired not only a competent knowledge of English history and literature, but considerable proficiency in the Latin and Greek classics. In addition to these accomplishments, Eva, the elder, had fortunately, or unfortunately as the event may prove, dipped rather deeply into modern social science. The effect of this training on an imaginative and original mind, allowed to assimilate ideas with very little friction or disturbance from living men or women, is never to be predicted beforehand. And of all men who are blind to the influences which are secretly moulding the character of their children, especially their daughters, commend me to a plodding, conscientious, humdrum English clergyman. The good Dr. B——'s ideal for his daughters was—whether within or without the pale of holy matrimony—a life of parochial usefulness adorned by scholarly culture. Yet here is his eldest daughter, within three years of his death, following a perfectly independent career in the great world of London. She confessed to me, the second evening I passed in her company, that from a rather early age, even while her mother was yet alive, she chafed somewhat at the daily, weekly and monthly routine of a clergyman's religious observances, which she declares she was never able to see the good of. It was decency or constraint, therefore, rather than devotion, that kept her in the groove befitting a clergyman's daughter. All the while her mind, as she thinks, was growing too big to be held down by those brittle bonds. She longed to see the world, to play a part in it, to do something to improve the human race in ways where she could see the result in visible and tangible shape. She was captivated, she told me, by Mr. Disraeli's oracular *Sanitas Sanitatem* some years ago, and she professes more confidence in the utility of good drainage than of the distribution of tracts. But to cut a long story short, being obliged to make a living, she had to consider, not what she would like to do, but what people would the most readily pay her for doing, and having unbounded confidence in herself she sought and obtained an engagement on the stage. At first it was on trial, but she had not been acting a week when the managers offered her a season's engagement at £10 a week. This was between two and three years ago, since when she has been improving her position pretty steadily. I have not seen her act, not being much of a theatre-goer myself, but I notice her name favourably mentioned by the newspaper critics who know everything. Well, she occupies rooms with her maid in the same house where my Japanese friend has his apartments, and they interchange civilities occasionally on an afternoon, which explains my surprising the party at a rubber.

I was interested in a discussion which fell out, quite accidentally between the two Japanese gentlemen on Political Economy as applied to the immediate circumstance of their own country. They were polite enough to carry on their dialogue in English, which enabled Mr. P. and myself to interject a word here and there. O——, it seems, has been studying all the books on the subject, from Adam Smith to Mr. Fawcett, and has become a convert to the principles of Free Trade, which, like all *doctrinaires*, he would apply universally and without exceptions. K—— on the other hand, is a pure experimentalist, shaking his head over so-called "principles," scowling at theories and shuddering at hypotheses. Because Free Trade is acknowledged to be good for one country (and he fully admitted this in the case



of England) it not only is not proven that it will be good for every other country, but the experience of England is not even a presumption in its favour elsewhere. For Japan he is a decided protectionist, although he abjures the title, and he is much delighted with what he hears at the Japanese Legation that, in the new Treaties, the Japanese Government will be allowed to impose high duties on imports. That this will curtail the import trade he fully admitted, but it was the very thing he wished to see. Japan, he said, had been buying more than she could pay for out of her own products, and was consequently impoverished, all her coin being exhausted. Mr. O—— ventured to argue, according to the text books, that coin is not money or that money is not value or that value is not wealth; that the "commodities"—that is the politico-economical word for goods or merchandize—which Japan imported, were useful or they would not be bought, and so forth. But the other broke in upon his flowing periods with scornful impatience, asking him how he felt about it when he had emptied his pockets and used up his credits in buying things which at the worst he could have done without, and at the best he would have been ten times better, both in body and mind, to have gone without. This argumentum ad hominem cut deeper than I was aware of at the time, for it appears that the very week before, Mr. O—— had been beholden to his friend for administering to his financial necessities under circumstances not very dissimilar from those to which K—— had alluded in his argument.

#### JAPANESE PERSONAGES.

##### VII.

##### HIS EXCELLENCY HIJIKATA MOTOHISA.

**H**IJIKATA Motohisa, Assistant Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household Department, belongs to an aristocratic family of Tosa. It is now little over twenty years since he arrived in Yedo and entered the educational establishment conducted by Wakayama whence he subsequently changed to that of Ohashi. Hijikata pursued his studies for about four years, during which time he became intimately acquainted with many of those warriors and statesmen who have since by their actions indelibly written their names on the pages of the history of Japan. After returning to his native province he was ordered to Kioto by his feudal lord in 1863, and in the month of August of the same year he received an appointment in the Imperial College (Gakushuin). In this position Hijikata greatly distinguished himself, and made manifest the possession of those abilities and aptitudes which have gradually led him to his present important office in the *entourage* of the Emperor.

Hijikata accompanied Sanjo Sanetomi and the imperial Ministers to Choshu, and subsequently in 1865 to Chikuzen. While at the latter place he was commissioned by Sanjo to visit Kioto and obtain intelligence respecting the course of events. At this particular time strict measures were being taken to arrest all fugitive members of the Tosa clan and Hijikata was therefore in imminent danger. However, he managed to remain undetected in the Satsuma yashiki at Inadekawa, and thus was afforded an opportunity of gaining the information he desired through the imperialists of Kioto.

The Bakufu Government now determined upon the second expedition against Choshu, and as soon as Hijikata received the news he at once returned to Chikuzen, when he lost no time in acquainting Sanjo with all the intelligence he had gathered during his perilous visit to Kioto. During all this time Hijikata was in constant communication with the leaders of the movement for the restoration of the imperial authority, and devoted all the resources of a fertile mind, rapid to conceive and daring in execution, to the accomplishment of a project fraught with such important consequences to his country. Accordingly, when Tokugawa Keiki resigned the office of Shōgun in December, 1867, we find the subject of this memoir accompanying Sanjo and the imperial ministers in their triumphant return to the capital from which a few years before they had hastily fled, yielding to circumstances and hoping for the more prosperous time now happily arrived.

The coveted reward of long, faithful and devoted services had at length come, the imperial authority was fully restored, and Hijikata found himself not passed over in the distribution of honours among the brave men who risked all that life holds most precious in their unswerving attachment to the rightful sovereign. First appointed assistant military inspector, and subsequently Hanji of the local government of Yedo, in May, 1861, Hijikata at the head of a body of troops dispersed a rebel rising at Kozuke, and in 1869 he

received further recognition of his loyalty by being awarded a pension of one hundred koku of rice. In the following year disturbances occurred among the people of Choshu; and Tokudaiji Dainagon was despatched by the imperial authorities to act the part of peace maker. Hijikata was associated with Tokudaiji in his mission which proved a complete success; and on their return both envoys received presents of silk brocade and money, while Hijikata was also decorated with the senior fifth rank of the Japanese Order of Merit and appointed a grand secretary. In 1877, further promotion was conferred upon Hijikata: he received the honorable office of chamberlain of the first class. This position he continued to occupy worthily until the recent changes took place when he became Assistant Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household Department.

#### JAPANESE PARABLES.

##### V.

**A** GENTLEMAN who was passionately fond of field sports happened to shoot a large stork. Carrying the bird home in triumph he instructed his cook to roast it whole, and, so proud was he of his achievement, that he invited all his friends to a grand banquet in order that they might regale themselves on the proceeds of his skill.

Early the following morning the cook set to work to prepare the stork for the spit; but, while his attention was diverted for a few seconds, a stray cat, taking advantage of the opportunity thus afforded, pounced upon the bird and devoured nearly the whole of one leg before the theft was noticed. As may easily be imagined the man was in a sad quandary; but being a quick-witted knave he bethought him of a plan by which he hoped to divert the inevitable wrath of his master when he came to discover the mutilation of his much-prized stork.

By the appointed time the guests bidden to the feast arrived, and the viands were placed on the table. The host quickly noticed that the stork was minus one leg, and flew into a violent passion. Sending for the cook he pointed out the condition of the bird, and angrily demanded an explanation. The cook, however, appeared in no whit surprised and said in the most grave and calm manner possible:—

"Why, Sir, a stork has, as you must be well aware, only one leg."

This reply increased the gentleman's fury, but, being unwilling to further disturb the harmony so essential on festive occasions, he dismissed the man without comment. The flippant explanation of his servant, however, rankled in his mind, and he accordingly sent for him very early the next morning and questioned him again. The cook still adhered to his assertion of the previous evening and offered to give ocular demonstration of its truth, if his master would only accompany him a short distance into the country *at once*. Although he was much incensed, the gentleman's curiosity was excited, and he agreed to the proposition. They accordingly went a little way until they reached a swamp close to a river, where three storks were noticed asleep supported on one leg.

"Now, Sir," said the cook, "look at those storks. You see they have only one leg. Just as I told you!"

"Yes, so it seems," replied his master, "but I'll very soon show you the other legs;" and, as he spoke, he ran towards the birds shouting and clapping his hands.

The noise of course awoke the storks and they sailed off with the full complement of legs trailing away gracefully behind them. Turning back to his cook the gentleman said, quite jubilantly;—

"Look at them, you rascal! Don't you see they have two legs?"

"Yes, I see they have two legs *now*, but I also saw that they had only one leg until you, by your exertions, caused them to show another. If you had only acted in the same way to the stork last night, no doubt it would have done the same; and then all this potter would have been avoided."

The master was much amused at the wit displayed by his servant and he gave him a handsome reward for the amusement he had afforded, instead of what he deserved—a severe punishment for his carelessness.

M.

[We recollect something very closely resembling this fable in other languages—Ed. J. W. M.]



## SYLVAN SOUNDS.

(From the Japanese.)

## XI.

## THE SCATTERING OF THE BLOSSOMS.

Fair is the sheen of the sapphire heaven,  
Calm and clear:

Fair the radiant cloud of blossoms,  
Far and near!

In my garden's narrowing spaces,  
Bough with bough half interlaces,  
Branches droop, with fragrance cumbered.  
Blushing bud and bloom unnumbered  
Twine themselves in soft embraces.  
Breaths of perfume blend together,  
Wafted thro' the golden weather.

Hark! the God of wind is blowing,  
Fierce and strong of heart is he;  
And he rends the fairest floweret  
From the blossom-laden tree.  
In a foam-like snow descending,  
Drifting, eddying, wildly blending,  
Or, like snowy mist-clouds driven,  
Fluttering, scattered, tossed and riven,  
From the topmost bough they fall  
Over all.

O what beauty! O what gladness!

Thus to see  
Fold on fold of filmy whiteness,  
Veil the scene in bloom and brightness!  
Yet there lurks a subtle sadness,  
In the airy flood of fragrance  
Borne to me.

F. B. H.

Tokio, 24th April, 1880,

## JAPANESE NEWS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

## COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says: "the King of Corea is going to despatch an Ambassador to this country. The cause of this step is said to be that the Coreans are disturbed at the action of the Japanese Government in sending police to the new port of Gusan. The object of the mission is therefore thought to be to ask the Japanese authorities not to take such active measures at present."

Mr. Seki, Governor of Ehime, arrived in Tokio on the 17th instant.

His Excellency Kono, Minister of Education, has been appointed a member of the suite to accompany His Majesty the Emperor, on his intended visit to the provinces.

Their Majesties the Empress and Empress-Dowager will accompany His Majesty the Emperor, as far as Taka-ido.

The Prime Ministers, Privy Councillors and other officials, are going to present various sums of money towards the construction of the new Imperial Palace.

The Chief of the Colonization Department has sent in an application to the Prime Minister, for permission to establish an office for fixing the current price of goods in Yesso.

Mr. Hanabusa, *Chargé d'Affaires* for Corea, was appointed Resident Minister in that country on the 17th instant.

Mr. Watanabe, Chief Secretary of the Daijo Kuwan, was transferred to the Department of Foreign Affairs, on the same day.

General Noza has been nominated to accompany His Majesty the Emperor on his visit to the provinces.

The *Uochi Shinbun* mentions a rumour that His Excellency Tamano, Assistant Minister of Justice, is to be transferred to the Presidency of the Dai-shin-in: that Kenji and Senator Watanabe is to be appointed Assistant Minister of Justice: and Kishira, President of the Dai-shin-in, a Kenji.

The Aikokusha (Patriotic Society) of Osaka, is going to apply to the authorities for permission to hold its meetings under the provisions of the new regulations.

The students who recently passed the examination in the Imperial College of Engineering, are to be despatched next June to different districts, for the purpose of practising surveying.

The new criminal code has been passed in the Senate.

Those prefectures which have not yet been brought within the telegraph system, will have telegraphic communication extended to them out of the moneys appropriated to the Telegraph Department for the current year. If these funds prove insufficient, the work will be completed next year.

A telegram has been received in Tokio, that Mr. Sakata, and the other commissioners and exhibitors at the Sydney Exhibition, left that city for Japan on the 17th instant.

His Excellency Nagaoka, Minister to Holland, was entertained, by the Envoy in Japan for the Netherlands, at a dinner in the Grand Hotel, on the evening of the 19th instant.

Mr. Watanabe, Governor of Fukuoka, is shortly expected in Tokio, on official business connected with the construction of the harbour at Hakata.

Mr. Matsuda, Governor of Tokio, will entertain the German Minister at the Enri-Kwan, on the 25th instant.

The *Osaka Nippo* gives it as a current report that the new Governor of Osaka will probably be Mr. Iwashita, a member of the Senate. This gentleman was formerly secretary to Mr. Goto Shojiro, at the time he was Governor of the southern city.

It is estimated that the sum of about 45,000 yen will be required for the forthcoming Imperial Progress. This amount is much less than that spent on the Imperial Progress in 1878.

Mr. Asakura, the superintendent of the Ikuno silver mine, lately discovered a new vein of silver ore at Koyama, situated a short distance beyond the Ikuno mine.

His Excellency Nabeshima, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Rome, will leave for his post on the 28th instant.

The local assembly in the prefecture of Hiogo, is to be opened for business on the 1st of May next.

On Monday last, Tokunaga, a rice merchant in the capital, forwarded a petition to the Tokio Fucho authorities, respecting the suspension of the rice guilds. We hear that he also demanded an interview with the Governor.

The total number of police in Tokio amounts to 4,647 men.

Messrs. Kataoka and Kono, the representatives of 94,733 persons who compose the Aikokusha, have forwarded a petition on the establishment of a National Assembly to the *Daijo Kuwan*, where its receipt was rejected. The delegates then presented the memorial to the *Genro In*, where it was received on the 19th instant.

His Excellency Iwakura, Junior Prime Minister, entertained the German Minister and a number of foreign gentlemen, on Monday last, at his private residence at Takarada-cho.

Mr. Ashiura, Vice Superintendent of the Yokohama Custom House, has left for Wakayama on leave of absence.

His Excellency Sano, Minister for Finance, will shortly inspect the Yokohama Custom House.

Mr. Iida, Under Secretary of the Finance Department, accompanied by Mr. Hattori, a *Sakan* of the 7th class, has been ordered to proceed to Saitama and eleven other prefectures on some business connected with exchange.

Mr. Wada, an officer of the Agricultural Bureau, left Tokio on the 21st instant for Iwateshiro, in the prefecture of Fukushima.

Kwazoku M'nezono, as the representative of all the nobles in Kioto, has arrived in Tokio, to inquire after the health of His Majesty the Emperor.

Mr. Chida, the new Governor of the prefecture of Hiroshima, left the capital for his post on the 21st instant.

Judge Kishira, President of the Dai-shin-in, has resumed the duties of his office on the 21st instant, having recovered from his recent illness.

Judge Miyashi, President of the Yokohama Saibansho, has been transferred to the Secretariat of the Judicial Department.

A native paper states that His Majesty the Emperor accompanied by the Empress and Empress Dowager left the palace at 10 a.m. on the 21st instant, and proceeded to the Fukiage Park to witness an exhibition of sword and lance exercise on horse-back, conducted under the direction of

Kwazoku Yama-no-uchi, the ex-Daimio of Tosa. There were also present the Princes of the Blood, the members of the Cabinet and other dignitaries, among whom were Kwazoku Shimadzu Tadayoshi, who gave the exhibition of *inn-o-mono* the other day in the same park. The entertainment commenced by Mr. Hakodate riding the horse lately presented by General Grant. His Majesty was so pleased with the skill of the rider and the graceful manner in which he showed off the beauties of the noble animal, that His Majesty asked Mr. Hakodate to repeat his performance, which he did, bare-backed, to the great astonishment of all present. Then the sword and lance exercise was gone through, the gentlemen taking part being divided into two bodies of nineteen men each, all armed with swords and lances, and mounted on horse-back. Victory inclined first to one side, then to the other; and no decisive advantage had been gained by either party at four o'clock when His Majesty ordered that the sports should cease, and returned to the palace.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that "Mr. Inouye, Chief Secretary of the Daijo Kwan, left for Shanghai the day before yesterday (the 21st instant) in the *Takasago Maru*. We hear that as the Chinese Government is going to declare war against Russia, it requested our Government to assist China with an armed force, and the object of Mr. Inouye's mission is to convey an answer to the Peking Government. But as China and Russia are both nations with which Japan has friendly treaty relations, we must, of course, preserve a strict neutrality. It would therefore be quite impossible for our Government to comply with the request of the Chinese Government. At any rate, if war really does break out between the two countries, it will indeed be a very important matter for the East, and our military officers are accordingly carefully watching the progress of events. It is also said that Mr. Inouye's mission is to a certain extent connected with the Loochoo question."

[The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of the day following that on which this report was published denied the accuracy of the rumour.]

His Excellency Nagaoka, Envoy Extraordinary to the Hague, entertained the Foreign Representatives and his friends, at a farewell dinner at the Seiyoken Hotel in the public gardens of Ueno, to-day. He will leave for Europe on the 28th instant, and will be accompanied by His Excellency Nabeshima, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Rome. Their Excellencies Awoki, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Berlin, General Ida, Minister to the Court of Vienna, and Yanagisawa, Minister to the Court of St. Petersburg, are all to proceed to their respective posts early next month.

A geography of the island of Yesso is about to be published by the Colonial Department. The work has been entrusted to Mr. Secretary Kounaki, who is said to be well qualified for the task.

The local assemblies of the prefectures of Chiba and Hiogo are to meet on the 1st of next month.

The 14th of next month, being the third anniversary of the death of His Excellency Okubo Toshimichi, the late Minister of the Interior, religious ceremonies are to be performed at his *yashiki* at Kasumigaseki, and at his grave at Aoyama. A representative of the Emperor will be in attendance.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* says:—"It is currently reported that two or three of the articles in the recently issued Regulations for Public Meetings are to be revised, but we cannot tell if the report be correct or not."

We read in the same paper that it is rumoured the United States have made a treaty of friendship and commerce with Corea, through the intermediation of Japan.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

Rear-Admiral Hayashi, commander of the Eastern Naval Division, inspected the *Amaki Kan* on the 17th instant. The vessel left Yokohama for Corea on the following day.

The military cadets of the Kiododan are under orders to proceed to the district of Chichibu-gori, in the prefecture of Saitama, for the purpose of practising field manoeuvres.

All the military forces that were reviewed on the Narashino Plains, returned to the capital on Saturday last.

The *Kongo Kan*, having received a thorough overhaul, has returned from Yokosuka and is now the flag-ship.

At Tawarazaka, in the prefecture of Kumamoto, the most severe engagements took place which were fought during the South-Western Rebellion in 1877. In that locality alone, over four thousand men lost their lives, and it is now proposed to erect a monument to the memory of those slain on the field of battle. The inscription on the monument will be written by His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa, who commanded the loyal army during the sanguinary battles around Tawarazaka.

The reserve force that was called out recently was disbanded on the 19th instant.

Five military cadets, accompanied by a Major, are to be sent to Russia to study the language, and otherwise obtain information respecting that country.

The *Tenkuba Kan* having now been completely overhauled, Captain Sagaura and all the crew have gone on board. The vessel has had her engines tested, and will be stationed at Shinagawa until she leaves for America. Rear-Admiral Nirei inspected her on the 21st instant.

Work on the *Jingei Kan*, which is now being built at Yokosuka, has been hastened by order. It is said that it is desired to complete the vessel before His Majesty sets out on his approaching visit to the provinces, and that she will be despatched to Kobe and stationed there.

Of the students belonging to the Kiododan who lately successfully passed their examination, seven were appointed to the cavalry; sixteen to the commissariat; eight to the Tokio Garrison; four to the Osaka Garrison, and the same number to the Kumamoto Garrison.

Generals Noze, Tani, and Miura, are shortly going to inspect the different garrisons.

#### INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

The new tea from the provinces of Totomi and Izu, which arrived in Yokohama a short time ago, has been exported. It realized from \$80 to \$85 per picul, being fancy garden tea, but the quantity was only about ten piculs.

The *Shurio Maru* brought from Osaka, on the 16th instant, 100,000 trade dollars for the Expenditure Bureau of the Finance Department.

The number of visitors to the competitive exhibition in Osaka, for the fifty-one days it remained open, was 8,936. The tickets sold during the same period realized 114 yen 56 sen.

A heavy gale suddenly sprung up on the 10th instant at Kuraki-gori, and occasioned great damage to the young wheat in that district.

A special meeting of the Tokio Marine Insurance Company has been held, in the premises of the Fifteenth National Bank.

The *Takasago Maru* bought the sum of \$130,000 to the Expenditure Bureau from Kobe, on the 16th instant.

From a native paper we reprint the following account of the daily coining capacity of the Osaka Mint:—1,000,000 yen in 20 yen, 700,000 yen in 10 yen, 500,000 yen in 5 yen, 250,000 yen in 2 yen and 100,000 yen in 1 yen gold pieces. In silver 1 yen pieces, 100,000; 40,000 yen worth of 50 and 20 sen; 25,000 yen in 10 sen silver; and 10,000 yen in 5 sen silver pieces. The copper coining department is capable of turning out 3,600 yen in 2 sen copper; 2,500 yen in 1 sen copper, and 8,300 yen in 5 rin coins.

A Japanese tea merchant in China, writing to a fellow merchant in Kobe, says:—"The tea crop, which is the principal article of export in China, is likely to prove a failure this year, and the price has already risen considerably."

An Industrial Exhibition is to be open in the prefecture of Iwate, from the 1st until the 31st of May next.

The application made by Kwazoku Shimadzu to the Finance Department for a loan of 500,000 yen, on the security of his pension bonds, for opening the mines on his property, was granted on the 21st instant. The loan will be repaid in five equal annual instalments.

The Native Chamber of Commerce in Yokohama is to be formally opened on Monday next.

The establishment of a Chamber of Commerce in Kagoshima is now under consideration.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The prohibition in Kioto against fencing was removed on the 8th instant.

Mr. Goto, the proprietor of the Takaabima Mine, has written

to the Governor of Nagasaki, stating that the deaths caused by the recent explosion in the mine were forty-seven, and that the same number of men were injured more or less severely. Eight horses were killed by the explosion.

A native paper states that the Nagasaki Kencho is about to show an example which may be followed throughout the country with advantage; it is going to repair the road between Fukuoka and Saga.

The races at Toyama Park commenced at 3 p.m. on Saturday last, but were not well attended in consequence of the weather being unfavourable. On Sunday last, however, there were many visitors, and the different events caused considerable excitement. Some of the racing was very good, and, altogether, a very enjoyable day was spent.

It being discovered that the silver obtained from Corea contains some gold, an analysis was made at the Osaka mint, and it was found that the percentage of the superior metal was .005.

Great exertions are being made to complete the Osaka-Yama tunnel on the extension of the railway from Ootsu, prior to the visit of His Majesty the Emperor. Work is now carried on day and night, and the tunnel is expected to be finished before the end of May. It is reported that when the line is open to Tsuruga, it will be further extended to the town of Nagoya, in the province of Owari.

Yokoyama, a sword-smith living in Nagafune Mura, in Okayama Ken, has manufactured a sabre and presented it to the War Department as a sample.

A new journal called the *Tokio Shimban*, made its first appearance in Kioto, on the 17th instant.

On the night of the 13th instant, about a thousand farmers from the surrounding villages assembled in the district of Mizuuchi in the prefecture of Nagano. They armed themselves with miscellaneous weapons, and separating into several parties marched to attack the Kencho authorities. On the way they set fire to buildings and committed other acts of violence. News of the disturbance was sent to the Nagano Police Station, whence police sergeants and men to the number of fifty were despatched to the scene of riot, and succeeded in quelling the disturbance. Although a number of the ringleaders were arrested, the people are still in a state of excitement. No reliable information as to the cause of the trouble is yet to hand, but it is said to have arisen in consequence of the increase of local taxes and the distress thus brought about among the poorer classes of the district.

Mr. Shibusawa, President of the First National Bank, will leave for Osaka in a day or two.

A fire occurred at Yoshioka, Sendai, at 2.30 p.m. on the 20th instant, and destroyed about one hundred and sixty houses, a police station and eight telegraph posts, before it was extinguished.

A native paper states that cholera made its appearance at Kikizu Mura, in the province of Hizen and prefecture of Nagasaki, on the 14th instant.

From a similar source we learn that an out-break of small-pox has taken place at Saku-gori, in the prefecture of Nagano. Over five hundred persons, including numbers of grown up people, have been attacked, and above one hundred and fifty have already succumbed to the disease.

The *Meiji Maru*, the Lighthouse Department tender, lately returned from a cruise on the western coast, and is shortly to leave for the north to survey an anchorage which it is proposed to establish in the Straits of Tengaru. After this has been done, the *Meiji* will visit the lighthouse at Hakodate, and subsequently the north-west coast of Yesso, returning to Yokohama via the Island of Sado.

The lighthouse situated on the island of Okinoshima, in the harbour of Shimabara, has been destroyed by fire.

The *Saikai Shimban* says that an emence has occurred among the men employed in the Takashima coal-mine, and was not quelled without great difficulty.

The total number of private buildings in Tokio Fu is 253,844, covering about 4,360,814 *taubo* of ground. Of these 172,482 houses, covering 3,136,858 *taubo*, are in the city, and the remainder are in the suburbs. There are also 4,331 buildings belonging to the Government, which cover 218,913 *taubo*.

The total number of ships owned by private individuals

throughout the whole of Japan is:—151 steamers, 54 sailing-vessels, 18,908 Japanese junks of a carrying capacity of over fifty koku, 432,446 junks under fifty koku, and 155,263 small boats which are exempt from taxation.

#### IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

##### TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 18th April, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	¥10,093.10
Merchandise, &c. ....	¥ 851.71

Total ..... ¥10,934.81

Miles open, 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	¥ 8,986.15
Merchandise, &c. ....	¥ 1,107.02

Total ..... ¥10,093.17

Miles open, 18.

##### KORE AND OOTZU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 18th April, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	Yen 20,965.74
Merchandise, &c. ....	" 1,548.31

Total ..... " 22,514.05

Miles open, 55.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c. ....	Yen 14,081.94
Merchandise, &c. ....	" 1,179.69

Total ..... " 15,261.63

Miles open 47.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

##### TELEGRAMS.

London, March 24th.—The Royal Proclamation dissolving Parliament was issued to-day. It expresses thanks for the support accorded to the policy of the Government, the whole object of which has been to defend the Empire and secure peace. It states that the foreign relations of the country are friendly and favourable to the maintenance of tranquillity in Europe, and concludes by hoping for a speedy settlement in Afghanistan.

March 25th.—Her Majesty the Queen leaves Windsor Castle for the Continent to-day.

The Empress Eugenie has sailed for Natal.

March 26th.—Mr. Gladstone is indisposed from overwork. Abdul Montaleb has been appointed Grand Sherif of Mecca.

Bombay, March 13th.—In addition to the address from yesterday's public meeting and the Chamber of commerce, Sir Richard Temple received to-day an address from the Bombay Trades' Association. Afterwards Sir Richard Temple attended a garden-party of Sir Jamsejee Jejeebhoy's where he was presented with an address from the Parsee community. Then His Excellency departed for the Apollo Bunder, receiving a grand reception *en route*. The roads were lined with troops and crowded with people, who loudly cheered him as he passed. At the Bunder the leading members of the European and native community were assembled and wished His Excellency farewell.

The *Vingorla* Court of Inquiry has been unable to come to a decision as to the cause of the foundering, nor as to the measures adopted to save the vessel. Some measures appear to have been good, some inexplicable. The pumping power was not fully made use of. No attention was paid to fixed load-line. An additional bulkhead is required in such vessels. The Court little doubt that if there had been such a bulkhead, the *Vingorla* would not have foundered. No provision appears to have been made as to required boat accommodation for passengers. The Court strongly point out the absolute necessity of all passenger vessels being compelled to carry boats, rafts, or other appliances for saving life.

March 20th.—A telegram to the *Times of India* from Candahar states the first Bengal Brigade starts for Ghazni

in about a week; the second shortly after. Ayub is said to be in strength at Furrak.

Calcutta, March 12th.—The British Indian Association have memorialised the Viceroy against the Factories Bill as revised by the Select Committee, their chief objection being the withdrawal of its permissive character. A discussion on the Bill is anticipated to-day in the Viceroy's Council. A Bill making vaccination compulsory will be introduced into the Bengal Council to-morrow.

Calcutta, March 13th.—The Government has sanctioned the formation of a corps of Volunteers at Akyah with the designation of the Akyah Volunteer Rifle Corps, and attached to the Rangoon Volunteers, with Mr. Hodgkinson, Commissioner of Arakan, as Major Commandant.

The Government have assumed the direct charge of the Kandahar Railway, placing it under the Director-General of Railways, consequent on Sir Richard Temple's departure.

Nagapatam, March 19th.—There was a torchlight decoity yesterday in the heart of the Municipal Town. The Police were absent during the commission of the crime. Two inmates were wounded. Energetic steps were taken this morning for the detection of the culprits.

### THE JAPANESE PRESS.

#### THE RUMOURED DISSENSIONS IN THE CABINET.

(Translated from the *Kinji Hiron*.)

FOR some time past it has been currently reported that grave conflict of opinion obtains between the different members of the cabinet. It is said some of the Ministers consider that, in order to preserve the country from trouble and disorder, it is necessary to concede the general demand for representative institutions, and that they have expressed themselves strongly opposed to the newly issued regulations regarding public meetings. Other Ministers, again, are reported to affirm that the proper policy to be followed in Japan, is to withhold all political rights from the people, and retain all power and influence in the hands of the Government. With regard to the other prominent questions, such as the fall in the value of kinsatsu, the rise in the price of rice and specie, and the revision of the existing treaties with foreign nations, it is generally asserted that very warm discussions are constantly occurring in the cabinet, as the members composing it are divided in opinion. Hence great confusion arises and no one Minister is sufficiently popular and influential to preserve order and due decorum. His Excellency Okuma is credited with having resolved to resign in consequence of his financial administration having been found fault with, and was only induced to alter his determination by the persuasions of the venerable Privy Counsellors, Oki and Terashima, whose wise and peaceful monitions have succeeded in restoring the Cabinet to something approaching amity and concord.

Now the Prime Ministers and Privy Counsellors who constitute the present cabinet are known to be wise and able men. They are charged with important functions, and have undertaken the grave responsibility of the preservation of the safety, peace, and well-being of this empire. Can it be imagined that they would make the prosperity of the nation subordinate to the rabid assertion of their own ideas or crochets, like a parcel of school-boys chattering about their lessons in the school-room? It must also be remembered that the meetings of the cabinet are strictly private. How then can anyone ascertain what has taken place? We consider, therefore, that the current rumours are entirely without actual foundation, but that there was some cause why they were bruited abroad. It appears to us the public judged that the action of the Government in issuing the new regulations regarding meetings was intended to convey an intimation that the authorities had decided not to accede to the demand for a national assembly. And again the fall in the value of kinsatsu, and the rise in rice and specie, which were followed by the closing of the exchange offices and rice guilds, seems to have given occasion for the idea that the Government was short of money, and then arose the rumour that His Excellency Okuma, the late Minister for Finance, was compelled to resign. We are of opinion that the reports and rumours so prevalent shew con-

clusively that the people are warmly interested in public affairs, and anxiously desirous of ascertaining the intentions of the authorities. This, however, they have no present means of doing. "The ten fingers," aptly remarks one of our proverbs, "are each of different length, but they are sensitive to pain in exactly the same degree." Of the thirty millions of people who compose the population of Japan, some are wealthy while others are poor: some belong to the aristocracy, others to the lower orders, but the same feelings and desires actuate all equally. It is human nature that causes the people to be anxious on great questions affecting the national weal, and therefore we cannot, under the circumstances, blame them for spreading these rumours, unfounded though they undoubtedly prove to be. Indeed, the very fact of reports on public matters occurring with such increased frequency convinces us more than ever, that representative institutions are now absolutely necessary for the welfare of the empire of Japan.

#### THE CLOSING OF THE MEETING OF THE AIKOKUSHA.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

THE meeting of the Aikokusha, to the results of which the public has long looked forward, was closed on the 11th instant, by the Osaka Fuchu authorities, under the recently issued regulations affecting public meetings. When we first heard about these regulations, the thought immediately occurred to us that this society would be the first to receive a check. The regulations were issued in due course, and then it was rumoured that the Government would not enforce them for thirty days, so as to allow the public to become acquainted with their provisions. We felt pleased that the authorities were going to be so lenient, but it is now evident from the fact of the Aikokusha meeting being closed, that the Government put the new regulations into operation immediately.

When the proceedings of the members of the Aikokusha are taken into consideration, it will be found that they have laboured long and diligently, making great sacrifices of time and money, in order to achieve their object. Now, however, all their praiseworthy efforts have vanished in smoke, and the members will no longer have the privilege of freely debating upon political questions. This will undoubtedly occasion them great grief.

We do not belong to the Aikokusha, nor have we had any communication with it, and therefore we suffer no injury by the meeting being closed, but the members of the society may possibly reflect upon the action of the authorities somewhat after the following fashion:—

1st.—It is a duty imposed by natural laws upon every member of a community to take part in political matters, and this duty can only be successfully performed through the agency of representative institutions, where the opinion of the people can influence the affairs of the nation by the voices of their chosen representatives. But the inhabitants of Japan have been accustomed to a despotic form of government for so long a period that they have lost sight of their duties in this respect; they have no idea of what a national assembly really is, and rest perfectly content with their present slavish condition, which provokes the scorn and derision of the people of other countries. If, therefore, public spirited men in different localities do not form a league, with the object of instructing the inhabitants, who have been kept in subjection for centuries, on their political rights and responsibilities, what reasonable expectation can there be of the establishment of a national assembly? This was the object of the meeting of the Aikokusha, which was attended by large numbers of patriotic men from different districts, and the cause of the application sent in for the granting of a constituent assembly during the present year. Now, however, the Government has enacted new regulations and closed the meeting. These regulations are as injurious to the community as wind and rain are to the blossoms of a tree. Is the Government averse to the establishment of a constitutional monarchy? If this be so, the desire of the Government is directly opposed to that of the Aikokusha, and, as the authorities have made regulations as it were in the morning, and enforced them in the evening, for the purpose of controlling public meetings, there is no



thing left for the members of the society but submission, no matter how distasteful it may be. But then, again, if the administrative measures of the Government are considered, we find that it is not opposed to a constitutional monarchy. The Emperor himself took a solemn oath, shortly after ascending the throne, that the affairs of state should be decided according to the will of the people, and subsequently, in April, 1875, a proclamation was issued announcing that steps were being gradually taken towards the same end. Already local assemblies have been established in every town and village, city and prefecture. Therefore the Government is anxious for representative institutions. Why then have these new regulations been issued, and the meeting of the Aikokusha closed?

2ndly:—Although the Government has sanctioned assemblies such as exist in the cities, prefectures, &c., is it the intention to prohibit private societies such as the Aikokusha? Any such proceeding on the part of Government cannot be approved of, in the face of the universal principles deciding what is right and wrong. Warm and animated discussions frequently take place in the legalized assemblies, but can anyone affirm that the private societies have proved prejudicial to the peace of the country? If any assemblage, whether legalized or otherwise, be found injurious to the peace of society, the Government is quite right in at once suppressing it, but the Government approves of some assemblies and discourages others. How can we account for this leniency on the one hand and severity on the other? Surely the Government should not pursue such a partial course.

3rdly:—In not a few instances the violent assertion of political opinions has disturbed the peace of various countries. Does the Government seek to prevent, by the new regulations, anything of the kind occurring here? It is no doubt perfectly justifiable for the Government to take precautions against possible disorder, but we know that the sole object of the Aikokusha is the preservation of the peace of the country on a secure basis, by the establishment of a national assembly. Now the sixteen rules for the coalition meeting at Osaka were advertised in the public journals, and no one had a word to say against them because they were so temperate. However, the Government has thought fit to introduce new regulations and enforce them at once, thus controlling the actions of the thousands of people who compose the Aikokusha. Can we, under the circumstances, conclude that the authorities have taken these measures simply for the purpose of preventing the expression of violent and intemperate opinions?

What we have written may be supposed to be the reflections of a member of the Aikokusha. We may be asked,—What are your own opinions in the matter? This question we cannot readily venture to answer.

## RUSSIAN POLICY AND THE FEUDAL SYSTEM.

(Translated from the *Dekinci Sodan*.)

RUSSIA is far behind the other nations of Europe in civilization. The system of government is despotic, the laws are used for the purpose of checking the aspirations of the people towards liberty, and all the measures of the authorities are based upon the most arbitrary and oppressive principles. How then can any lover of the peace and welfare of his country desire to follow the pernicious example of that state? And yet we hear that among the statesmen of Japan are to be found some who yearn with an indescribable longing to model the policy of this empire upon that of Russia. If what we heard be true, is it not indeed passing all comprehension?

We are quite aware that any such scheme is altogether injurious, and that it would be as foolish on our part to preach before blocks of wood or stone, as to explain the advantages and disadvantages of their plan to people so devoid of common sense. We believe, however, that the best course for us to adopt is to point out the means by which they may attain the end they desire.

It is admitted that the inhabitants of Japan have made great progress in civilization since the restoration. Not only are more accurate opinions on political subjects formed by our countrymen than is the case in Europe or America, but the people are now devoting their attention to questions of internal reform, and desire to

secure to themselves the management of the affairs of state by the establishment of a national assembly. Now if we look to Russia we find that no political party exists there save the Nihilists, whose sole object is the overthrow of the imperial family and the restoration of power to the masses of the people. The inhabitants of Russia are, as a rule, in a state of crass ignorance. Without an idea of their inherent rights, they regard the Czar as a God, possessed of supreme power to direct all things according to his uncontrolled will, and hence they slavishly submit to the decrees of the authorities, no matter whether right or wrong. Judging from these facts, we have little difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that our people are more civilized and better educated than the inhabitants of Russia. It is, of course, ridiculous to suppose that civilization will follow in the footsteps of barbarism, or that a cultivated people will take pattern from savages; but if the attempt must be made here, then our civilization will have to be checked, the people brought under control, and education denied them. These measures might be easily accomplished by the reestablishment of the feudal system.

Let us look back upon the state of Japan, under the feudal system some ten years ago. Then the country was divided into different states, each governed despotically by its own prince. If any one meddled in political affairs he was at once arrested and put to death with merciless severity, while the central Government dealt in a similar way with the rousins. Now, if we were to reestablish the feudal system in all its pristine power and strength, there can be no doubt that civilization and knowledge would be most effectually put a stop to; and then the Russian political régime might be introduced with some prospect of success. But, on the other hand, if the statesmen we have referred to are of opinion that feudalism cannot be reestablished, why then they may abandon all hope of seeing the Russian system of government they are credited with yearning after in force in Japan.

## BIRDS IN THE SNOW.

"Onida" in *Belgravia*.

There was a very hard Winter in the world. It was a hard Winter everywhere, and the snow fell over land and sea so heavily, so blindingly, so continually, that ships were wrecked, trains were blocked, posts were stopped, and traffic well-nigh came to an end in many of the districts even of Southern England, and how much more so in the always cold, bleak North! Even down in Devon, snow was deep and ice was thick—even in mild, moist Devon, where mostly in Winter-time the roses blow, and the south winds, too, and all is green at Yule.

Some little people who lived at an old vicarage on the Dart River did not know what to make of it. None of them, except Ray, the eldest, who was seven years old, had ever seen snow lie on the ground at all; he had, and knew all about it, because he had spent a Christmastide on the moors of the East Riding with his god-mother; but his brothers and sisters, Rob and Tam and Dickie, and the little twins, Susie and Nellie, never had seen the earth white in this way before and they were very much delighted and very much alarmed, which is a state of mind that has its pleasures at all ages, and its pains, too.

These six little mortals lived in a vicarage, and their father was the Vicar, and mother, alas for them! they had none, for she had gone away into the sky (so they were told) when little Susie and Nellie came down from there on to earth. "Perhaps it is the down off mamma's wings," said little Rob, who could remember her very well, and cried for her still, when he saw the fine snow flakes come falling down through the air. "If she had wings, I am sure she would come to us," said Ray, wistfully looking up. "I don't believe she has wings; I don't." "But papa says she is an angel, and angels always have," said Rob, who was very positive. "She would come to us if she could fly," said Ray; "at least, if God would let her," he added, on reflection. "Don't you think, if she said to Him, I want to kiss Rob and Tam and Dickie because they miss it so, He wouldn't say no?" Rob thought a minute, then said to his brother, "Papa always says 'No,' so 'papa' God does, too."

"P'papa!" sighed Ray, with a tired voice. "No" was always said to them, and how much sorrow that means in the life of a child!

The vicarage was an old, long, wooden house, overrun with creepers, the very house to be a paradise for children and dogs, with all kinds of deep, old casements and chimney-places, and corner cup-boards and panelled passages; the very place for twilight romps and fire-lit stories, for fun and play, and mirth and mischief, were all a quartet frowned on at the vicarage, and though they crept in at times, because they never can be wholly absent where six children are, yet they came in timidly and were in hiding for the most part, and never laughed out lustily or scampered about without fear. For a cold, dark shadow was upon the house and the hearts of its children, and this shadow was that of their father. He was the vicar of the out-of-the-world parish of Goldenrod, that lay on the banks of the Dart, in a secluded part of the country, as Herrick's

did before him; but he was in every way unlike that bright-hearted and genial country priest. Unhappily for his children, he was of a taciturn and gloomy nature, very mean, too, and very harsh, and the sound of his heavy foot along the passages made Rob and Ray see trembling and the younger morsels cry. What little tenderness he had ever had was buried with his wife under the big green yews on the south side of the church, and the children were afraid of him—sadly and terribly afraid.

Their father was a very good; that is to say, he was very truthful, very honest, very laborious, never shrank from any duty, however distasteful, and never indulged in any pleasure, however tempting. But he was also very mean; "close-fisted," Keziah called it. His parish was immense in extent, and very poor in what it rendered to him. There was scarcely a well-to-do person in it, and the Vicar, though he had a snug sum in the county bank and was by no means straitened, lived like a poor man, too, from inclination rather than from necessity; his thoughts were apt to be harsh.

They were very happy very often indeed, because there were the old mossy orchards and the broad green meadows, and hedges, and the woods, and cattle, and the huge kitchen, where they could curl on the new settles, and eat their porridge and hear wonderful tales from Keziah, who was cook and nurse and dairymaid and housewife, one in all. Keziah loved them; she had seen them all born, and when their mother had lain dying had promised never to leave them, and she kept her word, she was a buxom woman much beloved, and might have married the rich miller that had the water-mill eight miles away down the river. But there were many things Keziah wished to do for them that she could not do, because she never disobeyed her master, and she had to give them water when she would have given them milk, and cold porridge when she would have given them hot bread, and was often ashamed at the darned and threadbare clothes in which she had to array their little bodies—the children that ought to be the first in the parish! she would say to herself. "It is good to be a saint, no doubt; but it is bad to be a skinflint, too." For a skinflint she called her master, in the secrets of her soul.

When the snow fell, she called him so more bitterly than ever. The snow made all the little people very cold, and she could not set big oaken logs and good cannel coal roaring with flame up all the chimneys, as she would have liked to do, and Goldenrod grew very damp and chilly.

"Run out, my chicks and get warm that way," she said to them when the white covering that was so strange to them stretched over field and wold, and made the leafless trees and swollen river look quite black against it.

Rob and Ray were taught their lessons by their father in his study, a little, dark, close place, that was as terrible to them as if it had been a torture chamber, for their acquaintance with letters was small and with the cane was large, and their canings were always given them there. But this morning they were free, for their father had been called away to a dying parishioner on the other side of the big brown moor that shelved away from the edge of their orchards. So Rob and Ray ran out into the air and dragged their little brother with them, and the babies even, and their wooden cart, and romped about, and raced, and slid, and danced, and made themselves merry, as though no cane were lying on the study-table, and no blurred copy-books waiting, grim and grimy. They played at sledging, of which they had some prints in Christmas papers, and made believe the babies were princesses; they then played at being Napoleon at Moscow, whose story Ray had just come to in their "Markham's History," and were so delighted with their marches and battles, and their own deaths and burials in the snow, that they never heard the one step which at all times sent a tremor of fear through them. The cold voice of the Vicar cleft the cold air like a knife.

"Are your lessons done?"

Rob, who was burying Tammie in the snow, and Ray, who was carrying Dickie as a frostbitten soldier of the Old Guard on his shoulders, both heard, and their innocent sport ceases as at the sharp crack of a whip.

Ray, grown whiter than the snow, alone spoke:

"We have done no lessons, papa."

"What have you done, then?"

"We have been at play."

"Very well. Go into the study."

Rob began to cry, and Ray's lips quivered. They knew what the order meant.

"It was my fault, master, all mine," cried Keziah, running out, but the Vicar put her aside.

"You spoil the children; that is well known," he said coldly.

"But the boys are too old not to know their own duty."

Keziah spoke in vain; the boys were bidden to go to the study.

"Whip only me, papa," said Ray, timidly, "only me, please, because if I had stayed in, Rob would have stayed in, too."

The Vicar in his inmost soul recognized the generosity of the plea, and felt proud of his little son, but he did not seem to have heard it, and he gave both equal punishment upon the palms of their small, sunburnt, cold hands. Then they were shut in to do their lessons, with two hunches of dry bread instead of dinner.

The Vicar was a man who held discipline in high esteem, and enforced it.

They did their lessons; Ray quickly, Rob tardily, both watering the pages of primer and copy-book with scalding tears. Then they huddled together in the deep bay of the one narrow window to hear each other repeat what they had to learn by rote. The casement looked on the lawn at the side of the house; on the grass was a big, old hawthorn tree, and under the tree were huddled together, like themselves, scores of birds.

"Do look at the birds," says Ray. "How pluffed out they look and how dull, and all their feathers stick upright."

"They're cold," said Rob thoughtfully, and added with fellow-

feeling, as he heard the sound of dishes and knives and forks in the adjoining chamber.

"I'm sure they're hungry, too."

"Hungry!" repeated Ray, who had never thought how birds lived. Then the color flushed back into his little pale face, he jumped up, and upset all the lesson books.

"Of course, they are hungry—how silly I am!—the ground is frozen—they eat worms and seeds, and now they can't get any. Oh, the poor, poor, poor, little things!"

He jumped off the window-seat, got his dry bread and jumped on again, threw open one of the leaded window panes, and crumbled up his bread and flung it out to the birds. Instantly they darted down, a motly little throng: brown sparrows, gray linnets, speckled thrushes, chaffinches with their variegated wings, three big black-birds, one tiny blue tom-tit, and many robins. They were no longer dull; they hopped and pecked and fluttered and chirped to each other and ate in concert, and were very much better behaved than a famished crowd of human beings ever would have been.

The great hawthorn tree spread above them, glittering with icicles on every branch, the white, hard, smooth snow was beneath them, the bright-natured feathered things soon grew themselves again, and their merry chirping made the frosty air alive with *Lieder ohne Worte*, as gaily as if the hawthorn tree were in flower and they at work in it making their nests. Rob and Ray were in ecstasies; they hung against the casement pouring out showers of crumbs, laughing and half-crying in delight at their clever and wonderful discovery that the birds in the snow had been hungry. They never remembered that they would be very hungry themselves, for in their excitement and sympathy they had crumbled away both bits of bread. They watched the little multitude eat every crumb, shake out their feathers and fly away. One robin flew up to the lower boughs of the hawthorn, and sang as if he were deputed by the rest to speak their common praise and thanksgiving.

"Oh, how lovely!" cried Ray, with clasped hands and caught breath. "Oh, how beautiful! Oh, how clever of you, Rob, to remember they were hungry."

"And me, who isn't clever!" said Rob, with a little chuckle of content.

"What are you doing at the window, boys?" said their father's voice.

All their joy ceased, and the robin flew away. Rob was the one this time to answer.

"We gave our bread to the dicky-birds. It was me thought of it."

"All your bread?"

"Yes, papa, both bits."

The Vicar frowned.

"Then you may go hungry until your tea-time, and remember that I will have no folly of the kind again. Keep your crusts for worthier objects. Birds are mere thieves. They steal fruit and grain, and it is God's merciful provision that frost should come to aid, and other of His means, in the destruction of their numbers. It is very impious to interfere with God's designs."

Ray's face grew very weary and perplexed, Rob's very weary and resolute.

"God kills birds!" Rob asked at last.

His father replied, "The frost God sends kills them—yes."

"I don't like God, then," Rob said, after a little while.

"Hush!" said Ray. "God is good. Papa it is that makes some mistake."

Their father grew gray with horror, and stony white with rage. Were these blasphemers his own children?

They were once more punished alike. They were this time flogged instead of being caned, and their little stiff hands were set to write in large crooked characters. "Frost is a provision of nature, instituted by the mercy of God, to destroy the numbers of birds that devastate the Autumn crops of farmers, and destroy the buds of the gardener's Summer fruits."

"It is not true," said Ray between his teeth, as his hands travelled painfully over the long sentence. "I am quite sure it is not true."

"No, it isn't true," said his echo, Rob, whose chubby, fat fingers could scarcely manage, at the best of times, to make a round O, and now that they were numbed with cold could not do it anyhow. "I don't care for the farmers," added Rob. "The farmers trap the bunnies; that they do."

Ray did not say anything; his heart was too heavy for talk; he had read in one of the story books at his godmother's of a northern country where a sheaf of wheat is tied up above the doorway for the frozen birds in Winter-time; he wished they were in that country. He and Rob cried themselves to sleep that night, for their little bones were all aching, and both their hearts, too.

In the morning, when they got up, they ran to the window. It was scarcely light; a big white moon was just vanishing over the brown edge of the moor: snow had fallen all night, the duck pond was frozen over; the cold was great; on the sill of their casement there lay a little dead bird.

It was a young goldfinch.

Ray choked all over as he saw it; Rob's cheek grew red with rage.

"Oh, the poor, poor, poor, little dear!" they sobbed together, and life seemed so dreadful to them both that they clung crying to one another. This hard, cold, white world in which God let the dickybirds die—it frightened them as they had been frightened when they heard the sobs beaten down above the grave where their mother's body was.

Ray looked up with a great light in his eyes.

"I will give the birds my breakfast, and papa may kill me."

"Me, too," said Rob, who would not be behind in any act or word though his heart gave a terrible throb, for he was very hungry this chilly morning.

"It will hurt to go without anything," he whispered. "Won't it hurt, Ray?"

"Of course it will hurt," said Ray, with scorn in his steadfast, shining eyes. "It hurt all the martyrs, but they did it."

Rob shut his little, firm, rosy mouth, and resolved to demur no more.

Ray was always telling him about the martyrs, but Rob did not care much for them; he cared more for the bunnies in the traja.

"Let us go," said Ray, and together, hand in hand, they trotted down the old dark, steep, oak stairs.

The children always had their first meal in the kitchen, for the convenience of Keziah and the quietude of their father. They all sat round the deal table before the fire, the little ones in their high chairs, Rob and Ray on wooden stools.

For breakfast they had porridge sometimes; this morning they had milk-and-water in their mugs, and bread, and Keziah for a treat added honey, "because it is so nigh Yule," as she said, for it was the 23d of December.

Ray looked at the honey and bread.

"Is it my own, this?"

"Yes, dear," said Keziah, wondering.

"I may eat it or not eat it, as I like?"

"For sure, my dear. What big eyes you make, my Raidie, for naught."

Ray looked at his bread with a swelling heart. He had all the hunger of a seven-year-old country boy; but he saw in his fancy all the birds of the world lying dying. He rose up and took his bread in his hands, and, with a glance at his brother, went to the kitchen door. Rob, with a tear rolling down each cheek, bravely grasped his bread and followed. Their nurse did not notice them, her back was turned as she fed the little twin girls.

"Papa may kill us, but God won't be angry," said Ray calmly, and never one of the martyrs he loved had felt more solemn and more sure. Then he began to crumble his bread and throw it out on the snow.

Rob took one big bite that he could not help, then valorously flung his away in large morsels.

From a lattice above them the voice of their father thundered:

"I will have no such waste in my household. Disobedient and wicked children! Is my word not law?"

"He may kill me, I do not mind," said Ray with a pale, firm face.

Rob, frowned and looked surly.

"It isn't waste. It'd have been in our tummites, and now it's in the dicky-birds."

Meanwhile the feathered multitude of the old hawthorn tree and all the hedges round were flocking joyous round to share the alms.

Their father's step came down the stairs in haste and called Keziah.

"Job Stevens had cut his hand off chopping furze; he is at the point of death; they have come for me this moment; take these children in and lock them in the study; they will have their chastisement when I return."

"Yes, your reverence," said Keziah, in amazement. "But, sir, Job Stevens is sixteen mile if one, and in the snow—"

"I must walk, of course," said her master, hastily; "no horse could get along. That is nothing. Lock these boys in, and do not let them out till I come back."

Then the Vicar threw his cloak about him and went out toward the moor in the teeth of the savage north wind. Rob and Ray stood motionless.

Their nurse came out to them.

"My darlings, you heard the orders that the master gave," she said, with the water in her honest eyes.

Rob threw his fat arms about her.

"Yes, but he's gone, Nurse; you won't lock us in?"

Keziah hesitated, and kissed his curls. Ray's face changed from white to rosy red, and then grew white again.

"We must be locked in Rob," he said sadly. "We mustn't get nurse blamed."

"Oh, the noble little lad you are, my Raidie!" cried Keziah, and sobbed over him. So locked in they were. At one o'clock she brought them their dinners, and looked wistful and longing. "His reverence said not till he comes back," she mutters, stroking Ray's hair.

"Never mind, Nurse," murmured Ray; "we do very nice here. We've done our lessons, and we can play."

"What's there to play with?" groaned Rob, who was lying on what he called his "tummy" underneath the table.

"There's ourselves," said Ray.

Keziah locked them in, her heart more bitter against her master than ever it had been in all the years that would have been, but for the children, very joyless and very thankless.

"Them's just cherubs, and he's a brute. He as drinks the blessed wine every sacrament day, and should know better!" she muttered in her wrath. Had she been learned in hagiology, she would have wished that her master could have swallowed a spider in the holy wine like German St. Narbert, and be blessed with a beautiful spirit ever afterward.

The day wore on; a snowy, blowing, boisterous day, dark and dreary. When twilight fell and the Vicar had not come back. "There's reason in roasting eggs," thought Keziah. "I must let 'em out now. I'll tell him as they've been all day, and he knows as we ain't a one to fib."

So she let them out. Rob rushed with a shout down the passage; Ray came with a slow step, wondering if letting them out would get his nurse into trouble.

"Master's rare late," said the man who did odd jobs. "Mappen he'll sleep at Squire's!" "Ay, I should wonder that he do," answered Keziah. The Squire's was the biggest house at Tamsleigh, the village where the furze-cutter, Job Stevens, lay on his death-bed.

"Sure, he's staying at Squire's, and a more natural thing than what he often do," she thought, as she did the bolts and bars and shut the shutters, and told the old man that he had better sleep upon the premises, as master was away.

No one felt anxious. The Vicar had gone to Tamsleigh, and, seeing how bitter and wild the day was, had stayed to sleep at his old friend's; what more likely?

The children had a merry time while the snow fell and the winds blew; Keziah was a merry soul by nature, and had all kinds of funny stories, and, saying it was next but one to Christmas Eve, roasted apples for them, and stuck the apples full of cloves and set them bobbing in a bowl of currant wine in the old game that Ben. Johnson sings of in his carol.

It was quite late, quite eight o'clock, when the children went to bed.

"And please God take care of the birds in the snow. Amen," said Ray at the close of his bedside prayers.

"Amen," said Rob, winking and sleepy.

No one was anxious at all that night, but when the morning came, and the noon passed, and their father had not returned, a great alarm spread itself from the servants to the children.

The weather had become terrible. The snow fell perpetually, the air was very dark, the winds were very rough; such a day had not been seen in Devon for over twenty years; and away where the sea was, ships and barks were tossing in the snow-storm in sore peril.

"Where can the master be?" said Keziah in great perplexity. "It would be impossible to stay at the Squire's at Tamsleigh, for the morrow was Christmas Day, and where would the church be without its church service?"

The parish was a very scattered one; a few farms, a few cottages, with miles between each, spread over the moorland, and about the vicarage and church itself there were only a few poor houses; the only house of any importance was the Squire's, over at Tamsleigh. The few people however, who did dwell near, came—dropping in as the short day wore itself on, and each had some darker suggestion some ghostlier remembrance than the last to offer in consolation.

Ray stood listening with big startled eyes. He was happy because his nurse had given him a sieverfull of grain for the birds, yet he felt a dull sense of something dreadful being near. Rob sang, and raced, and shouted, and played at his pleasure; the terrible snow-storm had no terrors for him.

"It is passing strange," said Keziah anxiously, and knew not what to do, for it was not weather to send man or beast over the moor, and the Vicar might only scold if she did send, supposing he was safe and well at Tamsleigh great hall; he always hated "a fuss."

She did not know what to do.

But at twilight, or rather just as the black day was merging into the yet blacker night, and the mounds of snow were rising higher and higher against windows and door, there came a poor peddler who had struggled through the storm with his pack on his back and was half-frozen, and begged shelter.

He was a man well known in the district. They had him in and set him in the chimney-corner, and gave him mulled wine and the promise of a bed; but scarce had he come to his full senses out of his cold and his fright than he asked for the Vicar, and when he heard that as yet the master of the house was not at home, he got up in his agitation, though his limbs were all stiff as statues with rheumatism.

"But I passed his reverence yester eve, coming for home above Tamsleigh," he shouted. "The Lord save us! Lord save us! Sure as I be a living soul, he's lost on the moor."

The few neighbours who were gathered in the kitchen screamed aloud, and the children listening grew pale.

"Art sure 'twas master?" cried Keziah.

"Lord bless us, I be sure!" reiterated the peddler. "He gev me good-even, and said as how he'd be here long afore me, but I struck aside to take some hooks and thread to Dame Carew as he'd ordered of me, and so we parted company, and I slept at Carew's hut and come on i' the morn."

"Lord, save us! he's a dead man!"

In the bustle and outcry that succeeded no one noticed the children for a few moments till Rob shrieked out:

"Raidie's dead, too!"

It was then seen that Ray had fainted.

In a little while he was brought round, and opened his eyes bewilderingly.

"Father wouldn't help the birds!" he murmured, and shuddered and wept.

Keziah, with more grief on her shoulders than she felt it right for one lone woman to have to bear, carried Ray up to his little bed, and bidding him not to fret so, because there was always hope, ran down stairs, stormed at the peddler for having been such a fool as to speak so before the children, and then took counsel with her neighbours as to what was best to do.

The men volunteered to go out in search, but there were only four or five of them, and two of them were very old. Still out they went with their horns, lanterns, and their pick-axes, and the thick falling snow soon hid them from sight.

They thought on going up to the church-tower, and ringing the two bells that were there; but they reflected that it would be no use, because the wind was so high that the bells could have no chance of being heard. So the men went out to search as best they could in the wild night, and their frightened women sat for most part in the kitchen of the vicarage, taking a strange and terrible pleasure in hearing the peddler cry a hundred times, "Lord save us! he's a dead man!" till Keziah told him to go to bed for an old fool, which at last reluctantly he did.

The women sat over the fire and sipped spiced wine, and told each other horrible tales their fathers and forefathers had done or known, with many a "He says, says he," occurring in their narrative.



Keziah sat up by the bedside of Rob and Ray; Rob slept, but Ray lay wide awake, and ever and again he shivered and moaned; "Papa wouldn't help the birds—he wouldn't—and I know God was angry."

The long night wore away, the winds never ceasing to howl, the snow never ceasing to fall. At daybreak the men returned, having found nothing. They said they had searched all the moor for eight miles, but in real truth, though they did not know it, they had scarcely been a mile from home, having only gone round in a circle, not seeing where they were in the darkness. The morning broke gray and dreary; the snow fell still, but the winds dropped. Keziah chose the youngest and strongest of the men and bade him strive to get across to Tamsleigh. It was hard to do an errand of danger, for the paths were all obliterated and communications of every kind stopped, but the man was a bold young fellow and promised to do his best. "Though as for that," he muttered, "his Reverence is a dead man if he's out all this freezin' night." The other men went up the church-tower and set the bell tolling; the wind had fallen, and it was possible that in the more distant houses they might be heard and some help or some news come.

It was now 11 o'clock in the morning, the hour at which the service of Christmas Day should have begun. The church was a little dark, dismal place; here and there it had been brightened with a bit of holly or a bough of bearberry tree. The Vicar did not approve such follies, and there was little done to relieve the bare stone walls, the square box of a pulpit, the tiny chancel dismal and damp as any dungeon. As the weather cleared a little the women dropped in, in their red cloaks, and made a glow in the darkness, but they did not stay, for the church was very cold, and it seemed more cold and horrible having no prayer there on Christ's morn, and the pastor, maybe, frozen dead in some snowdrift.

At the vicarage Keziah tried in vain to read the morning service to the children by the kitchen fire; her voice faltered and their attention wandered. They were all grave and frightened, even the twin babies, and Ray sat in the window-seat with his face pressed against the glass, quite silent. The look of the boy frightened his nurse more than the loss of her master.

"He do take things to heart so," she said to herself, with a sigh. It was of no use to try and read; she closed the big black prayer-book, and let the startled parishioners come in; some of them had plodded many miles over the snow not to miss the blessing of the Christmas prayer, and they found the church empty and the Vicar absent. All were sure that he was dead; surer yet, when a man, at great risk to himself, came over from Tamsleigh Great House to say the Squire trusted that his Reverence had reached home safely.

"Didn't I tell ye the truth, ye unbelievin' Jews?" said the peddler, who enjoyed his own importance as a sharer in this terrible history.

There could be no doubt now. The Vicar had left Tamsleigh, refusing all the Squire's offers, and had set forth to walk home.

Every one there knew that he must have lost his way, and in all likelihood had perished.

"It does come like a judgment," whispered Keziah to a friend out of the children's hearing. "Ay, it do. He scolded and punished them dear little souls just for feeding the frozen-out birds? And now—he knows himself what it is—death in the snow."

Rob began to cry because the women were crying and he was frightened. Ray never shed a tear nor said a word; he only thought to himself with an unutterable horror, "God was angry!"

Christmas morning began to pass away. The beef lay unroasted; the pudding that had been in its pot all night, boiled maddly unnoticed! the bells of the church tolled without ceasing. Folks began to come in from the outlying parts of the parish as the skies cleared and the frost made the snow passable. They all brought terrible tales of the past day and night; of sheep frozen to death, of carts blocked, of travellers lost, of horses killed, of boys drowned by the splitting ice, and of hamlets shut off from each other. It was even rumored that the great train from London, twenty miles away, was standing still all the night with its freight of passengers unable to move, and that some of them had been frozen to death.

Keziah listened with a beating heart to all these histories. It was now three o'clock. She had put away the Christmas dinner and fed the children on milk porridge, and kept them quiet round her. There was no love in them to agitate their little souls for their missing father, but the sense of some great calamity around weighed on them and kept them still and frightened. Ray was mute, and scarcely moved.

By four it was once more quite dark. The villagers hung about, cowed and afraid like the children. Christmas Day was passing, and there had been no service in the church. It seemed to them a thing so terrible that the sin of it would lie on them forever.

All the hushed whitened moor was without a sound; the safely-folded sheep bleated now and then, and the cattle lowed in the byre; that was all; otherwise, a silence like that of death enveloped the village and the church, and the people dared not speak above their voices. All at once Keziah rose and took the two little girls, one on each of her own strong arms, with woollen hoods pulled over their flaxen heads.

"Christ's Day must not go by without a prayer said in His church," she said to the folks in her kitchen. "Let us go and pray there for master. 'Twill save the day from heathendom."

She went out into the deepening gloom, into the air that was bitter still, quite windless. Followed by the children, she went over the snow under the dark boughs of the trees to the church door, and entered it, the women going behind her with lanterns under their cloaks. They set down their lanterns in the middle of the aisle, and the light made a little pale glow on the tombstones that formed the pavement. Keziah knelt down and prayed aloud, and the voices of the people echoed here; when her prayers had ceased and all was silent the little faint tones of Ray stole through the stillness:

"God, please do not be angry any more because papa made a

mistake: he did not mean to be cruel. Please save the sheep and the birds and save him. Please do not be angry any more."

Then his own little voice died away in a sob, and all the women kneeling there in the cold and the dark, wept too. Solemnly, as they had entered, they left the church; some one had said: "Let us sing a psalm," but no one could sing; their hearts were too full, for all their men were out on the moors, and who could tell what might chance there? Then Keziah on her threshold turned and said to her neighbours:

"Now thank ye all kindly, but go to your homes: Gossiping is bad at such a time as this. For me I will keep by the hearth with the children. Lord snocour their father!"

The women were moved at the seriousness of a woman always mirthful and neighbourly, and each went quietly to her own cottage. She herself went home, as she had said that she should, and the little boys gathered about her knees, and the little girls slept in her arms. Night once more began to fall over the world of snow. In the inner kitchen the old peddler and an old labourer, too aged to go out and assist in the search, were talking low over their ale, of storms they had known forty long years before.

Keziah had shut no shutters; she lit candles and put them against each casement, so that by chance the light might assist her master if he were unable to find his homeward way.

"Lord help them all, poor souls!" she thought, rocking the babies in her arms, and thinking of the ships at sea, of the travellers on the moor, of the sheep lost on the tors, and the trains blocked in the snow.

Ray, with his hand clasped about his little naked legs, sat and gazed into the fire, his eyes wide open, his mouth parted. "Pray, do not make me go to bed," he said, once; "pray, do not."

So, when she put the others to sleep, she let him sit up with her by the fire. "Why won't you go to bed, my dear?" she asked him; as the cuckoo clock told 9 of the night.

Ray shuddered.

"In my bed, last night, when I did sleep, I saw papa dead in the snow, and God's birds covering him with leaves. I should see it again now."

"Ah, my poor child!"

He leaned his head against her, and they sat in the chimney corner together.

The cuckoo called 10 o'clock.

There was a sound of voices outside the house, the shuffling of men's feet in the crisp snow; the dog barked outside, the flash of torches flared red on the lattices. Ray and his nurse sprang up and rushed to the door and forced it open. The men were bearing a litter, and the foremost of them cried out, "Little master, its your father. We've done a good Christmas night's work. Nay, nay, he's not dead; never fear!"

Ray rushed out into the snow.

For many moments all was confusion; then the men laid the shutter gently down before the fire, and taking off the wraps strewn over him, showed Ray the motionless form of his father, whose eyes unclosed, and whose gray lips feebly murmured:

"My little boy, do not be afraid."

Ray burst into tears, and kissed his father as he had never dared to kiss him in his life.

Setting out to walk homeward from Tamsleigh, he had crossed half the moor in safety, in the teeth of the blinding snow, then as darkness fell had misused his way and had wandered so far and become so exhausted by the wind and the bitter air that he had lost all power of even guessing where he was, and so had grown feebler and blinder at each step, and had staggered for shelter into a hollow space made by some rocks and trees; there he had sat down, wrapped himself in his cloak, and trusted the dawn would break. But the fury of the storm had uprooted some of the trees and loosened some of the boulders; with a roar as of thunder the huge stones and oak that grew with them barred him in a prisoner. There, half-frozen, famished, miserable, he had passed the night of Christmas Eve and the wild day of Yule itself, while his people were searching for him east and west, north and south, and his little son was praying to God "not to be angry." He had resisted the longing to sleep that came over him, knowing such sleep fatal; but he had given himself up for lost, hemmed in by the rocks, and knowing well that none could see him or hear his voice, about as he would over the desolate moor.

Death was very near him, and in its awful presence he regretted many things and repented many. He thought of his poor little children with shame and sorrow, and he remembered how he had struck the child for its charity to the birds—for the alms of bread that now he would have thanked heaven for himself! When the sound of searchers coming over the snow was borne to his ear, and the cries of his own dog—the dog he had often chained and often beaten!—brought them to his hiding place, and with ropes let down to him from above they dragged him up into the starlit world, the stern Vicar was no stronger than his little son; he swooned away!

He had been imprisoned in the snow for thirty hours.

As he lay in the warmth of his own hearth, with the firelight dancing on the light curls of Ray, he opened his feeble arms to the child.

"My boy, I have been cruel to you. Forgive me. Since my life has been spared, I will try to make it a blessing to you and to your brothers."

"And the birds?" whispered Ray.

His father smiled.

"You shall hang a sheaf of corn out every Winter, as they do in the Sweden of your story books. I know now what it is to die in the snow."

Ray laid his head upon his father's breast, and was happy.

When the morning, which was cloudless, came, he had his sheaf of wheat, and hung it above the door, and all the birds flocked to



it, fluttering and chirping in little multitudes, the bold, bright robins foremost.

"God did hear me when I asked Him not to be angry any more," said Ray; and Rob said, "Me, too. I asked Him."

And hand in hand they looked up at the broad blue sky.

## THE TIMES OF THE TAIRA.

By CAPTAIN F. BRINKLEY, R.A., AUTHOR  
OF THE "TIMES OF TAIKO."

### CHAPTER XLVI.

#### THE PASSAGE OF THE YOSHINO.

Looking at the limbs and thwens of the man he had slain, the Genji knight could not but confess to himself that without the accident of his adversary's fall, the issue of the combat might have been very different. Among all the followers of the white pennon there was not one, Benkei alone excepted, who could compare with the 'Black Priest' in point of physical endowments, and it was easy not only to appreciate the influence such a man must have exercised over his comrades, but also to guess how grievously they would be disheartened by his death.

And indeed when they saw Takanobu come forth from the thickets carrying their champion's head in his hand, the main part of the cenobites thought less of revenge than escape. They began to remember that Yoshino was after all but an insignificant place, and that if Kakuhari had found no peer there, Yoshitsune on the other hand was without equal in the whole empire, within the four seas. Viewed in this light the friar's discomfiture now appeared less marvellous than the expectations they had before entertained of his victory, and so it resulted that none were found to answer Tadanobu's defiance when, casting down his ghastly burden in the snow, he called on the 'Black Priest's' followers to come and pay the last rites to their leader's remains. Where Kakuhari had failed another was little likely to succeed, or so at least his comrades were content to think. Moreover the darkness, now fast closing in, was beginning to suggest a new motive for forbearance. If the Genji men remained in the valley until the following day, there would be time enough to devise some less hazardous method of compelling their surrender, while, for the rest, there was certainly no means of preventing their escape during the night should they elect to make the attempt.

Tadanobu foresaw the enemies' hesitation. He had believed death inevitable, and was nothing loath to meet it now that the purpose for which he laid down his life was accomplished, but at the same time since it was part of his project to prolong the cenobites' error as long as possible, and since this could only be accomplished by avoiding capture, he was not disposed to hasten the end unnecessarily. While standing beside Kakuhari's body on the ledge of rock overlooking the precipice, he had been visited by an idea which he deemed at the moment a mere caprice of desperation, but which now recurred to him with so much force that he no longer hesitated to carry it out.

The precipice, inaccessible at it looked at first sight, consisted in reality of a number of ledges similar to that upon which the 'Black Priest' had received his death stroke. These, though separated sometimes by intervals whose passage a man might well have hesitated to attempt under ordinary circumstances, were nowhere absolutely impracticable, while they afforded a much speedier means of descent than the beaten path by which the friars must return. Tadanobu had noted all this, and he now set himself to make the essay before the darkness doubled its perils. Once or twice he wellnigh abandoned all hope of reaching the bottom safely, such small space did he find to stay his feet, but on the whole the difficulties proved less than he had anticipated, and while the cenobites were still lingering on the mountain, undecided what course to pursue, he had passed behind them and was making his way rapidly to the cloisters.

He entered the main gate unopposed and walked boldly towards the court yard on the north side of which the friars' residences stood. The doors of the first house he reached stood open, and on the threshold a glow of ruddy comfort kept guard against the coming of the frost. Two or three pages and as many serving-men sat by a huge fire of pine logs that flared on the kitchen hearth, and in the shower of

ascending sparks a large rice-cauldron hung suspended, responding to the fitful crackle of the flames by a deep-toned murmur of delicious promise.

Tadanobu could not have resisted the temptation this spectacle afforded though it had been in his design to do so. Not alone was he worn out by the toils he had endured from sunrise to sunset and the constant company of mortal peril, but also since the day he turned his back upon Kiyoto, shelter and plenty had been wellnigh unknown to him. He entered the house and passing to the hearth-side began to unlace his helmet, paying no heed to the serving-men and pages, who indeed fled precipitately when they heard the clank of his mail and saw that he was one of the very warriors whose deeds they had just been recounting to one another.

The knight helped himself freely from the stores of food and wine that were prepared against the return of the master of the house, laughing aloud at the thought that while the cenobites were perhaps searching for him in the darkness and among the snow on the mountain, he was quietly enjoying their good fare under their own roof-tree. As for what he had done that day, or might still do before he died, he deemed it a small matter that it should remain unknown and unapplauded, but he would have given much for a moment's meeting with his old comrades that he might stir their mirth by the recital of this marvellous plesantry. This however was not to be. Neither the thought that he had accomplished more than his undertaking, nor the easy prospect of escape that now presented itself could make him forget his six liegemen, who had been content to die in the faith that he would not survive them. In this respect his resolve remained unshaken, and if he had not yet achieved his original design of falling sword in hand upon the enemy and making his last moments memorable, it was not because he desired to prolong his life, but because he had conceived a plan for securing Yoshitsune from all further molestation so far as the cenobites were concerned. Meanwhile he did not quarrel with fortune if she had brought within his reach the means of renewing some genial memories before the end. The fatal moment would come in good time, and in the interim he was well content to sit within the circle of the mellow firelight, lulled by the fumes of the wine into happy unconsciousness of everything but present comfort.

Little by little this fitful doze deepened into quiet sleep, and in his dreams it seemed to him that he had been listening for years to a babel of voices shouting out confused and unintelligible sounds, until at last these adapted themselves to the name of 'Yoshitsune,' and he awoke to find that the cenobites had come back, and were calling on him to come forth and surrender, since his fate was now completely in their hands.

He rose from his seat with an air rather of annoyance than apprehension, and walking slowly to the door looked out into the courtyard. The moon had now risen and shining across the lattice of cedar branches, shewed him a multitude of men surging backwards and forwards and filling the air with a clamour of defiance. Those whom the curiosity of their companions had thrust forward to within arm's length of the vestibule, fell back precipitately at Tadanobu's appearance, while those who had been most careful to keep beyond striking distance, brandished their weapons and sought to atone for their timidity by increased vociferation.

The knight listened to all this din and watched all this confusion with an unmoved countenance. Old experience made it easy for him to distinguish between the outcry that precedes and that which replaces action, and he saw that so long as his own sword remained sheathed he might count on immunity from attack. Once or twice the cenobites, fancying he was about to speak, called on one another to keep silence, but he remained motionless and apparently unconscious alike of their uproar and their quiet. His thoughts, indeed, were not intent upon his own plight, not busied with any device to amend it, but engrossed rather by the marvel that an unjust fate should have brought the noblest and stoutest knight in Japan low enough to be within reach of such a craven rabble as this. If even those who had only watched Yoshitsune's career from a distance found it difficult to reconcile his present condition with his recent high estate, how much more unaccountable must these things have seemed to the man who, standing beside him from first to last, had learned to know him as the peerless soldier he was.

Pondering all this, Tadanobu had some pain to restrain himself from leaping into the midst of the friars and teaching

them how little fitted they were for the task they had set themselves, but when he saw how, despite their numbers and strength, they held carefully aloof, nor ever ventured within reach of his sword, contempt took the place of passion. Turning back into the house, he resumed his seat before the fire and poured himself out another cup of wine, with as little evidence of concern as though the noisy multitude without had assembled, not to take his life, but to guard it.

He had not even taken the trouble to close the door, so that everything he did was visible from without, and the cenobites infuriated by his contempt, redoubled their clamour, taunting him with fear and promising to take ample vengeance for Kakuhau's death. Still, however, the knight declined to make any reply. He was beginning to think that to die by the hands of these miscreants would, after all, bring him more shame than glory, and to ask himself what sort of welcome he might expect from his brother and ancestors, who had met their end in fair fight with men worthy of their steel.

These fancies once admitted soon recalled the love of life common to weak and strong alike; recalled it perhaps too late to achieve, but not too late to attempt escape. Before resuming his seat he had piled a fresh supply of fuel on the fire, which was now sending up thick jets of spark and flame that made every corner of the house, and even the faces of the multitude without, easily visible. Tadanobu selected from the centre of the hearth two of the most vigorously burning fire logs, and carrying them into the next room, applied them to a large heap of trays and wooden salvers that lay beside the paper sliding doors. Those in the courtyard, suspecting his design though they might not perceive what he did, raised a shout of fury and half-a dozen of them had almost entered the vestibule when the knight, springing forward sword in hand, dealt a few blows that soon relieved him of these intruders. Then waving his hand to enjoin silence, he addressed the cenobites for the first time:—"Hearken ye truculent friars, who have mistaken glaive and sword for rosary and annulet. I that address you am not Yoshitsune, as your suppose, but Sato Tadanobu, whose greatest glory it is to have taken his lord's place even for a moment. Think you that our guardian god Hachiman could have endured to see his best soldier fall into the hands of a cassocked rabble? Not so in truth. The life of the Genji chief is as safe from your schemes as mine shall presently be, for you yourselves are my witnesses, that I die here of my own choice, who have waited of my own will to meet you. My head, indeed, you may carry to Kamakura, if you deem the guerdon worthy the pains, but I think that hereafter when you come to cast up the balance of profit and loss, you will not find that you have gained overmuch by leaving your bells and bibles to cross blades with men who deserved your prayers rather than your enmity."

When the knight had ceased speaking he stepped back a pace, as though to avoid the smoke which was now rolling in thick volumes from the door-way, and drawing his short-sword plunged it into his left side. It happened, however, that the shadow of the eaves falling across the spot where he stood, prevented the friars from observing his actions very distinctly. Thus, although with a burning house behind him, and a sea of hostile weapons before, it seemed neither unlikely nor inconsistent with what he had said, that he should hasten the death he might not avoid, and though the onlookers did certainly so interpret his proceedings, the fact was, that instead of stabbing himself, he passed the blade under his arm and turning immediately, disappeared amid the smoke and flame.

The avowal he had made infuriated the cenobites beyond measure. They understood at once the trick that had been played on them, and believing their enemy no longer capable of harm, the most timid among them were now loudest in their clamour for revenge. But while they hesitated whether to follow the knight or leave him to die a more painful death than sword or glaive could achieve, the flames deprived them of the power of choice. All their exertions were needed to save the adjacent buildings and even the temple itself from destruction, so that they were constrained to content themselves with the assurance of Tadanobu's fate.

He, however, finding as he had anticipated, that no attempt was made to pursue him, forced his way out at the back of the house, and succeeded without much difficulty in climbing to the roof. He scarcely entertained any definite hope of escape, since at whatever part of the courtyard he descended he was almost certain to be observed, but in such a scene of confusion as the place now presented, a resolute

man may find many an unforeseen chance and to some of these he trusted.

Neither did fortune fail him at the last. Creeping along the roof, from which the flames were already bursting, he discovered that the hill had been cut away to afford space for a wing of the building, and that the gable was only separated from the edge of the scarp by an interval of a few feet. The leap was nothing to one whose life depended on its accomplishment and would not have been much to Tadanobu at any time. He reached the other side with but little effort, and in a forest of cedars that clothed the mountain, found a little shrine where he took shelter for the night. It was impossible that his escape could be discovered before the morning, if even then, but he would only have deemed his ruse half successful had it remained unknown to his enemies. At daybreak, therefore, before setting out, he took off his armour, and piling it at the threshold of the shrine, carved his name in large characters on the pillar of the portal, adding also an intimation that, if the friars were not yet satisfied, they might perhaps overtake him before he reached Kiyoto, since he did not purpose to hasten his journey overmuch.

But though the armour was found and the writing read within an hour of the knight's departure, and though the cenobites would not have deemed any labour lost or pains misspent in seeking revenge, they never for a moment believed that Tadanobu had been really so rash as to remain in their vicinity all night. He was no doubt far out of reach by this time and the idea of pursuit was hopeless. Fresh counsels too had induced new resolves. Yoshitsune had not yet completely eluded them. He must necessarily have followed the mountain tracks, since both the coast line and the main northern route presented inevitable perils; and, if so, the friars' knowledge of the country told them that his progress would be at first slow and in fine completely barred by obstacles not to be surmounted at this time of year. Moreover, he would be quite as much unprepared for a renewal of the attack as his assailants would be unlikely to be baffled by any fresh stratagem, and all these considerations, supplemented by the wrath they felt, not only at their unjustifiable failure, but also at the heavy losses accompanying it, determined them to undertake the pursuit again with a century and a half of their hardest men.

Yoshitsune's progress had indeed been even slower than the cenobites' calculations, but not altogether from the causes they had foreseen. Still hoping against hope that his loyal and well-loved comrade, of whose skill in fight and wealth of device all his previous achievements had seemed but an earnest, might yet discover some method of baffling his assailants and rejoining the little band so weakened by his loss, the Genji chief had loitered long on the way, scarcely achieving by sunset a distance that would not have measured a few hours' effort under ordinary circumstances. Thus looking back from their halting place, his knights were able to be sure that the red glow in the sky to the south was the reflection of a fire at either the village or the cloisters of Yoshino, but for the rest it was long before they had any certain tidings of Tadanobu and his incredible escape. They had now passed beyond the region of which Benkei had any certain knowledge, and being unable to procure a guide, had no resource but to follow whatever paths seemed to offer the least difficulty. The choice indeed, was not large, for there was seldom more than one accessible way, but even that was so little trodden, and so often hidden by snow drifts, that the utmost care scarcely sufficed to decipher it. More than once what they mistook for a path turned out to be nothing more than the bed of a torrent or the track of an avalanche, this ending on the verge of a precipice, and that at the brow of a cliff.

Impeded by the delays these errors caused they found themselves still among the mountains at the close of their second day's journey. At noon they had rested for a time in a wayside shrine, such as that which witnessed Yoshitsune's parting from Shidzuka, but with this exception no trace of human handicraft nor any evidence of man's presence met their eyes from sunrise to sunset. They might well have believed, as Benkei said, that straying from the land of life, they had reached a region where the only change ever destined to take place was the fading of the snowy wastes from their mid-day glitter to their ghastly pallor in the gloaming.

Towards evening they became aware of a sound like distant thunder growing gradually louder as they advanced, and shortly afterwards, at the exit of a deep gorge, they came in

sight of the celebrated 'Silver Thread Cataract.' The cliff over which the water leaped was semicircular in form and from sixty to seventy feet high. It was traversed, apparently, by veins of hard and soft rock, for the stream, on the verge of its fall, had worn for itself a thousand different channels, not deep enough to divide the broad sheet of water above, but still causing it to separate midway into a multitude of jets, which reuniting presently in an entanglement of spray and foam, presented the appearance of an immense skein of floss silk shaken out by the wind. At either side, huge fragments of rock, raised upon each other's shoulders, threatened each moment to fall crashing into the basin of the cataract, and over these again the snows of months had gradually piled themselves, smoothing away every rugged outline and filling the crevices with a forest of glittering icicles.

Of very much greater moment to the Genji knights, however, than the grandeur of the spectacle, was the question how the river might be crossed, for at the first glance they saw that it was well-nigh impracticable. Immediately below the cataract its course was bounded by perpendicular cliffs, between which it surged and staggered, still giddy from the effects of its fall, and though on escaping from these, it spread itself out into a broader and quieter stream, the black depth of its waters and the ominous force of their rushing currents, forbade any attempt to pass over by wading or even swimming.

Still there was little probability that a ford did not somewhere exist, and since Benkei had hitherto acted as guide, he now ascended a neighbouring hill in the hopes of discovering a rapid or perhaps a bridge, whether of rock or fallen tree, that might help them across. Nothing of the sort, however, was to be seen. On the contrary, the only break discernible in the line of dark water was a second cataract, from which the wind at times wafted a muffled roar, scarcely less full-voiced than the thunder of the 'Silver Thread' fall itself.

Apparently there was nothing for it but to retrace their steps, though this would expose them to all the perils they had been at such pains to avoid. No doubt the information sent by the cenobites to the neighbouring barons had already produced its effect, and if they had not been pursued before, it was simply because their enemies knew that escape by the route they had chosen was impossible. Perhaps even now a force was following leisurely in their rear, ready to hem them into this issueless defile and crush them under a weight of weapons.

Disturbed by this fancy, Benkei turned half involuntarily to examine the path by which they had come. He remembered to have remarked when approaching the defile that the very hill on which he now stood was conspicuous from various points of the route, and he therefore naturally expected to find himself favourably posted for purposes of observation, but such was not the case. Except at one place where it wound over the spur of a mountain some two miles distant, he could not certainly distinguish the track, and rendered vaguely uneasy by this discovery he was about to seek a better position, when he was startled by a sight that set all his doubts at rest forthwith.

Just where the path climbed into view from behind the slope of that far off spur, something glittered for an instant and then disappeared. So brief indeed was the apparition, that many a one might have been content to regard it as a delusion, but not so Benkei. The glint of the setting sun on glaive or morion was a sight too familiar to be mistaken, and without even waiting to seek confirmation or details, he returned at once to his comrades with the news that they were pursued, and that they had but little leisure to determine the fashion of their death.

The intelligence seemed to produce neither astonishment nor consternation. From the moment they had abandoned their ships and trusted to the precarious chances of an unnoticed journey through districts filled with foes, every one of the sixteen men, with the exception of Benkei, had schooled himself to be prepared for the worst. Neither was the glaivesman's assurance based upon any well considered prospect of escape. He was sanguine, because under no circumstances could he have been otherwise, and this unreasoning faith had found perhaps more credit with the rest than any intelligible confidence might have done. Receiving therefore from his lips the tidings of impending disaster, his comrades never thought of questioning his verdict, but disposed themselves at once to carry out the instructions they knew their leader would presently issue.

They were not mistaken. Yoshitsune was least of all inclined

to postpone the end. Friendship, power, love, all these were irrevocably lost, and in their absence what could the future present but an utterly barren prospect? There was still one method of escaping the worst and this he chose without hesitation.

"Comrades and lead followers," he said, "that to which all life tends has overtaken us. Whoever these our pursuers may be, and whether we vanquish them or be vanquished, there is no possibility of ultimate rescue. For my own part, therefore, I am minded to die peacefully beside this stream to which our fate has misled us. Benkei will sink my head in the basin of yonder cataract where our foes, methinks, may not easily find it, and my death will remove the cause that has made you for my sake fugitives and unfortunate."

With that he drew his sword and would have placed it in Benkei's hands, but the glaivesman, whose eyes had been for some moments fixed on a distant point of the river, now strode suddenly off as though unconscious of the import of his leader's words.

Looking vaguely up and down the bank, rather for the sake of avoiding Yoshitsune's gaze than with the idea of making any new discovery, he had observed something which projected into the stream from the opposite margin, not forming a bridge, but yet considerably diminishing the width of water. Rock or stump, if this prominence only afforded firm footing, it might perhaps be accessible by a vigorous leap, in which case the torrent would prove a protection instead of a destruction.

But when he reached the river, Benkei saw that this seeming promontory was nothing more than a clump of bamboos brought almost level with the ground by a weight of snow entangled in their foliage. He observed, however, at the same time, that they had not assumed this position yesterday or to-day. Over their bowed heads the flakes of successive snow-falls had piled themselves from month to month and this frail edifice gradually consolidated by the frost, had at last formed a barrier just sufficiently strong to stem the sluggish current in the bend where it lay, and so suffer the ice to accumulate over the still water below. Dare any men adventure the leap with such an uncertain landing place beyond? Benkei himself would not have hesitated, but he had little hope that Yoshitsune would forego his resolve. This newly discovered chance was too slender to beget much confidence; nay, almost too precarious to justify a suggestion of attempt.

A consideration, however, of which the glaivesman had not taken account was already weighing painfully with Yoshitsune. The instant he made known his resolution, it had become apparent that not one of his followers could endure to survive him. Already the whole band were preparing their dirks, or casting lots to determine which of their number should act as headsmen to the rest.

To prevent this, though it was after all nothing more than he might have anticipated, Yoshitsune would have adventured anything. For him at any rate, he said, the leap was easy, and it would be strange if one on the other side could not devise some means of facilitating the others' passage. Selecting therefore what seemed the most advantageous point for the attempt, he tightened the loops of his sandals and drew back to a few paces from the bank.

The Genji men did not lack instances of what their leader was capable, but in this case it was not a mere question of agility. However vigorous the leap, it could not provide against the perils of the landing, and for all its apparent stability, the little cape might prove as frail as the flakes and foliage of which it was composed. Thus, while some stood still in breathless expectation, others hastened to a bend in the river lower down, whence there seemed to be a possibility of extending aid to one swimming for his life, and Benkei, unlacing his helmet as well as the points of his cuirass, shewed plainly that in the event of accident he meant to plunge in at once after his master.

None, however, could have been in time to be useful had that which they dreaded occurred, for before they had leisure to mark how it was done, Yoshitsune was standing safely on the other bank. His leap had carried him almost beyond the point of danger, but he now advanced to the very verge of the promontory, and shewed that although it trembled a little under his tread, it was nevertheless firm enough to be trusted.

After this the others crossed over without much difficulty, Benkei was the last to jump, and though he did his part no less nimbly than any of his comrades, his immense weight nearly completed the destruction of the landing place, shaken



as it had already been by repeated shocks. So soon as he found himself on the other side, he drew his sword and severed the stems of the bamboos. "It is an evil return to make in sooth," he said, "for the good you have done us, since you too have lives as well as we. But at spring-tide you will live again in your saplings, while for us there is no return from the grave."

The whole party then retired a little way from the margin and waited to see the issue, for they desired not only to discover who their enemies were, but also to be sure that the pursuit ended here.

A few moments afterwards the cenobites came in sight. They had certainly reckoned on encountering the Genji men by the way, for they supposed that the impossibility of passing the river would have obliged Yoshitsune to turn back. When therefore they reached the defile, and saw the little band of soldiers they had hoped to capture standing quietly beyond the stream, their first idea was that the Gods had interposed to aid the fugitives. Indeed many of them were so fully persuaded of this that they proposed to retrace their steps at once, but others, less superstitious and more resolute, suggested that they should first make an examination of the river bank. Where the pursued had passed, the pursuers also could not fail to find a means of crossing, and the result of course was that, by following the tracks of the Genji men, they immediately discovered the point at which they had leaped.

The friars were now as much elated as they had previously been down cast. There before them was, not Tadanobu nor another, but Yoshitsune himself, guarded by a mere handful of liegemen, and separated from them by only a few feet of water that presented no impossible obstacle. The Minamoto chief, recognizing the futility of any further attempt to escape, had no doubt resolved to make a final stand at this place; hoping, perhaps, to take his adversaries at a disadvantage while they were in the act of passing the stream.

But if this was his scheme it could be easily frustrated. The cenobites divided their force into two bands. Of these the one took post by the margin of the river, ready to pour in a volley of arrows if the enemy showed any inclination to advance, while the other disposed themselves to leap the chasm in succession; of the latter, the first to make the attempt were three friars who had taken Kakuhai's place as leaders of the expedition. Stout men and hardy mountaineers, they made light of this leap, which to them presented no peril but its magnitude, and advancing hand in hand, they sprang boldly from the margin, amid a chorus of encouragement from their comrades.

The result may be easily conceived. The moment their feet touched the promontory it sank like a stone under the water, and the three friars falling back into the stream were swept away by the torrent, clutching wildly at each other or shouting vainly to their comrades for aid.

So ended the cenobites' second and last attempt. They were so horrified by their leaders' fate, that even had it been possible to advance they could scarcely have mustered resolution to do so. Standing disconsolately by the river, they watched the Genji knights take their way slowly northward, Benkei bringing up the rear, and dancing the while a merry measure to commemorate the friars' discomfiture.

"With cherry bloom the stream is strewn  
In spring, and when the summer's dead,  
The russet leaf by chill winds blown  
Dapples the foam with flecks of red.  
But who, like us, hath seen, my mates,  
A winter's drift of friars' pates?"

(To be continued.)

#### DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

My first is good, if he in truth believes  
That for the burdens of mankind he grieves,  
And has no wicked feeling in his heart,  
That prompts him to adopt a hostile part.  
But if no generous feeling rules his mind,  
His politics are of a different kind,  
And though to be my first he does lay claim,  
My second is a more becoming name.

1.

'Tis male or female, and it feeds on love,  
Each ooce the other like a turtle-dove.

2.

Here Venus passed a classical exam.  
And gained the prize without a student's cram.  
Some lovely creatures in our precincts live,  
Who'd win the prize that Paris dared to give.

3.

By Jingo, or by Jove, it means the same,  
An Irish oath, comparatively tame.

4.

An aged priest, who when the Ark was lost,  
—Not Noah's Ark by raging billows tost—  
But quite another vessel, was so grieved  
His sacred trust, in which his soul believed,  
Had come to grief, in fact become a wreck,  
That in despair he fell and broke his neck.

5.

'Tis steady as my light, we're wont to say,  
And yet we move our cradles in this way.  
Still this is not the kind of word I mean,  
For read it right, a fabled bird is seen.

6.

This blank applies, savans are prone to tell,  
To her who loves not wisely but too well.

7.

A poetess, romantic, kind, and good,  
We'd bring her back to earth if but we could,  
Alas! she's left us for the unknown land,  
You'll find the monument on Afric's strand.

FUJIYAMA.

Calcutta, 28th January, 1880.

#### ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, OF APRIL 10TH, BY "QUAM."

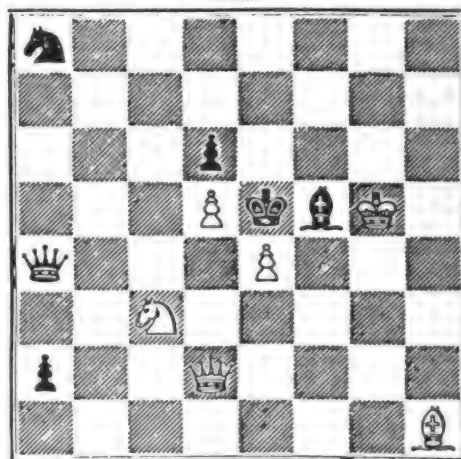
Negligent		Carpenter.
N	on-metalli	C
E	nneahedri	A
G	old-hamme	R
L	ayer-u	P
I	ncisiv	E
G	umptio	N
E	xponen	T
N	ota ben	E
T	rimete	R

\* Old age, that ill layer-up of beauty.—Shakespeare.

#### CHESS PROBLEM,

By W. H. TAYLOR.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

#### SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM, OF APR. 17TH, BY J. GRIMSHAW.

White.	Black.
1.—B. to K. 7.	1.—Q Kt. P. takes. P.
2.—Q. takes Kt.	
3.—Q. or Kt. mates	If 1.—Q. takes Kt. ch.
2.—K. takes Q.	
3.—Mates.	If 1.—B. takes K.
2.—K. Kt 6.	2.—Any.
3.—Q. or Kt. mates.	

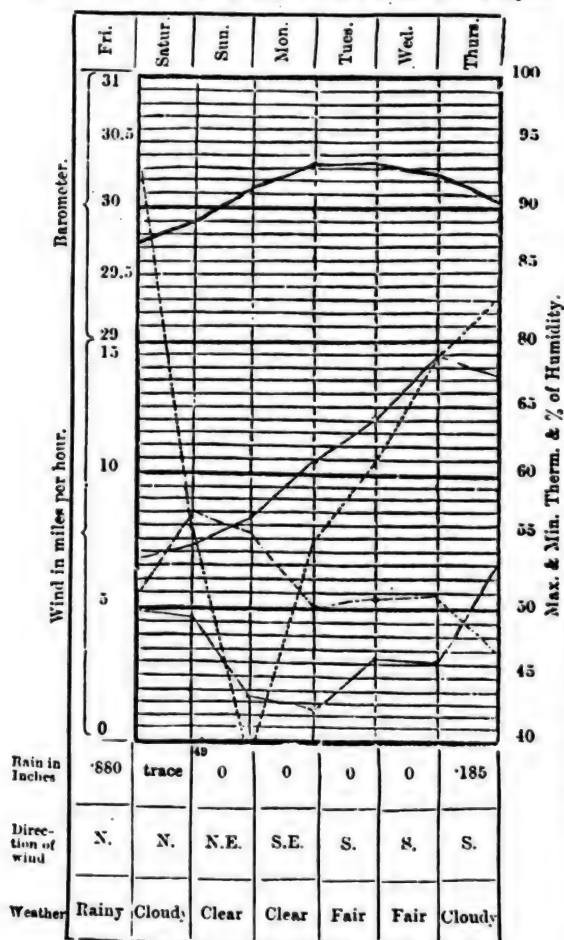
Correct answers received from V. d. P. and Q.



## METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, APRIL 16TH, 1880.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



## REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. &amp; min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind

.....percentage of humidity

Max. velocity of wind 25.5 miles per hour on Saturday, at 2 a.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.345 inches on Tuesday at 7 a.m., and the lowest was 29.649 on Friday at 10 p.m. South winds have prevailed during the latter part of the week accompanied by a considerable rise in the temperature and during most of the time by a high barometer.

The total rain fall for the week was 1.065 inches.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## INWARDS.

April 19, British barque *Madame Demorest*, Walker, 430, from Newcastle, N.S.W., coal, to Walsh, Hall & Co.  
 April 20, British barque *Flecher*, Corlyou, 730, from Antwerp, General, to Malcolm & Co.  
 April 20, American ship *Leonora*, Peterson, 1,491, from New York, Kerosene and General, to C. & J. Trading Co.  
 April 20, American 3-masted schooner *Hattie N. Bangs*, Bangs, 566, from Takao, Sngar, to Chinese.  
 April 21, American ship *Charles Dennis*, J. Carney, 1,710, from New York, Kerosene and General, to C. & J. Trading Co.  
 April 22, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 597, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 22, French steamer *Tibre*, Reynier, 1,726, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 22, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,260, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.  
 April 23, American barque *Harrard*, Prey, 1,033, from New York, Kerosene and General, to Cornes & Co.  
 April 24, Japanese barque *Kinokuni Maru*, Nicols, 960, from Nagasaki, Coals, to M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per British barque *Madame Demorest*, from Newcastle, N.S.W., Mrs. Walker and family and Mr. Smith.Per French steamer *Tibre*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Lohmann, Messrs. Aranguren, Watanabe, Enouye, and 3 Chinese in Cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. D' Iffanger, Mrs. Ahrens and child, Mrs. Voigt and 2 children, Captain Wiffard, Dr. Scheube, Messrs. M. Isaacs, St. John, Pegnault, Mouchet, W. Kennedy, Schraub, Howie, Heinemann, Cuthbertson, E. C. Kirby, P. Lerme, Fujikawa, Takei, Matsuoaka, Ishibashi, Owatari, Susuki, Watanabe, Shoshi, Nakashima, Utangi, Hattori, Takiba and 3 Japanese ladies in cabin, and 3 Europeans, 274 Japanese and 6 Chinese in steerage.

## OUTWARDS.

April 19, Japanese steamer *Saminoye Maru*, Frahm, 852, for Hako-date, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.April 19, British barque *Lady Boreas*, Pain, 891, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by Mollison, Fraser & Co.April 19, British steamer *Flintshire*, Morgan, 1,286, for Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, despatched by Adamson, Bell & Co.April 20, American ship *L. J. Morse*, Ames, 1,390, for Hongkong, 10,000 cases Kerosene, despatched by Frazar & Co.April 20, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 524, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.April 21, Japanese steamer *Tamaura Maru*, Carrew, 558, for the North, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.April 21, Japanese steamer *Takago Maru*, Young, 1,230, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.April 22, Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Steadman, 661, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.April 22, British steamer *Sunda*, Reeves, 1,029, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.April 22, British brig *Lady Abernethy*, Holm, 256, for Melbourne, Rice, despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.April 22, British steamer *Scotus*, Tilmouth, 784, for Kobe, despatched by Walsh, Hall & Co.April 23, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 652, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.April 24, Japanese steamer *Iliogo Maru*, Moore, 896, for Hako-date, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.April 24, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 597, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Flintshire* for Kobe:—Messrs. Hunt, Reid and Smith.

Per Japanese steamer *Takago Maru* for Shanghai and way ports: His Excellency C. H. de Groot, Belgian Minister; General Stabel, U. S. Consul, Kobe; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. James, Mr. and Mrs. Adams and 2 children. Mr. and Mrs. Terada, Mr. and Mrs. Yoda, Mrs. Tuijoka and child, Mrs. Nakano, Messrs. Sendu, Inouye, Tamana, E. Cameron, J. Green, Omura, Torii, Niyama, Horiuchi, Tasaki, W. R. Cuthbertson, A. J. H. Carlile, T. Craven, Mitsui (2), Kitamura, Matsuda, Ito, Unsanchi, Cagett, Oyama, Ota, Naka, Ichiji, Wada, Hosi, Nakamura, and Rev. T. Alexander.

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—Messrs. B. H. Pratt, S. Porteous, R. A. Mees and child; 6 Europeans and 4 Chinese in steerage.

## CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Takago Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure ... .. \$50,500.00  
 " " " " " " Yen 1,800.00

Per French steamer *Tibre*, for Hongkong:—

From London ... .. 1,751 pkgs.  
 " " " " " " 1,037 "  
 " " " " " " 1,180 "

Total ... .. 3,968 pkgs.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai, and ports:—

Treasure ... .. \$100,600.00

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—

Silk for France ... .. 18 Bales  
 " " " " " " 15 "

Total ... .. 33 Bales

## REPORTS.

The British barque *Madame Demorest* reports: Left Newcastle, N.S.W., 1st March. Experienced light northerly winds to Norfolk Island, then took a heavy gale from north-east to south-west. Thence to Line variable winds. Good north-east Trades to Bonin Islands, thence light winds to Rock Island, being 4 days from Rock Island to anchorage at 7.30 p.m. on the 19th instant.

The British barque *Flecher* reports: Left Flushing on the 25th of November; had fine weather and easterly winds in the Channel, and strong south-west winds until entering the north-east trades, which proved light and of short duration. Crossed the Equator on the 1st of January in Long. 25 W. Had fresh E.S. trades, and crossed the meridian of the Cape on the 18th of January. Ran to the eastward on the 38th parallel, before fresh westerly gales. Came up by Flores, Ombay, and Bass' Straits and entered the Pacific on the 18th of March. Had light N.E. trades, and strong N.E.

winds to the coast of Japan on the 10th of April when were detained by thick and dirty weather. Arrived in port on the 19th of April. Passage, 145 days.

The Japanese steamer *Toyohima Maru* reports: Left Kobe at 6 p.m. on the 20th instant. Experienced light and variable winds with fine weather throughout the entire passage. Arrived at Yokohama, at 7.30 a.m., on the 22nd instant.

The American ship *Charles Dennis* reports: Left New York on the 20th of November; had a heavy S.W. gale to the 23rd, and light S.W. winds and wet weather to the equator, which was crossed in long. 28 W., 41 days out. Carried the S.E. trades to lat. 35 S., and crossed the meridian of Greenwich in 48 S. Ran the easting down between the 50th and 51st parallels, before strong westerly gales. Came south of Australia. Had light variable winds in the Pacific, and crossed the equator in long. 164 E. Had no N.E. trades, but experienced light easterly winds to port. Arrived on the 21st of April. Passage, 152 days.

### NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	May 1st <sup>o</sup>
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	May 4th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	May 27th <sup>+</sup>
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	April 26th
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	April 29th

\* Left San Francisco 10th April, *Belgie*.

† Left Hongkong 19th April, *Malacca*.

### NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA .....	P. M. Co.	May 11th
AMERICA .....	O. & O. Co.	May 21st
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	P. & O. Co.	May 6th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG .....	M. M. Co.	April 28th
HAKODATE .....	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE .....	M. B. Co.	May 1st
HONGKONG .....	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG .....	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI .....	M. B. Co.	April 28th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Pacific Mail," and "Occidental and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

### VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

#### SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Jan. 14	Ullock	LONDON	Yokohama
Feb. 18	Sunbeam (s.s.)	"	"
" 19	Galley of Lorne (s.s.)	"	"
" 28	Matchless	"	"
Nov. 10	Claverhouse	GLASGOW	"
Oct. 3	Lucille	NEW YORK	"
Dec. 29	Susan Gilmore	"	"
Jan. 9	Alice Buck	"	Hioho
Feb. 11	Ophelia	"	Yokohama
Nov. 5	Hesperia	HAMBURG	"
Dec. 18	Lydia (s.s.)	"	"
Jan. 18	River Lagan	"	"
Feb. 6	Cassandra (s.s.)	"	"
Aug. —	Pym	ANTWERP	"
Dec. 13	Bonanza	SAN FRANCISCO	Hioho
Feb. 11	North American	CARDIFF	Yokohama
" 25	Scottish Fairy	LIVERPOOL	"

### TELEGRAPH REPORT.

(Corrected to 9.30 a.m.)

All lines in working order.

### LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Mar. 5	Harter (s.s.)	LONDON	Yokohama
" 5	Guy Mannering (s.s.)	"	"
" 5	Radnorshire (s.s.)	"	"
" 5	Ellen Goodspeed	"	"
" 5	Forward Ho!	"	Hioho
" 5	Merionethshire (s.s.)	"	Yokohama
" 12	Haze	NEW YORK	"
" 12	Obed Baxter	"	"
" 12	Panay	"	"
" 5	Singapore	ANTWERP	"
" 5	Vale of Nith	"	"
" 5	Montgomeryshire (s.s.)	GLASGOW	"

### LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red): barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground): brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground): schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

### YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

#### LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.30, 1.30, and 4.45 P.M.

#### LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 A.M., and 12.30; 2 and 4.30 P.M.

### YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

#### DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M. A.M. A.M. A.M. NOON. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M.  
7.0 8.15 9.30 10.45 12.0 2.0 3.15 4.30 5.45 7.0 8.15 9.30 10.45

#### UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M. A.M. A.M. A.M. NOON. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M.  
7.0 8.15 9.30 10.45 12.0 2.0 3.15 4.30 5.45 7.0 8.15 9.30 10.45

### LA FONCIÈRE,

(Cie. Lyonnaise d'Assurances Maritimes Reunies).

Aggregate Capital, Frs. 25,000,000

THE UNDERSIGNED have been appointed Agents for the above Company, and are prepared to accept

### Marine Risks

to all parts of the world, at current rates.

HECHT, LILIENTHAL & Co.

Yokohama, March 16th, 1880.

### Chinese Insurance Company, LIMITED.

THE UNDERSIGNED having been appointed Agent for the above Company, is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS to all parts of the World, at Current Rates.

E. B. WATSON,  
Agent.

Yokohama, September 15th, 1879.

tf.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
<b>STEAMERS.</b>						
Courier	Clarke	American steamer	498	Kobe	Nov. 1679	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Genkai Maru	Couner	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Apr. 22	M. B. Co.
Meiji Maru	Peters	Japanese steamer	1,010	Cruise	Apr. 15	Lighthouse Department.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Saikio Maru		Japanese steamer	2,146	Shanghai & ports	Nov. 1378	M. B. Co.
Tibre	Reynier	French steamer	1,726	Hongkong	Apr. 22	M. M. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Apr. 8	M. M. Co.
<b>SAILING SHIPS.</b>						
Bullion	Reed	American ship	1,300	New York	Apr. 10	J. D. Carroll & Co.
Charles Dennis	Carney	American ship	1,710	New York	Apr. 21	C. & J. Trading Co.
Charlwood	Hiscocks	British barque	837	London	Apr. 13	Hudson & Co.
Clydesdale	Hatfield	British ship	1,825	New York	Apr. 17	C. & J. Trading Co.
Columbia	Fumell	American ship	1,490	New York	Mar. 28	R. Isaacs and Brother
Crossfield	Ewart	British barque	774	London	Apr. 1	M. Raspe
Flecher	Corlyon	British barque	732	Antwerp	Apr. 20	Malcolm & Co.
Harvard	Prey	American barque	1,033	New York	Apr. 23	Cornes & Co.
Hattie N. Bangs	Bangs	American Schooner	566	Takao	Apr. 20	Captain
Leonora	Peterson	American ship	1,491	New York	Apr. 20	C. & J. Trading Co.
Madame Demorest	Walker	British barque	870	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Apr. 19	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Manuel Laguno	Pendleton	American ship	1,723	New York	Apr. 11	Frazar & Co.
Paul Revere	Mullins	American ship	1,782	New York	Apr. 10	Smith, Baker & Co.
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
William Hales	Hoyt	American barque	868	Melbourne	Apr. 11	J. Middleton

## VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
AMERICAN—Alert	4	1,020	—	Sloop	Kobe	Com. Huntington
BRITISH—Swinger	4	430	461	Gun-Boat	Nagasaki	Lieut.-Com. O.P. Tudor
RUSSIAN—Abreck	8	1,069	300	Corvette	Vladivostok	Captain Schance

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong	Malacca	P. & O. Co.	May 6th at noon.
Hongkong	Volga	M. M. Co.	April 28th at 7 A.M.
Hongkong via Kobe	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	May 1st at 6 P.M.
New York via Higo and Amoy	Glenfalloch	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	About May 20th
New York via Kobe and China	Radnorshire	Adamson, Bell & Co.	About May 31st
San Francisco	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	About May 11th.
San Francisco	Oceanic	O. & O. Co.	About May 21st
Shanghai and way-ports	Genkai Maru	M. B. Co.	April 28th at 6 P.M.

## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**IMPORTS.**—There is no improvement since last week, buyers refuse to operate at all in the present state of kinsatsu. The following quotations are quite nominal.

**COTTON YARNS:—**

Nos. 16 to 24 Common to Medium ... per picul	\$30.00 to 33.50
" " Good to Best ... ..	\$34.00 to 37.50
Bombay, No. 20 Do. ... ..	\$31.00 to 33.00
Nos. 28 to 32 Common to Medium ... ..	\$38.00 to 40.00
" " Good to Best ... ..	\$40.50 to 41.50
" 38 to 42 ... ..	\$40.00 to 42.00

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—**

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.65 to 1.95
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.90 to 2.27½
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.20 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.80
Drills, English: 14-16 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.40 to 2.60
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12 " 44 in.	\$1.70 to 1.75
Prints:—Assorted " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.11 to 0.14
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.62½
Do. 2½ to 3½ lb. 21 " 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.82½
Do. 3½ lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.75 to 1.90

**COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.**

Velvets:—Black ... 35 " 22 in. per piece	\$8.00 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns:— " 12 " 42½ in. " "	\$0.85 to 0.86½
Taffeta:— " 12 " 43 in. " "	\$1.75 to 1.90

**WOOLLENS:—**

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	5.25 to 6.25
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	3.75 to 5.25
Lastings ... 29-30 yds. 31 in.	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 yds. 32 in.	0.22 to 0.32
Camlet Corda ... 29-30 yds. 22 in.	4.00 to 5.25
Mousseline de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.17 to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 yds. 30 in.	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 yds. 30 in.	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy 48 in. to 62 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.55 to 0.60
Union ... 54 in. to 56 in.	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb.	0.38 to 0.41

**SUGAR.**—Sales during the week, 800 bags at quotation. Stocks 25,000 bags. Market declining owing to large stock.

**KEROSENE.**—We have no sales to report. Deliveries under contract have been 85,000 cases. Stocks estimated at 550,000 cases.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... per picul	\$4.57½ to \$4.60
Taiwanfoo in bag ... ..	\$4.30 to \$4.35
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ... ..	\$8.00 to \$8.50
China No. 4-5 Kongfun & Kook-fah ... ..	\$6.25 to \$8.00
Daitong ... .. per picul	\$4.00 to \$4.40
Japan Rice ... ..	\$2.70 to \$2.90
Kerosene Oil ... ..	\$1.60
Newchwang Peas ... ..	\$2.20

## EXPORTS.

**SILK.**—We have had a slow and dragging market for Silk during the past week, only about 100 shipping bales are reported sold and against this we even have rejections amounting to about the same quantity.

Prices are again weaker, but the business done has been too insignificant to test them. Good Silks are becoming very scarce.

Total shipments to date 17,316 bales against 17,816 bales at the corresponding period last season.

Stock about 2,500 Japanese bales.

	In London at 3/11½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 5.05 per kilo.		In London at 3/11½ per lb.	In Lyons at fr. 5.05 per kilo.
Hanks, —Superior, nom...			Kakeds, —Extra .....	\$700 to 730 24/ to 25/	frs. 68 25 to 71 00
" Best nominal ... \$640 to 650 22/1 to 22/5		frs. 62 50 to 63 50	" Best .....	"	"
" Good ... \$620 to 630 22/ to 22/4		frs. 61 00 to 62 25	" Good .....	\$660 to 680 22 9 to 23/4	frs. 64 50 to 66 25
" Good Medium ... \$590 to 610 21/ to 21 8		frs. 58 50 to 60 25	" Medium .....	\$580 to 630 20 1 to 21, 9	frs. 57 00 to 61 75
" Medium ... \$560 to 575 20/ to 20 6		frs. 55 75 to 57 00	" Common .....	"	"
" Common, In'r ... \$530 to 550 18 6 to 19/		frs. 52 25 to 54 25	Filatures, —Extra .....	\$760 to 770 26/ to 26 4	frs. 73 75 to 74 50
Oshius, —Best .....	\$600 to 620 20 9 to 21 5	frs. 59 00 to 60 75	" Best ...	\$700 to 720 24 to 25/	frs. 68 25 to 71 00
" Medium .....	"	"	" Good ...	"	"
Hamatsuki .....	\$550 to 580 30, 1 to 20 1	frs. 54 25 to 57 00	" Med. & C'n ...	\$630 to 650 21 9 to 22 5	frs. 61 75 to 63 50

## EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/10½
" Bank Bills on demand	3 10
" Private 4 months' sight	3 10½
" " 6 " "	3 11½
ON PARIS—Bank Sight	4.84
" Private 6 m. sight	5.00
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	1/2 dis.
ON HONGKONG—Private 10 days' sight	1½ % dis.

ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72½
" Private 10 days sight	73½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	93½
" 30 days sight Private	94½
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	93½
" 30 days sight Private	94½
Kinsatz	55 dis.
Gold Yen	386

## SHIPPING.

**SHIPPING.**—During the past week the arrivals have been the *Madame Demorest*, from Newcastle, N.S.W., with coals, the *Flecker*, from Antwerp, with general cargo, and the *Leonora*, *Charles Denis*, and *Harvard*, with kerosene oil from New York. The *Flintshire* and *Sestos* have both left for Kobe.



## MISCELLANEOUS.



## NIPPON RACE CLUB.

SPRING MEETING, 1880.

## PROGRAMME.

## FIRST DAY.

No. 1.—Japan Ponies. *Bonâ fide* Griffins that have never run in a Race in Tokio or Yokohama. Five Furlongs.

No. 2.—Half-bred Ponies. *Bonâ fide* Griffins that have never run in a Race in Tokio or Yokohama. Five Furlongs.

No. 3.—China Ponies. One Mile.

No. 4.—Japan Ponies. One Mile.

No. 5.—Half-bred Ponies. Three-quarters of a Mile.

No. 6.—Japan and China Ponies. Three-quarters of a Mile.

No. 7.—Japan Ponies. Half a Mile.

No. 8.—Japan Ponies. Winner of No. 4 excluded. Three-quarters of a Mile.

## SECOND DAY.

No. 1.—Japan Ponies that have never won a Race in Tokio or Yokohama. Five Furlongs.

No. 2.—Half-bred Ponies. Half a Mile

No. 3.—China Ponies. Winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra. One Mile and a quarter.

No. 4.—Japan Ponies. Half a Mile.

No. 5.—Japan Ponies. Winner of No. 4, first day, 7 lbs. extra. One Mile and a quarter.

No. 6.—China and Japan Ponies. Winner of No. 6, first day, excluded. Half a Mile.

No. 7.—Half-bred Ponies. Winner of No. 5, first day, 10 lbs. extra. One Mile.

No. 8.—Japan Ponies. Winners and non-competitors excluded. Three-quarters of a Mile.

## THIRD DAY.

No. 1.—Hurdle Race. China and Japan Ponies. Scale weights. Once round and a distance.

No. 2.—Japan Consolation. Five Furlongs.

No. 3.—Half-bred Consolation. Five Furlongs.

No. 4.—China Consolation. Once round.

No. 5.—Champion Stakes for Japan Ponies. One Mile.

No. 6.—China and Japan Handicap. Once round.

No. 7.—Half bred Handicap. One Mile.

THE RACES WILL TAKE PLACE on or about the 26th, 27th, and 28th MAY; but fuller particulars will be published at an earlier date, as to measuring of ponies, closing of entries, and positive date of meeting.

BY ORDER.

Yokohama, 2nd April, 1880.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## NIPPON RACE CLUB.

GENTLEMEN desirous of joining the Club, or of Running their Horses at the Spring Meeting (either as members or non-members), can obtain all necessary information on application to

JAMES J. KESWICK,  
Hon. Sec. and Clerk of the Course,  
Yokohama; or

H. E. WOYENO KAGENORI,  
Tokio.

Tokio, 24th April, 1880.

tf.

J. J. GARGAN,  
ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,  
No. 88, Creek Side.

*Machinery of all kinds overhauled and  
Repaired.*

House Building and Repairs Con-  
tracted for.

Yokohama, December 1st, 1879.

"13—15—14."

## THE NEW PUZZLE.

Price—40 Cents.

\$100 REWARD

TO THE

FIRST ONE PRODUCING

THE

CORRECT SOLUTION,

Which he has worked out unassisted,  
upon a

PUZZLE PURCHASED.

FROM

SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,  
No. 80, MAIN STREET.

Yokohama, 13th April, 1880.

BONG &amp; JORDAN,

GENERAL FORWARDING AGENTS,

43, Fish Street Hill, London, E.C.

REPRESENTED BY

H. MacARTHUR,

LANDING &amp; FORWARDING AGENT,

179, Yokohama.

Yokohama, September 27th, 1879.

tf.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S  
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Three Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,  
JAMS AND JELLIES,  
ORANGE MARMALADE,  
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,  
PURE SALAD OIL,  
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,  
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,  
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,  
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,  
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,  
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,  
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,  
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,  
PRESERVED CHEESE,  
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,  
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,  
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,  
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,  
PLUM PUDDINGS,  
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE  
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table  
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.***To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars  
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.**Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to  
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior  
brands.**All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell  
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,  
Jars and Tins.*

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL,**  
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,  
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

52 ins.

**ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,**

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,  
ENGLAND.**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND  
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

**MACHINERY.**

May 4, 1878.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S  
PERFUMERY,***CELEBRATED for nearly a century past, is of the very best  
English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence  
it has obtained the following***EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,**

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872.  
LIMA, 1872. PHILADELPHIA, 1876. VIENNA, 1873.  
"ONLY GOLD MEDAL FOR ENGLISH PERFUMERY,"  
PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S  
GOLD MEDAL EAU DE COLOGNE***Is strongly recommended, being more lasting and fragrant than the  
German kinds.***ATKINSON'S  
OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP,***Celebrated for so many years, continues to be made as heretofore  
It is strongly Perfumed, and will be found very durable in use.***ATKINSON'S***Bears' Grease, Cold Cream, Sachet Powders, Transparent Gly-  
cerine Soap, Rose Toilet Powder, Toilet Vinegar, Veloutine,  
White Rose Tooth Paste,**And other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be  
obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the Manu-  
facturers,*

**J. & E. ATKINSON,**  
24, Old Bond Street, London, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

*CAUTION.—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture their  
articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are cautioned  
to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article is labelled with  
the firm's Trade Mark, "a White Rose on a Golden Lyre," printed  
in seven colours.***ESTABLISHED 1799.**

July 26, 1879.

12 in. 26 in.

**FOR SALE.**

**GILBEYS CHAMPAGNE,**  
" SPARKLING SAUMUR,  
" SHERRY, CLARET, PORT,  
" &c., &c., &c.

**EDWARD FISCHER & Co.,**  
No. 14.

Yokohama, 31st January, 1880.

**THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.**

TRADE



MARK.

*CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is  
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful  
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach."  
"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe  
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be  
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.  
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.*

**CAUTION.***Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.*

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.**

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,  
BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERRY.

Manufacture all kinds of

**IRONWORK,**  
Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.*

**ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.**

*See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.*

Railings. Balcony Panels.  
Gates. Street Posts.  
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.  
Balusters. Newels.  
Crestings. Terminals.

Columns. Column Capitals.  
Brackets. Gratings.  
Windows. Casements.  
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.  
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

**SMITH'S HEARTHES & PORTABLE FORGES**

12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.*

**Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,**  
**LONDON.**

26 ins.



JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Gold.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Medal.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Paris.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**SAVORY & DATURATAJIA**  
**FOR**  
**MOORE'S ASTHMA**

**SAVORY & DATURATAJIA**  
**FOR**  
**MOORE'S INFANTS**

**SAVORY & DATURATAJIA**  
**FOR**  
**MOORE'S ROYAL NURSERIES.**

**SAVORY & DATURATAJIA**  
**FOR**  
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Asthma & Difficult Breathing promptly relieved and paroxysms averted by

Datura Tatula Inhalations Testimonials accompanying each box of capsules, capsules, and pills. This is the economical form of tobacco, and also in powder for burning, from 2s. 6d. to 51s.

SUPPLIED TO THE ROYAL NURSERIES. THE MOST DIGESTIBLE, CONTAINS THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF NUTRIMENT IN THE MOST CONVENIENT FORM. In Tins 1s., 2s., 5s., and 10s.

INCREASES THE APPETITE, Strength and Weight.

143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &c., everywhere.

August 2, 1879.

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**HATS AND HELMETS,**  
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To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters  
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**J. ELLWOOD & SONS,**  
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**DINNEFORD'S**

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY  
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,  
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists  
London,

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April 10, 1880.

THE SAFEST MILD  
APERIENT FOR DELICATE  
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AND FOR REGULAR USE  
IN WARM CLIMATES.

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## MISCELLANEOUS.

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**WILDEN WORKS.**  
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**SHEET IRON,**  
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 "BALDWIN-WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."  
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SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS IN BOTTLES, 1/- & 2/6 each.

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Medical Hall, Guildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

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April, 1880.

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Yokohama, 3rd March, 1880.

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Yokohama, April 13, 1878.

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